

STREET SENSE IS COMMON SENSE

If Someone Tries to Rob You...

Don't resist – Give up your property, not your life.

Report the crime to the police. Try to describe the attacker accurately. Your actions can help others from becoming victims.

Take a Stand!

Make your neighborhood and workplace safer by reporting broken street lights, cleaning up parks and vacant lots and lobbying local government for better lighting in public areas.

Join a Neighborhood, Apartment or Office Watch to look out for each other and help the police.

Help out a friend or co-worker who has been a victim of crime. Cook a meal, baby-sit, find the number for victim services or a crisis hotline. Listen, sympathize and don't blame.

Look at the root causes. Work for better drug treatment services, crime and drug abuse prevention education and job and recreational opportunities for young people in your community.

For more information on **Street Sense** call the **Clearwater Police Department Crime Prevention Unit**

To report a crime
Call 911 for an emergency, or
562-4242 (non-emergency line)



Clearwater Police Department
645 Pierce St.
Clearwater, FL 33756
www.clearwaterpolice.org



Clearwater Police Department



Test Your Street Smarts I.Q.

Do You:

Jog or walk by yourself early in the morning or late at night when the streets are quiet and deserted?

Stuff your purse with cash, keys, credit cards, checkbook – and then leave it wide open on a counter, a desk or the floor?

Do you put your wallet in a jacket, which you then hang up or throw over a chair?

Let your mind wander – thinking about your job or all the things you have to do – while you walk or drive?

Think it's a waste of time to lock your car when you'll be back in a few minutes?

If you answered *yes* to any question, you need to change a few habits. Even if you answered *no* and made a perfect score, read on. Spend a few minutes now to prevent trouble later.

Basic Street Sense

Wherever you are – on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus – stay alert and tuned into your surroundings.

Send the message that you're calm, confident and that you know where you're going.

Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.

Know the neighborhoods where you live or work. Check out the locations of police and fire stations, telephones, hospitals, restaurants or stores that are open late.

On Foot – Day & Night

Stick to well-lighted, well-travelled streets. Avoid shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots or dark alleys.

Don't flash large amounts of cash or other tempting targets like jewelry or expensive clothing.

Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.

Try to use automated teller machines in the daylight. Have your card in hand.

Don't wear shoes or clothing that restrict your movement.

Have your car or house key in hand before you reach the door.

If you think that someone is following you, switch direction or cross the street. Walk toward an open store, restaurant or lighted house. If you're scared, yell for help.

Have to work late? Make sure there are others in the building and ask someone – a colleague or security guard – to walk you to your car or transit stop.

On Wheels

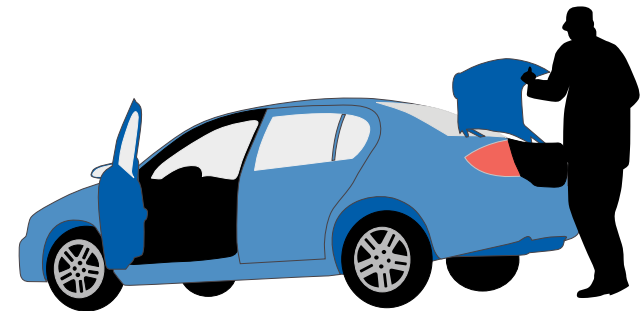
Keep your car in good running condition. Make sure that there's enough gas to get you to where you're going and back.

Always roll up the windows and lock your car, even if you're coming right back. Check inside and out before getting in.

Avoid parking in isolated areas with little foot or auto traffic. Be especially alert in lots and parking garages.

If you think someone is following you, don't head home. Drive to the nearest police or fire station, gas station or other business to get help.

Don't pick up hitchhikers, and don't hitchhike.



On Public Transportation

Use well-lighted, busy stops.

Stay alert! Don't doze or daydream.

If someone harasses you, don't be embarrassed. Loudly say "Leave me alone!" If that doesn't work hit an emergency device, if present.

Watch who gets off with you. If you feel uneasy, walk directly to a place where there are people.