



Crime Prevention

Home Security Recommendations

Outside of your home:

- Ensure your house number is easy to read from the street to assist responders in locating your home in an emergency.
- Lock all gates and doors after each use. Consider padlocks for gates.
- Utilize outdoor lighting to include motion sensitive lights and porch lights
- Lock up bikes with heavy duty locks. If possible, store bikes in the house or in a garage or lockable shed. Register your bike with the local police agency in case it is ever stolen.
- Lock vehicle doors. Do not leave anything in your car. Small items visible from the exterior can be enough to provoke a break-in.
- Keep ladders secured so they don't lend access to upper floors of your home.
- Keep bushes and shrubs pruned to decrease places for an intruder to hide.

Inside your home:

- Keep house and car keys in a drawer out of plain view from intruders.
- If using a safe for valuables, affix the safe to a wall or shelf to prevent removal.
- Doors should be solid wood or metal so they aren't easily broken.
- The door between the garage and the main home should be locked whenever not in direct use.
- Windows should all have locks and should be locked when not in the open position. Consider windows that can lock in the open position as well for ventilation purposes.
- Keep a log of the serial numbers for electronics such as computers, televisions, and cameras.
- Keep emergency phone numbers near your home phone or programmed into your cell phone.
- If a cell phone is your main phone and you no longer utilize a landline, keep the cell phone near your bed in the evening in case you need to summon assistance.
- Activate your alarm system whenever you leave the house.

While away on Vacation:

- Inform a trusted friend or neighbor that you will be away and have them watch your house.
- Utilize timers for lights to make it appear as though someone is home. Timers can also be used to turn on and off televisions and radios while you are away, making it appear as though you are home.
- Stop your mail and newspaper delivery while you are away or have someone gather them for you.
- Have someone put out your garbage/ recycling/ yard debris on the appropriate days so it appears you are home.