

VACATION CRIME PREVENTION

Have a safe vacation and return to a secure residence by following these tips:

- Have good locks on all doors and windows and use them.
- Make sure the residence looks lived in, not empty.
- Leave shades, blinds or drapes in a normal position.
- Ask a neighbor to watch the residence while you are away. Leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Test your smoke and burglar alarms.
- Stop all deliveries and arrange for a neighbor pick up mail, newspapers and packages.
- Plug in timers to turn lights and a radio or television on and off at appropriate times.
- Don't announce your absence on an answering machine ; leave your message normal.
- Close and lock garage doors and windows.
- Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway. If you leave your car at home, park it as you normally would. Vehicles parked outside should be moved occasionally to appear that they are being used.
- Consider taking valuables especially jewelry, to a bank safety deposit box.
- Call your local police station to place your home on their vacation check list.