



Safety tips

Penn State University has a relatively low crime rate. However, crime can occur at any place and any time. Being prepared and practicing simple safety practices can decrease your risk of becoming a victim. Below are some safety tips if you are traveling by foot on campus at night. These precautions are designed to alert rather than to alarm.

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Know the locations of the closest emergency phones along your path of travel
- Use the Penn State Escort Service by calling 865-WALK
 - This is a FREE walking escort program available to all Penn State Faculty, Staff, Students and Visitors.
 - Hours: Dusk till Dawn, 365 days a year
- Use the buddy system (i.e., don't work alone at night if possible)
- Carry your cell phone with you
 - Even if you do not have a service plan, as long as your cell phone has a charged battery, you are able to dial 911.
- Use the Night Map
 - If you are unsure of the best route to travel, consult the night map:
<http://www.psu.edu/dept/police/nightmapnew.html>
- Travel on clear, well lit routes, walking in the center of the sidewalk, away from buildings, doorways, hedges and parked cars
- Consider moving your vehicle closer to the building after 5pm
- Always lock your vehicle
- Report lights that are out and overgrown vegetation to the OPP Work Reception Center (865-4731)
- Consider modifying your work schedule to avoid working alone at night. Discuss this option with your supervisor or faculty advisor.
- Work with your building coordinator to consider installing card access at building entrances to restrict entry of unauthorized persons after hours.
- Report suspicious persons or activities to University Police (863-1111) or you can report crimes anonymously at:
<http://www.psu.edu/dept/police/silentwitness.html>

Self-Defense Programs

University Police offers two self defense classes for Penn State women faculty, staff and students (Rape Aggression Defense and Self Defense Awareness and Information Exchange). To register for either of these programs, contact University Police at 865-1864.
