



Summer Safety

eSafetyLine

Keeping Your House Safe

Summer is a time when most vacations occur. Most times this leaves your home empty and alone. This can be an invitation to burglars and vandals but employing a “house sitter” can help deter this kind of activity. Sometimes this is just not possible. There are ways, though, to keep your home and possessions safer. The best advice is to have your home looking “lived in” even though no one is at home. Law enforcement agencies suggest the following guidelines to prevent loss or damage to your home and property:

- Don’t publicize a vacation ahead of time. Burglars watch newspapers and such for these kinds of leads.
- In many areas the Sheriff’s department or local police agency, when notified in writing of a vacation, will keep an eye on your home when they are in the neighborhood.
- Make sure the house looks “lived in”. These means that deliveries of the mail and newspapers should be stopped or have a friend pick them up while you’re gone. Also have the lawn mowed regularly just like if you were home.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on the house and leave information on where you can be reached in an emergency.
- Leave garbage in garbage cans or have a neighbor use your cans. Burglars are not above checking your garbage cans to see if it has been used recently.
- Put lights and a radio in your home on automatic timers. Have them set to turn on and off at random times and in different rooms and don’t forget the bathroom.

- Don't leave a light on 24 hours a day that isn't normally left on.
- Keep drapes and curtains in a normal position to maintain a normal lived in appearance.
- Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway or in front of your house while you're gone.

The best way to keep your home safe while you're away is to have someone you trust, a friend, family member or neighbor, keep an eye on it and check on it at differing intervals. It will help keep your property safe and help to give you piece of mind so you can enjoy your vacation without worrying about what's happening at home.

Discussion Questions

Why is it helpful to keep curtains and drapes in a normal position while away from home?

How does keeping garbage in your garbage cans help to protect your home?

MEETING / TRAINING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

COMPANY: _____

_____ SAFETY MEETING

JOB/DEPT: _____

_____ SAFETY TRAINING

DATE: ___/___/_____

TIME: _____

TOPICS ADDRESSED: _____

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: _____

ACTION TAKEN: _____

Supervisor's Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Safety Coordinator's Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date