

We have been asked to resend safety precautions that were emailed to you last year. As always if there is suspicious activity at or near your home, please call the Sheriff's Office and report it immediately. If you are uncertain as to whether or not to call our office, please follow your instincts and err on the side of caution. This includes, but not limited to, late evening to early morning door-knocks. If you are not expecting anyone and someone comes to your door, make it apparent people are home. Call our office immediately and let us determine the circumstances.

Exterior Light

Leave at least one light on outside the front of your home all night whether you are home or away. If everyone in the neighborhood does it, it creates a highly visible environment.

A dark house can attract criminal activity and create opportunities for criminals to work undetected.

Doors/Windows/Alarm

Secure doors and windows even when you are away for only a short period of time. If your home is alarmed, please utilize it.

Landscaping

Criminals should not be able to hide in your yard at any time. Landscaping should not provide climbing access to a roof, fence ledge, upstairs windows, alarm boxes, light fixtures, etc.

Plants should be trimmed up from ground level to reveal anyone who could be hiding; trimmed below window level for visibility and away from doors, windows, sidewalks, walkways, garages and gates.

Garage Doors

Please close and secure garage door including side garage and pet door. Remove garage door-opener and keys to your home.

Home Safe

A safe is easy to remove if not properly secured to your wall or floor; this includes small fire safes.

Vehicles

Remove all property from interior of vehicles. Please do not attempt to "hide" property out of sight by covering it up, placing it under a seat, or locking property in the trunk. If there isn't anything in the vehicle, there isn't anything to steal.

Again, remove keys to your home and garage door-opener. This lessens an opportunity for your home to be compromised at a later time.

If your vehicle is equipped with an alarm, please activate it.

Vacation

An empty house can be a target for a burglar, so make your home look and sound occupied while you are away.

Secure doors and windows whether you are on vacation or away for only a short period of time. If your home is alarmed, please utilize it.

Mail, Newspapers & Packages

Stop all deliveries or arrange for someone to pick up your mail, newspapers and packages so they do not accumulate while you are away.

Lawn

Arrange to have your lawn mowed and yard maintained while you are gone.

Lights

Place inside lights on timers so they go on and off periodically during the night. If you routinely turn them off at night continue to do so.

Leave at least one light on outside the front of your home all night whether you are home or away.

Telephone

Turn the ringer on your telephone down low or off so that someone outside your home will not hear a ringing phone go unanswered.

Radios

Leaving a radio or television on when you leave (or place it on a timer) can be a good deterrent. It makes it sound as if someone is home. Install it where it can be heard from the outside.

Garbage Cans

Arrange to have your garbage cans placed in the normal location for garbage pickup if they contain garbage. If not, hide your garbage cans out of sight. If your garbage cans are empty when everyone else's are full, it can be a sign you are not at home.

Social Media

It is better to share information about your vacation upon your return instead of advertising your pending absence.

Best regards,

Lynn

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