



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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CRIME TREND ALERT—NON-FORCED BURGLARIES

CRIME TREND: Since January 1st, there have been 12 residential burglaries in the City of Sammamish where no force was required for entry. Entry has often been made through open garage doors or unlocked side doors leading into the garage. In addition, there have been approximately 20 larceny reports of miscellaneous personal items being taken from unlocked vehicles parked in driveways and/or parked on the street near residences.

CRIME PREVENTION TASKS:

1. Call **9-1-1** when ANY suspicious persons and/or vehicles are observed in neighborhoods, especially late at night.
 2. Put exterior lighting on timers or motion detectors so the porch, the exterior perimeter of the house, and the driveway are well lighted during hours of darkness.
 3. Park cars in the garage or at least under exterior lighting.
 4. Keep the overhead garage door closed except when entering or exiting or when working adjacent to it (not only is an open garage a temptation, but it also advertises to passersby whether you are home or not).
 5. Keep the side or rear garage door (for people) closed, locked, and dead bolted, just like any exterior door of the living area of the house. Ask your neighbors to contact you if they discover a door left open while you are away.
 6. Take the keys and visible valuables out of the car when it is parked in the garage; take the keys and visible valuables out of cars parked in the driveway AND lock all the doors.
 7. Keep the interior door between the living area of the house and the garage locked; it should have a deadbolt lock just like any exterior door of the house.
 8. Install and use a residential burglar alarm system, at least whenever the house will be unoccupied; consider also using the alarm system for perimeter protection when you are at home, such as in the evenings.
 9. If you are going on vacation, visit the Sammamish Police Station and fill out a Vacation House Check Form. (Chief Baranzini frequently finds unlocked doors at homes of residents who are on vacation!)
 10. If there is no active Block Watch for your immediate neighborhood, call the Sammamish Police Department and request a Block Watch presentation. Certified Block Watches can display Block Watch Program warning signs; more importantly, participating in a Block Watch assists neighbors in working together to observe and report potential criminal behavior.
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