

# SECURITY ADVICE

for every Off Campus Student



## BE SAFE

Do not let others into your home or building or onto residential floors, stairwells, elevators, etc. unless you know them as residents of your building. Anyone you can't identify as a resident of your building should be asked to use an outside telephone to call the resident he/she is coming to visit. Close and latch any door you may find propped. Immediately confront and/or report anyone you see letting strangers into your building or propping a door. Keep your room doors and windows closed and locked.

If you are victimized contact Prince George's County Police immediately by calling 911 from a mobile phone. Tell the dispatcher where you are located and what happened to you. Stay on the phone until you are told it is okay to hang up. Stay in your same location, if it is safe to do so, until Police arrive. Provide additional information to Police as you learn it or recall it.

**Program your mobile phone.** Prince George's County Police can be reached by dialing the non-emergency number 301-352-1200 or the emergency number 911. While on campus, the University of Maryland Police can be reached by calling 301-405-3333 from Verizon Wireless, AT&T, T-Mobile or Spring/Nextel mobile phones. Take time now to pre-program these numbers into your mobile phone.

If you see something, say something. Immediately report suspicious persons or activity to Police. Don't

make judgments about what may or may not be a serious situation and don't assume that someone else has called the Police. Contact Prince George's County Police by calling 301-352-1200 and follow the appropriate prompts.

**Do not put yourself at risk or in potentially dangerous situations.** Plan ahead, so that you run your errands and end your outings at an early hour, when more people are out and about. Plan and use the safest route, not necessarily the shortest one. Make sure roommates or friends know your plans, including how and when you'll get back home.

**Know what to do if approached.** It is not necessary, and may not be advisable to confront someone who has a weapon or is angry enough to inflict harm on another person. If you should come upon a situation like this, as naturally as possible, move away to your room/ home, a friend's room/home, a group of people, a well-lit area, etc. Then call Prince George's County Police if off campus by dialing 911 or if on campus dialing 911, x5-3555 from a campus phone or 301-405-3555.

Crimes can be prevented. The following information is meant to remind you of the practical steps you should take to help ensure the safety of yourself and your neighbors.

### SAFE CHOICES

- Get your exercise or run your errands in the daytime or early evening, not late
- Walk or jog/run in groups
- Carry a mobile phone
- Stay alert to what's happening around you; report suspicious behavior/activity
- Plan your route; stay on populated, well-lit walks
- Know locations of blue-light emergency phones

### UNSAFE CHOICES

- Walking or jogging/running alone, especially into dark or isolated areas
- Taking a shortcut through dark areas or areas where someone could be hiding
- Wearing headphones (distracts you from your surroundings)
- Not reporting suspicious persons or activity to Police
- Use of alcohol, other drugs, medications, etc., that affect your judgement

#### Campus Police & Security Patrols

Every night of the semester, the residential communities of the campus and their surrounding areas are being monitored by:

- University Police officers in marked and unmarked police cars (24 hours daily), motorcycles, bicycles and on foot patrols.
- Surveillance cameras at more than 500 selected locations (outdoors, inside parking garages and libraries) across the campus (24 hours daily).

#### Escorts/N.I.T.E. Ride

Escorts by uniformed Police officers or Student Police Aides are available 24 hours any day by calling 301-405-3555.

For curb-to-curb service by N.I.T.E. Ride vans 5:30pm to 7:30am any day, just call 4-NITE (6483). Please use N.I.T.E. Ride when evening transit routes are not in service or if your pick-up location or destination is not on an evening transit route.

These services can be requested from any blue-light emergency phone; the Police dispatcher who answers your call will summon a Police escort for you or transfer you to N.I.T.E. Ride.

#### Evening Transit Routes

Shuttle-UM fixed evening transit routes operate seven nights a week from 5:30pm to 3:00am, with buses stopping outside most residence halls, apartments, and along Fraternity Row every 15 to 35 minutes. This is your convenient and safe way to visit friends in other parts of campus and go to libraries, student union, College Park shopping district, College Park Metro station, etc.

Visit

[www.transportation.umd.edu/schedules](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/schedules)

to see schedules for Shuttle-UM transit service evening routes (Blue, Gold, Orange, Purple, Green and College Park Metro).

#### After Dark, Never Walk Alone

Walk with friends or in a group or ride Shuttle-UM. Walk in well-lit paths. Know the location of the nearest emergency phones while on campus.

#### Going to your car after dark:

- Walk with a friend, then drop them off where they are going and ensure they are safely inside before driving off.

#### Coming back to campus alone after dark:

- Make sure to walk/park in well-lit areas. You can also call the University of Maryland Police to request an escort at 301-405-3555.



**OFF CAMPUS HOUSING SERVICES**  
0232 Stamp Student Union  
301-314-3645  
[www.och.umd.edu](http://www.och.umd.edu)

**ON CAMPUS**  
University of Maryland Police  
Emergency - 911; 301-405-3333  
Non-Emergency - 301-405-3555  
Shuttle-UM 301-314-2255

**OFF CAMPUS**  
Prince George's County Police  
Emergency - 911  
Non-Emergency - 301-352-1200