

CAPITAL INSURANCE AGENCY OF WISCONSIN

Spring Crime Prevention Tips

- Keep your doors locked at all times. If you are working in the backyard, keep your front door locked if you are in the front yard. Always lock your doors when you leave, even if you only plan to be gone for 10 minutes.
- During the spring weather, many people open windows or sliding glass doors while they are at home. Always remember to close and lock your windows and sliding doors when you go to bed or ever leave the house.
- Install motion-activated lights in your front and back yards, so when someone approaches your home, the lights automatically come on, illuminating the area.
- Make sure that your doors and windows are not hidden by shrubbery. Deny the burglar the opportunity to work undetected.
- Remember to put all ladders and tools back into a secure storage area after you use them. Ladders and tools that are left out can be used by criminals to access your home. Always lock any storage unit or shed that you have on your property.
- Be aware of home improvement scams. If you did not solicit the contractor or sales person who shows up at your door unannounced, then do not do business with that person.
- If a utility representative comes to your house, request identification. True representatives will carry their identification and will gladly show it to you. Call their company for verification. If you discover that there is no such company or if the company denies knowledge of the representative, call the police.
- Remember to always roll up your car windows, take valuables out of your car, and lock your doors every time you exit your vehicle, even if your car is parked in your driveway. As often as possible, leave vehicles in a secure garage.
- Never leave your children or pets unattended in your vehicle.
- If you go on vacation, put some lights on timers so they will turn off and on by themselves to give the appearance that someone is home. Have a friend or neighbor pick up mail and newspapers daily.
- Being a good neighbor can be one of the best crime prevention tools. Watchful, attentive neighbors can spot criminals and alert the police and the community to their presence. If you see a stranger at a neighbor's door on their property, or if you see a vehicle you don't recognize backed up in a neighbor's driveway, don't hesitate to call the police. Do not approach the subjects.
- Get involved in your community. Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch Program for your subdivision with the help of your Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit, and help s keep your spring happy and safe.