


CARMEL OBSERVER

(317) 571-2500

November 2009

Crime Watch Coordinators and Block Captains:

The City of Carmel is launching a new Community Information Service designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our area using the latest technology. This service created by Nixle, LLC delivers trustworthy and important neighborhood-level public safety and community event notification by web, e-mail, and cell phone.

Nixle is completely free, simple, and trusted.

Register now and learn more at www.nixle.com. Then share this new service with friends and neighbors to spread the word!

Nixle is a new community information service provider built exclusively to provide secure and reliable communications. Its authenticated service connects municipal agencies and community organizations to residents in real time, delivering information to geographically targeted consumers over their phones (via text messages), through e-mails and through Web access. Nixle is offered at no cost to all governments, their agencies and organizations, nongovernmental organizations and consumers.

The Carmel Police Department is excited to be teaming up with Nixle. This new service will help the Department send out accurate information to the Carmel community in a timely and effective manner.

We encourage everyone to sign up for this new Community Information Service.

Take Note

The Criminal Investigation Division has seen an increase in credit/debit cards being skimmed and cloned and used in stores around the Indianapolis Metro area.

What is ATM card skimming?

Skimming is a method used by criminals to capture data from the magnetic strip on the back of an ATM card.

The devices used are smaller than a deck of cards and are fastened in close proximity to, or over the top of, the ATM's factory-installed card reader.

Skimming devices are normally affixed to ATM's during periods of low traffic, e.g. early morning/late evening

Length of time skimming devices can be affixed can vary, but normally are no more than 24 hours

Successful skimming requires both a card skimmer (card reader) and camera (PIN capturing device) to be fitted to the ATM in order to steal card data

Skimmers have also been put on card readers on gas pumps.

Get to know the appearance of your ATM. Inspect the front of the ATM for unusual or non-standard appearance. Scratches, marks, adhesive or tape residues could be indicators of tampering. Familiarize yourself with the look and feel of the ATM fascia on the machines you commonly use. Pay particular attention to all of the touch and action points (e.g. keypad, customer card entry slot, lighting diffusers). Always use your hand to shield your PIN when entering it.

Holiday Safety Tips

- If shopping at night, park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- Keep your car doors locked at all times.
- Keep packages and valuables (cell phones, briefcases, CDs) out of sight and in the trunk of your car.
- When walking to your car, have your car keys ready so you can gain access quickly.
- As you approach your vehicle, visibly check underneath and the backseats.
- If you suspect someone is following you in the mall or out to your car, immediately go into a store and tell a clerk or security guard.
- If you suspect someone is following you home, do not go home. Go to a public place such as a fire department, police department, or use your cell phone to get help.

*Questions, Comments or Concerns,
Please give us a call.*

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