



City of Roseville  
Police Department

# 911 Public Safety Newsletter

May 2018

## Spring is a great time for a home security check-up

### Want a safer, more secure home? Do your own home security audit.

[Download this checklist](#), walk through your home and find ways to make it safer.

Remember that the success of all security measures depends on using them consistently, and always taking care of the basics--locking doors and windows before you leave, and keeping your garage doors closed and locked.

Roseville resident Chris recently did a home security upgrade with RPD staff. You can [watch the video here](#).

Here are some of the security measures mentioned in the video.

- **Home surveillance cameras** - In the video, we used a great wifi-based home security camera system donated by Arlo. Arlo's system allows residents to talk to visitors too. There are other good systems available on the market too--we suggest choosing a system that you can watch remotely, provides high-quality images, and most important, is simple and easy for you to operate.

It's important to position cameras so that they get images of visitors' faces,



and not just the tops of their heads.

- **Fake TV** A fake TV is a gadget that can be put on a timer, and it creates the impression from the outside of the home that someone is home watching TV. There are a few brands



available--just search for "fake TV burglar deterrent" on the web.

- **Window locks** are inexpensive, easy to install, and available from any home improvement store. They prevent windows from being opened beyond the point of installation.
- **Security strike plate** -The security strike plate lock can fortify your front



door and deter "door-kick" type burglars.

For more information about Neighborhood Watch and other programs and services provided by the community services unit, call Police Community Services, (916)774-5050, or email [PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us](mailto:PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us).

## Keep your vehicle safe while enjoying our trails



Hurray for spring! It's a great time to get out and enjoy our region's beautiful parks and trails. Just remember that as trail head parking lots fill up, they become prime hunting grounds for thieves. You

can protect your stuff and make your car less attractive to thieves with some easy precautions.

Thieves know when you park at a park or trail head that you'll be away from your car for a while, and that you're more likely to leave valuables behind. They know you don't want to tote them along on your walk or ride. We don't want you to come back to a broken window and stolen purse.

If possible, leave your purse and other valuables at home, and only take small essentials that you can carry with you in

a fanny pack or bike bag, like your car keys, your ID, a little money for that treat with your buddy afterwards, and your phone.

If you have to leave valuables in your car (and we wish you wouldn't) then hide them completely out of sight, in your trunk or a covered cargo area, BEFORE you get to the trail head. If you wait to hide your things when you park, a thief might already be in the area watching.

After taking these simple precautions, get out there and enjoy this beautiful time of year.

## 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. 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 click here to download the application](#). We ask that you submit a request at least a week before your departure date. For more information, please call the Roseville Police Department volunteer line at (916) 746-1052.





When your family is traveling this summer, you need to be careful while using your mobile phone. Traveling in another state or another county often leaves us without a secure data connection. We'll often select the first open (unlocked) WiFi network we see listed on our phones. This could be at a hotel, restaurant, or airport. The risk in using these service providers is we often don't know who created the WiFi link. **The best rule for safety is if you don't know the**



**source of a WiFi source, don't use it.** Confirm with employees at an establishment or event if they provide a WiFi and the exact name of their WiFi hotspot.

A very common form of attack is the "Man-in-the-Middle" (MitM) model where a hacker creates what looks to be a genuine WiFi hotspot. You can't see it, but all of your data is at risk to be intercepted by data thieves.

A great protection against these potentially compromised communications is called a Virtual Private Network (VPN). These allow you to connect to the internet, but your phone's background data is scrambled to protect your identity and location. It's an extra layer of protection between you and the bad guys.

Here's a great list and description of free VPNs from [PCMag.com](http://PCMag.com): "Think of it this way: If you drive out of your garage, someone can follow your car and track where you went, how long

you were there, and when you returned home. We call that stalking. Using a VPN service is like driving into a closed parking garage, switching to a different car, and then driving out a different exit. Anyone following your original car now has no idea where you went after entering the garage. A VPN service keeps the stalkers at bay."

VPNs provide another layer of protection between yourself and the



people who actively working to steal your data. Remember the simple law of online security: If you are online, you are under attack. It's up to you to

# Guard your Social Security Number? (AARP)

**The last four digits of your Social Security number are especially important. Be sure to protect them well.**



By obtaining your Social Security number, identity thieves have the easiest path to the greatest damage: stealing your money and government benefits. Getting medical care and other services

in your name. Leaving a terrific tangle for the real you to clear up. Here are a few tips on how to guard your number:

- **Leave it Home.** Never carry your Social Security card
- **When Asked, Don't Tell.** Only a few organizations have a legal right to your Social — your employer, banks and lenders, investment funds, the IRS and government-funded programs such as workers' compensation. When asked by others, just say no. The more your number is out there, the greater the risk of identity theft.
- **Guard the Final Four.** Although most widely used and shared, the last four digits are in fact the most important to protect. These are truly random and unique; the first five numbers represent when and where

your Social Security card was issued. Scammers can get those numbers by knowing your birth date and hometown. So don't use the last four as a PIN. Don't share them in emails.

- **Freeze 'em Out.** If you place a security freeze on your file at the big three credit rating agencies, ID thieves who have your number can't get loans in your name, because lenders can't do the required credit check. To place a freeze, you need to contact each of the three major credit bureaus: Equifax ([equifax.com](http://equifax.com); 800-349-9960), Experian ([experian.com](http://experian.com); 888-397-3742) and TransUnion ([transunion.com](http://transunion.com); 888-909-8872). Freezes can be "thawed" as needed, such as when you are switching insurance providers.

**Police Department**  
1051 Junction Blvd.  
Roseville CA 95678  
(916) 774-5000  
[www.roseville.ca.us/police](http://www.roseville.ca.us/police)

**Call 9-1-1  
EMERGENCY  
IN PROGRESS**

**Non-Emergency**  
(916) 774-5000 x 1

**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](mailto:PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us)

**Graffiti Abatement**  
(916) 746-1021

**Police News & Crime Alert  
Emails:**  
[www.roseville.ca.us/enotify](http://www.roseville.ca.us/enotify)

**RCONA**  
(Roseville Coalition Of  
Neighborhood Associations)  
[www.RCONA.org](http://www.RCONA.org)

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