

Lincoln Police Department
Community Services Unit
575 S. 10th, Lincoln, NE 68508



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Weather Worries!!

Well, Welcome to Nebraska, the state where if you don't like the weather at a particular moment, give it 5 seconds, and it will change. Usually not to your individual liking! It is Spring, and the time of severe weather is upon us! It is always good to have a severe weather plan of what you will do if a tornado, flood or other severe weather strikes. Businesses and homes should have a plan. YOU should have a plan!

Who do we look to for information?

Local News Weather stations

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (nema.nebraska.gov)

Lancaster County Emergency Management

(<https://www.lancaster.ne.gov/492/Emergency-Management>)

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<https://www.weather.gov/ama/severesafetytips>

If faced with a tornado warning, remember the following:

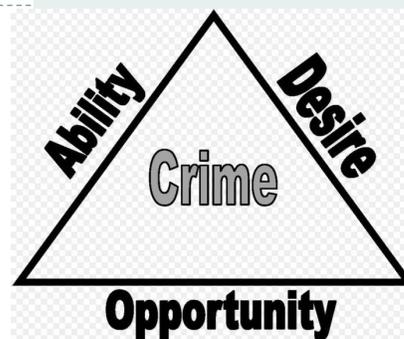
GET IN = Get inside a sturdy structure.

GET DOWN = Go to the lowest portion of the building.

COVER UP = Falling and flying debris is a killer. Cover to protect!



Follow The 9pm Routine!



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- We will opening hiring dates in July or early August.
- Check out our NEW look on our website! <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Police>

LARCENIES AND BURGLARIES

Some people may wonder what we in law enforcement mean by LARCENY & BURGLARY.

Larceny = **Misdemeanor** theft usually under \$500.

Burglary = **Felony**—entry into a residence with the intent to steal items of value.

Often times people tend to confuse the two or combine them. They are actually two separate charges due to the level of severity. I thought we would look at the first four months (January through April) of 2020 and 2021 just to see if we saw any differences during the Covid 19 restrictions. Look below to see what the totals were! You might be surprised!

Some tips to prevent Larceny from Autos

- Lock your car!!
- Park it in a well lit area or garage.
- Remove ANY valuables that you can!
- Don't loan out your car if possible!
- Don't share your keys!

Some tips to prevent Burglaries to your home

- Lock your doors and windows!
- Secure valuables in a safe.
- Don't put your vacation dates on Social Media!!
- Don't hide keys outside!! Burglars know the spots!

LARCENY FROM AUTOS/BURGLARIES, JAN-APRIL, 2020 VS. 2021

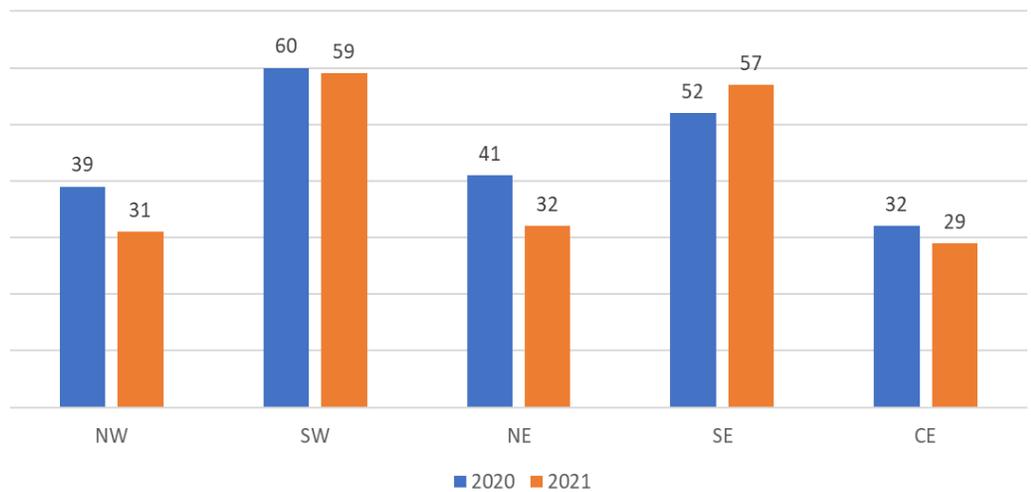
Larceny from Autos



1



Residential Burglaries



2



REMEMBER, THIS IS JUST FOR JANUARY-APRIL, 2020 VS. 2021!!

SPRING/SUMMER/FALL = TRAVEL VACATIONS!

It is that time of year where persons take some time for themselves, often in the form of a VACATION!! Yes, we can finally plan trips to other places and not feel that we are just dreaming. Those days have returned! BUT, if you plan on traveling, let's make sure we travel safely. Here are some travel tips on how to increase your personal and home safety while you are vacationing!

