



# Burglary prevention for laundry rooms

Each year thousands of burglaries are reported in Minneapolis. Some of these are laundry room burglaries that occur in multi-dwelling buildings. Prevention measures can be taken to drastically reduce the occurrence of opportunity crimes.



## Tips to prevent laundry room burglary

### Security measures:

- The best way to prevent laundry room burglaries is to replace all coin-operated laundry machines with machines that use cards or tokens. Tenants can buy tokens or put money on the cards by using another machine placed near a management office, with the money receptacle securely locked inside the office.
- If you have surveillance equipment, use it. Management or the caretaker should be aware of how to access the video or who to contact to do so in order to provide footage to officers.
- Install a lock on the laundry room door so only residents can access the room.
- Have money removed from the machines daily if possible. Place signs in the laundry room stating that this occurs, whether it does or not.
- Seal the window on the laundry room.

### Education for residents:

- Residents should be aware of their surroundings and not allow an unknown person to trail in behind them. If there is a buzzer system, residents should only buzz in people they know or are expecting.
- Residents should not prop the main door or laundry room door open.

**Call 911 on all suspicious activity** including suspicious persons loitering near laundry rooms and in hallways, or suspicious noises.

Contact your crime prevention specialist for additional prevention information. Call 311 (or 612-673-3000) or see [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf) to locate your neighborhood crime prevention specialist.

For further crime prevention resources, please visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention).



**English:** Attention. If you want help translating this information, call 612-673-3737

**Spanish:** Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700

**Somali:** Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500

**Hmong:** Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800

**Sign Language:** TTY 612-673-2626

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the Minneapolis Police Department at 612-673-2912.