



## 2. Aiming for Zero Crime: Crime Prevention for a Safe and Secure Community

“National Community Safety Initiative” Underway from Wed 11 to Fri 20 October!

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The number of reported crimes in Shizuoka City has been decreasing yearly since 2000\*. In the years to come, in order to create a community where everyone can feel safe and secure and no one has to worry about crime, it is important for city government, police, and community members to come together as one to protect the communities we live in.

\*Reports received by police of crimes stipulated in the Penal Code.

### Working together towards a safer community

Small things like greeting your neighbors and volunteering as a crossing guard for kids on their way to school, help to create an environment that repels would-be criminals. By making sure to lock up our doors, or keeping a look out while taking a stroll, we can all contribute to crime prevention in our communities. The City has an initiative called “*Nagara Mimamor*” in which volunteers keep a lookout during their daily lives, making sure that children, women, and the elderly, etc. don’t become the victims of crime. Other initiatives include City staff and community group members conducting crime prevention patrols in vehicles with a blue light on top.



### Let’s protect the children as a community!

In instances involving children (aged 18 or younger) being approached or followed, repeated appearances of suspicious individuals and other situations that don’t escalate into a crime are common. It is important for the community as a whole, to watch out for children and protect them from criminals.



### Beware of scams!

Scams are as common as ever, and are often directed at the elderly. It is important to take countermeasures to avoid becoming a victim.

- If you receive a phone call about cash or your cash card, consult with your family or the police.
- Never hand cash or cards to a stranger.
- We recommend installing a recording device or a device to block unwanted calls.

(The City rents out recording devices which have proven to be effective against scams over the phone.)



### Help prevent common crimes like bicycle theft!

There were 614 reported cases of bicycle theft in 2022, amounting to about a fifth of all reported crimes. About 70% (423 cases) involved bicycles that were left unlocked. Many bicycle thefts occur in parking lots, but they also occur outside of people’s homes. Always lock your bicycle when leaving it unattended. In addition to the back wheel lock found on many bicycles, we recommend that you use a chain lock as well to “double lock” your bicycle



**Translated by:**

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