Personal Safety While Traveling!

1. Do your research about your destination!
2. While traveling, don't draw attention to yourself.
3. Have copies of important documents (passport, ID, etc.)
4. Keep your friends and family updated as to your progress.
5. Be wary of any public WIFI. They are a haven for phishing!
6. When staying in a hotel, use the hotel safe provided and ensure you lock AND bolt the door. Make sure it is secure each time you leave.
7. Be aware of your surroundings and what you are walking into. Many times, there are events going on that you may go to that create havens for pick-pockets (yes, still a thing) and other ways to scam your information.



HOME SAFETY WHILE ON VACATION

Here are some quick tips to keep your home safe while you are away!

Inside:

Set lights on timers.

Don't post your are on vacation on your social media!

If you have an alarm, alert your alarm company.

Let your neighbors know if you are friends.

Secure valuables and secure the house!

Have someone come check the home while you are gone.

Stop mail/newspapers

Arrange for lawn care if you are going to be gone long.

Have good exterior lighting

DO NOT leave keys hidden outside!!



VS



Interested in becoming a Lincoln Police Officer? We encourage anyone with an interest in being a law enforcement officer to apply and begin the process of becoming a Lincoln Police Officer.

Just go to <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Police> and click on "JOIN OUR TEAM".





FOURTH OF JULY SAFETY TIPS!!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR CORNER



Hello Neighborhood Watch members!

I am Officer Jason Hellmuth #1334 and I am one of the Continuing Education/Community Service Officers with the Lincoln Police Department. I have been with the Lincoln Police Department for 21 years. I am no stranger to Neighborhood Watch as I was the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator from 2005 through 2007 during my first time assigned to the Education and Personnel Unit. I strongly believe in the effectiveness of the Neighborhood Watch Program and its goals.

COVID-19 restrictions have lessened and now, we can start planning on being neighborly again! If your group wants to have in person meetings, please feel free. If you are still hesitant or concerned, continue with email and ZOOM. I will be continuing the ZOOM meetings each month until the end of the year. Then I will re-evaluate their effectiveness.

Questions? Contact me!

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Fireworks annually cause fires, injuries and some deaths each year. We ask that EVERYONE use good practices when using fireworks. There are many laws for each surrounding cities regarding the sale and possession of fireworks. For example, just because something may be legal in Waverly, it may not be legal in Lincoln. There are also specific times for sales and for using fireworks for each city. CHECK YOUR LOCAL ORDINANCES BEFORE USING ANY FIREWORKS. Here are some additional tips to help you decide how to celebrate your 4th of July Holiday with fireworks!

USING THESE TIPS CAN HELP ENSURE YOUR FIREWORKS SHOW IS A BLAST WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING FINED, INJURED OR KILLED.

- **Only use fireworks where they are legal. Only use fireworks that are legal where you are shooting them, and be sure you are shooting on dates that are legal in your city. Don't import fireworks from another state or city to use locally – they may not be legal where you are. Buy locally to be sure fireworks are both legal and safe.**
 - **Use fireworks outdoors only. This includes sparklers and snakes. All fireworks burn, and can quickly start a house fire. When outdoors, be sure there is enough room to point fireworks away from spectators, houses, buildings and flammable materials.**
 - **Use launching fireworks in open areas only to ensure they don't land on top of buildings and houses. Especially those with natural (cedar) type shingles.**
 - **Always pre-plan to have water handy, whether that is a bucket or a hose.**
 - **Have a first aid kit ready and waiting.**
 - **Keep young children away from fireworks – even sparklers! Children using fireworks should be at least 12 years old, and always closely supervised. 20% of fireworks injuries to children are caused by sparklers!**
 - **Use fireworks the way they were intended. Follow the lighting instructions on the package. Don't combine them.**
 - **Don't try to relight duds. Wait at least 20 minutes before handling a dud, then soak it in water before disposing of the dud.**
 - **Use a "designated shooter" who is alcohol free and wearing safety glasses! Light one device at a time, and keep a safe distance once a firework is lit. Don't light fireworks in containers.**
 - **Don't allow running or horseplay by anyone near fireworks.**
 - **Don't use fireworks while consuming alcoholic beverages.**
- Always clean up after you are done celebrating.**

Source: Nebraska Safety Council Website, 2018 data,



Keep watching your emails for links for the City Wide Neighborhood Watch ZOOM Meetings. Usually, they fall on the last Thursday of the month at seven pm (7pm) You can meet the Officers from the Community Services Unit and ask questions and find out about forming **NEW Neighborhood Watch groups!**