



Burglary Prevention Tips

The keys to preventing burglaries are making your home look occupied whether it is or not and making it difficult to break into. Burglary is a crime of opportunity. Remember that three of the four home break-ins that have occurred in the Saranap recently have taken place during the day. Be vigilant. Talk to your neighbors.

Inside Your Home

- Install pick-proof deadbolt locks, and lock all doors, including sliding-glass doors, every time you leave your house, even for a quick errand. This includes garage doors (including the overhead door) and the door leading from your garage to your house.
- Lock all windows at night and every time you leave.
- Consider a home alarm system. If you have one, use it!

Outside Your Home

- Have adequate exterior lighting, including a motion-sensitive light in your back yard. If you're going to be away in the evening, leave on exterior lights and one or more interior lights that can be seen from the street.
- Never hide keys outside your home. Give your extra key to a trusted neighbor or family member.
- Lock away ladders, garden tools, and other items that burglars could use to gain entry. Store bicycles, lawn mowers, and barbecues out of sight. Lock garden sheds.
- Don't advertise that you're away. Never leave notes on your door such as "Gone shopping" or messages on your answering machine saying you're on vacation.
- Trim trees and shrubs that can be used as hiding places by intruders.

If You're Going Out of Town

- Leave a light on, or use a 24-hour electric timer to turn a lamp on at dusk and off at your bedtime.
- Close bedroom drapes or blinds.
- Stop newspaper and mail delivery, or have someone reliable pick them up.
- Tell trusted neighbors you'll be away, and ask them to keep an eye on your property.

Vehicle Burglaries

Burglars use keys and personal information stolen from vehicles to burglarize homes.

- Don't leave valuables (GPSs, laptops, briefcases, cell phones, iPods, purses), items with personal information (such as mail), or garage-door openers in plain view.
- Lock all doors; close windows and the sunroof.
- Don't leave keys in your vehicle. Don't hide keys in magnetic key holders on your vehicle.
- Don't move valuable items to the trunk while in public view.

Be Vigilant! Talk to Your Neighbors!