**YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Interior & Exterior Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

**Exterior Doors** **YES NO**

All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have a trusted neighbor who has a spare set of keys to your home \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you know your neighbors, and do they watch your house while you are away \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Garage and Sliding Door Security**

The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal clad \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

The door leading from the attached garage has a working entry lock and deadbolt \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

A dowel or a pin to secure the glass door has been installed to prevent the door from opening \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

The sliding door is locked every night and each time you leave the house \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Protecting Windows**

Every window in the house has a working lock or is securely pinned \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Windows are always locked when not in use \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Windows are closed and locked every time you leave the residence \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Outdoor Security**

Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

There are no dark areas around our house, garage or yard at night that would hide people \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Floodlight are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Outdoor lights are on in the evening-whether someone is at home or not \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Photocell or motion-sensitive lighting systems have been installed \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have motion-sensor lights installed \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

House address number is clearly displayed and visible for first responders to see \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Security When Away From Home**

Interior lights are on light timers that go on and off in logical sequence \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

The motion detector or other alarm system has been activated when you leave home \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Mail/Newspaper deliveries have stopped or arrangement for neighbors to pick up \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

A neighbor has been asked to tend to yard and look after the house while you are away \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have an emergency escape plan in case of a break-in \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have any yard signs or window decals that state your home is monitored \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Did you post on social media that you were leaving town \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property**

Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are all locked with high security padlocks \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are locked after every use \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Grills, lawn mowers and other valuables are stored in locked garage or shed or covered \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Every bicycle is secured with a U-Bar lock or quality padlock and chain \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes with trigger guards \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Valuable items have been documented/photographed and serial numbers recorded \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Home Inventory is up-to-date to include video or pictures. Copy kept in secure location \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**INTERIOR SAFETY CHECKLIST**

**Living Room/Family Room YES NO**

Can you turn on a light without having to walk into a dark room \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are lamp, extension or phone cords out of the flow of foot traffic \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are passageways in this room free from objects and clutter \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are curtains and furniture at least 36 inches from baseboard/portable heaters \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do your carpets lie flat \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do your small rugs and runners stay put (don’t slide or roll up when pushed by your foot) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Kitchen**

Are your stove controls easy to see and use \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you keep loose fitting clothing, towels and curtains kept away from stove burners \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Can you get to regularly used items without climbing to reach them \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have a step stool that is sturdy and in good repair \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Bedroom**

Do you have working smoke detectors on the ceiling outside/inside the bedroom doors \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have working Carbon Monoxide detectors outside/inside the bedroom doors \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Can you turn on a light without having to walk into a dark room \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have a lamp or light switch within easy reach of your bed \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Is a phone within easy reach of your bed \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Is a light left on at night between your bed and the bathroom \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are the curtains and furniture at least 36 inches from your baseboard or portable heater \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Bathroom**

Does your shower or tub have a non-skid surface, such as a mat, decals or abrasive strips \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Does the tub/shower have a sturdy grab bar (not just a towel bar) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Is your hot water temperature set to 120 degrees or lower \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Does your floor have a non-slip surface or does the rug have a non-skid backing \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are you able to get on and off the toilet easy \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Stairway**

Is there a light switch at both the top and bottom of inside stairs \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

With the light on, can you clearly see the outline of each step as you go down the stairs \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do all stairways have sturdy handrails on both sides \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do handrails run the full length of the stairs, slightly beyond the steps \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are all steps in good repair (Not loose, broken, missing or worn in places) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are stair coverings (rugs, treads) in good repair, without holes and not loose, torn or worn \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Hallway & Passageway**

Do all small rugs or runners stay put when you push them with your foot \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do your carpets lie flat \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are all lamp, extension and phone cords out of the flow of foot traffic \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Front & Back Entrances**

Do all entrances to your home have outdoor lights \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are walkways to your entry free from cracks and holes \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**Throughout Your House**

Do you have an emergency exit plan in case of fire \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have emergency phone numbers listed by or on your phone \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are there other hazards or unsafe areas in your home that are not mentioned \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have fire extinguishers easily accessible throughout your home \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you shred documents with personal information before disposing of them \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Is your street well-lit at night \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Do you have a surveillance system \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

NOTES:

**Security Systems**--- A burglary alarm will not prevent a burglary. It will only hurry the offender. So, don’t skimp on hardware thinking that just an alarm system is sufficient to protect your home. An alarm system is only an additional security layer. Consider installing one if the home is empty most of the day, or if you own collectibles, firearms, and other valuables.

**Safes**--- A safe must be selected based upon its intended function. A document safe is intended to protect against fire. A security safe is designed to protect valuables. Safes come with various U.L. ratings and capabilities. If you are not willing to purchase a high security safe, place your valuables in a bank’s safe deposit box. If you do utilize a security safe, it is best to secure it to the foundation of your home so that it cannot be carried away. The addition of a home alarm system will seriously shorten the time needed for a burglar to attack the safe inside the home.

**Property Inventory**--- Record all serial numbers of electronics such as flat screens, laptops, desktops, audio components, firearms, cellular devices, lawn equipment, bicycles and any other valuables with identifying numbers. Take digital photographs of valuables, especially jewelry and collectibles without serial numbers. Residents can register their property inventories on a secure, off-site server offered through the Insurance Information Institute at www.knowyourstuff.org . Your inventory list can be retrieved by you at any time in the event of a loss due to theft, fire, flood or other event. Recorded serial numbers also aid law enforcement in the recovery of stolen property and the arrest of offenders. An item’s unique serial number is the only way to positively identify a specific piece of property, link it back to a reported offense, and return the item to its rightful owner