## Landscaping Crime Prevention Guidelines

By describing the type and height of plant growth in relation to walkways, parking lots, building entrances and windows, the capacity for visual surveillance is increased and the potential for criminal activity is decreased.

### **Groundcover Plants**

Groundcover plants, including annual and semiannual flowering plants, should be used within 6' of pedestrian walkways and vehicle parking areas.

The height of groundcover plants should not exceed two(2) feet at maturity.



### Shrubbery

Shrubs should be used between six(6) feet and twelve(12) feet from pedestrian walkways and vehicle parking areas.

The height of shrubs should not exceed three(3) feet at maturity.

### **Barrier Plants**

Barrier plants have thorns or needles and often a dense structure.

# Can be used below and near windows to discourage access.



Popularly used barrier plants include Pyracantha, Barberry, Natal Plum, Yucca, Hedgehog, and Porcupine Holly.

- When placed below windows, should be trimmed below height of windowsill.
- Since purpose is to discourage pedestrian access, barrier plants may exceed 3' height.

#### Trees



Should not serve as climbing aid to upper levels of homes or buildings.

Tree foliage should not obscure roadway, walkway or parking lot lighting.

Should be regularly thinned and trimmed.

Lowest foliage should be no less than seven(7) foot from ground surface.

### Landscaping Rock

- Avoid large rock (rip-rap or river rock)
- Small landscape rock or gravel under windows or near entryways create noise when stepped on.

### **THANK YOU**

The American Crime Prevention Institute is a division of the AEGIS Protection Group, Inc.

