

Security Tips when You are on Holidays

- Have the lawns mowed and yard work kept up.
- Put things away. Outdoor furniture, bicycles etc. should be put away.
- Stop all deliveries and have someone pick up your mail daily.
- Notify a trusted neighbour of your planned absence and the length of time you will be gone.
- Don't discuss your absence in public, and don't give information about your vacation to Facebook or MySpace - you can give details when you return.
- Move valuables so that they can't be seen from any windows. Be sure you have a list of small appliances and valuables.
- Arrange inspection by a trusted neighbour if you will be gone more than a few days (to be sure nothing has been disturbed).
- Don't close the blinds, pull shades down or do other things that advertise that the house is empty.
- Use a timer to turn lights on and off at certain times, giving the house an occupied look.
- Alter lighting pattern. Added protection can be achieved if you have your neighbour rearrange the time-controlled lights every few days.
- In case of a break-in, your neighbour should know how to reach you and your insurance agent – and you should have this information for the police when reporting a suspected burglary.

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