

Crime Prevention

Through
Environmental
Design



Greenville

NORTH CAROLINA

POLICE DEPARTMENT

What is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design?

The makeup of a physical environment can influence where crimes occur. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is the practice of planning and using an area effectively to achieve a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime. CPTED looks at the entire neighborhood to identify areas or elements that may have the potential to attract crime. Knowing simple CPTED design principles can lead to an improvement of quality of life for residents and visitors.



Key Concepts of CPTED

Natural Surveillance

The placement of physical features, activities and people in a way that maximizes visibility.

Natural Access Control

The physical guidance of people coming and going from a space by the strategic placement of entrances, exits, fencing, landscaping, and lighting.

Territorial Reinforcement

The use of physical attributes that express ownership, such as fences, pavement treatments, art, signage, and lighting.

Maintenance

Allows for the continued use of a space for its intended purpose. Serves as an additional expression of ownership, prevents reduction of visibility from landscaping overgrowth and obstructed or inoperative lighting.

CPTED For Neighborhoods

The following are a few common recommendations and ideas utilized in assessing neighborhoods:

- Be aware of who should or should not be in the vicinity.
- Design lighting, landscaping, window and fences to promote visibility.
- Provide a sense of ownership of a space by clearly marking transitions from public to private space. Do this with signs, fences, borders, art, etc.
- Increase perception of pride and reduce fear by maintaining an area to the highest standard.
- Remove or disguise intimidating security measures such as barbed wire and burglar bars.

CPTED in Commercial Settings

CPTED can be applied in commercial and institutional settings such as offices, stores, warehouses, schools and churches. The following are recommendations for these sites:

- Design and maintain the site to maximize visibility day and night.
- Clearly define entrances and exits.
- Delineate between public space and privately controlled space such as parking lots.
- Keep the property well maintained at all times.
- Immediately remove or paint over graffiti.
- Do not allow trash or debris to accumulate.

CPTED Assessments

The Greenville Police Department provides CPTED assessments at no charge to citizens within the city of Greenville. GPD currently has more than 25 officers trained in the concept. CPTED techniques are used in addition to traditional crime prevention methods, such as locks and alarm systems. Research shows there is a higher chance of more burglaries occurring within a short time frame and short distance of the first crime. This means that for the next few days after a nearby burglary, your home is at an increased risk of being burglarized, as well. The Greenville Police Department would like to provide you with information and services that are proven to help prevent crime.

For more information about Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, or to schedule a home or business security survey, please contact the Greenville Police Department's Community Outreach Division at (252) 329-4339.



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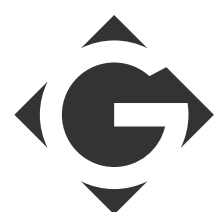
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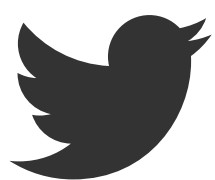
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