

Secure Your Home Before Going on Vacation

The weather is warming up and summer is almost upon us. For many families that means going on vacation. So you've packed your bags and planned your itinerary. Before you head out the door, don't forget to secure your home. The last thing you want is a phone call during your trip that your house was burglarized. Take the necessary steps before you leave on holiday.

When securing your home the main objective is to make your house look as normal and lived in as possible. Here are a few tips to help you get started.

- Set automatic timers for lighting around the home and make it look natural (only the lights you would normally have on). Also keep the perimeter of your home as well lit as possible at nighttime.
- Ask your neighbor to put out and bring in your garbage can on trash day.
- Don't announce that you're going on vacation via social media. Tell only close and trusted family and friends.
- Put your mail and newspaper deliveries on hold or have your neighbor pick them up daily.
- Put a radio or TV on a timer. You want to make it sound like someone is home. Turn that radio on a talk radio station. It sounds more like someone is home.
- Have a neighbor occasionally park their car in your driveway.

These are just a few tips. For additional tips, do your own research or check with your insurance company.

A home security check list can be found at: Roseville.ca.us and search "home security".



Protect Your Garage



Did you know that 40 percent of all residential burglaries occur through an open garage door? You can reduce the chance of a burglary just by keeping your garage door closed.

Criminals look for crimes of opportunity. An open or partially open garage door is an invitation for them.

Many people tend to forget and leave their door open. They may be out working in the yard, but out of sight of the garage. Also when the weather gets warm, some homeowners leave the garage door partially open.

Here are a few tips to keep crooks out of your garage and your house.

- Close that garage door.
- Don't leave your opener in your car. If a thief breaks into your car and steals the remote, he has an easy way into your home.
- Secure the emergency release. Use a zip-tie to secure the emergency release on your garage door so thieves can't disable the lock and compromise the door.
- Lock your garage door from the inside. Padlock the garage door when you're out of town.
- Make sure it's closed. When leaving your home, don't just hit the remote and drive away. Wait to make sure the door closes all the way and doesn't reopen.
- Be a good neighbor. Homeowners that have good relationships with their neighbors are less likely to be victimized. Good neighbors watch out for one another and for suspicious activity.
- Secure your side gate. Padlock the side gate of your home. If a criminal can easily walk in your backyard, they'll have a great place to hide while they attempt to break into your home.
- Lock all your doors. Whenever you leave home, make sure all the doors to your home are locked—even the side garage door and the door from your garage to your house.

Vacation House Check

Making vacation plans? Now you can add a little peace of mind to your travel agenda. As staffing permits, Roseville Police Department volunteers will check your house periodically while you're gone.

Roseville Police "Citizens on Patrol" volunteers will check the exterior of your home while you're away, making sure doors and gates are secure and any unwanted papers or advertisements are removed from the front porch. If they

see a problem, they'll notify you and, if appropriate, will have a police officer respond.

To submit a request for a vacation house check, please download the application found at Roseville.ca.us and search

"vacation house check request" and look under documents. We ask that you **submit a request at least a week before your departure date.**

For more information check the police website for the latest information. If you still have questions call the Roseville Police Department volunteer line at (916) 746-1052 and leave a message.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

The Grandparent Scam



The Grandparent Scam has been around for a few years. The FBI's complaint center started receiving reports in 2008. However, scam artists have become more sophisticated. Thanks to social networking sites scam artists can get personal information about their targets which makes the impersonation more believable. For example, the actual grandson may mention on their social networking site that he enjoys photography and often travels to Mexico. When contacting the grandparent, the phony grandson will say he is calling from Mexico and that

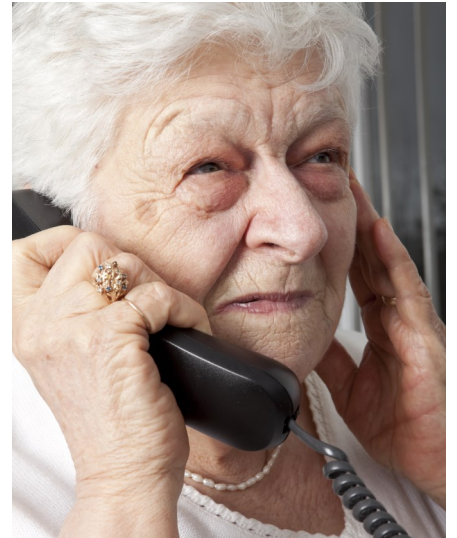
someone has stolen his camera, money, and passport.

Common Scenarios may include:

- A grandparent receives a phone call (or an email) from a "grandchild." If it's a phone call it comes late at night or early in the morning when most people aren't thinking clearly. Usually, the "grandchild" says he's traveling in a foreign country and has gotten into a bad situation, like being arrested for drugs, getting in a car accident, or being mugged and needs money wired ASAP. And the caller doesn't want his or her parents told.
- Sometimes instead of the "grandchild" the criminal pretends to be a police officer, doctor, or some other person.
- While it's commonly called the grandparent scam, criminals also claim to be a family friend, niece or nephew.

Don't be a victim to this scam.

- Resist the urge to act quickly.
- Try to contact your grandchild or other family member to verify the call is legitimate.
- Never wire money based on a request made on the phone or e-mail. Wiring money is like giving cash. Once you send it, you can never get it back.



"Think Like a Burglar" and Protect Your Home



Whether you are going on vacation or not, you want to protect your home from burglars. The more security measures you take in your home, the less likelihood of your home being burglarized.

Here are some tips you can incorporate into you home security.

- Always lock doors and windows. Invest in good locks. Use deadbolt locks for all exterior doors.
- Don't hide keys under doormats or anywhere outside the house at all. Burglars know all about the "secret"

hiding places of keys outside. Leave them with a trusted neighbor instead.

- Never leave a note on the door instructing someone to "leave a package around the back" because you won't be home.
- Don't forget to lock and secure storage sheds, garage doors and gates whenever you leave home—work, vacation, shopping, etc.
- Keep trees and shrubs well trimmed—this gives burglars fewer places to hide.
- Keep valuable items like computers, stereo equipment, jewelry, and electronics away from windows and outside views.
- If you don't have a Neighborhood Watch group, start one. You can take many steps to protect you home, but the single best way to deter burglars all year long is to have neighbors looking

out for your home when you are away.

For more information on Neighborhood Watch download a starter guide at:
http://roseville.ca.us/police/community_services



Sources: FBI Website, ehow.com, NAMIC.org, homesecurity.lifetips.com

Police Department

1051 Junction Blvd.
Roseville CA 95678
(916) 774-5000
www.roseville.ca.us/police

Call 9-1-1 EMERGENCY IN PROGRESS

**Abandoned Vehicle
Hotline**
(916) 746-1022

Alarms/Alarm Permits

(916) 774-5093

Animal Control

(916) 774-5090

Community Events & Neighborhood Watch

(916) 774-5050
PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us

Graffiti Abatement

(916) 746-1021

