



City of Greenacres

Public Safety Department

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Securing Your Home before Leaving on Vacation

During the months of June and July residents usually enjoy some vacation time when they leave their homes to set out and explore other adventures with family and friends. Unfortunately some vacations turn into a disaster when residents return and find that a criminal had burglarized their home. The feeling of walking into your home and seeing the damage that was done and yet the property that was stolen that you worked so hard for can be devastating. Then you have the violated feeling that comes over you. Criminals know what to look for when someone is away from their home on vacation. The most important thing is to make your home look as if someone is there. Here are some simple steps you can take to lessen your chances of this happening to you!

- Always check your doors and windows. Make sure that they are locked before you leave.
- Check you alarm system. Make sure that it is set and working properly.
- Stop all newspaper deliveries.
- Stop mail service.
- Do not leave trash containers out front of your home.
- Close all blinds and curtains.
- Install a timer on your exterior lights so that they come on at night.
- Install two or three interior light timers in different rooms. Have them go on and off at different times during the evening.
- Have someone you know and trust mow your lawn while you are away.
- Have a trusted neighbor or family member check your home and report any suspicious activity to the police.
- Make sure that your neighbor or family member has your phone number.
- See if the neighbor will park their car in your driveway from time to time.
- Leave a radio on that can be heard by the front door.

If your neighborhood does not have a Crime Watch, and would like to get information on how to start one, contact Officer Warren at 561-642-2133.