

## ***Personal Safety Tips***

1. While driving, lock your doors and roll up your windows. Park in a well-lit area and keep all valuables out of sight and in the trunk.
2. While walking, avoid isolated areas. Walk confidently and with another person if possible. Don't carry a lot of cash and avoid wearing anything that would attract unwanted attention like furs or jewelry.
3. Never, ever pick up hitchhikers.
4. Beware of a stranger who approaches you with a "great" business opportunity. If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.
5. Don't leave anything, such as ladders or tools, lying around that can be used to break into your home.
6. If you are a female and you live alone, don't advertise it by putting "Miss Jane Doe" on your doorbell or mailbox. Just put the initial of your first name and your last name, "J. Doe". Preferably just put your street address and no name on the box.
7. Never leave your keys in your car, for any reason.
8. Never leave your car doors unlocked. Secure your packages in your trunk when shopping or at home. Items easily seen are easily stolen. Do not leave purses, cell phones or bags visible in a car, even in your own driveway.
9. Remove any identification from your personal key ring.
10. Be aware of your surroundings - know who's out there and what's going on.
11. If someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable, trust your instincts and move to a safe area.
12. Always wear your Safety Belt while in a vehicle. Make sure children are in the proper type Child Restraint System.
13. Join a Neighborhood Watch Group. If one doesn't exist, start one with the help of your local law enforcement agency. The Oakboro Police Department would be happy to assist you in starting this program. **Call us at 704-485-4214.**
14. If involved in a property-damage collision in an unfamiliar or potentially unsafe location, do not open or exit your vehicle. If you have a cellular telephone, summon law enforcement. If not, blow your horn to attract attention and get someone else to call law enforcement.