



COPPERAS COVE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SERVICES

Residential Crime Prevention Tips:

- Clearly display house numbers for emergency personnel (6 inch reflective numbers)
- Lock all doors/windows when leaving and at night
- Repair all damaged windows/doors
- Install motion sensors outside
- Install a monitored security alarm system
- Trim plants/tree limbs away from the house
- Plant prickly shrubs under windows
- Do not leave keys outdoors or a hide-a-key
- Change all locks if keys are lost

Door and Window Tips:

- Change door locks when moving into a new location
- Install a wide-angle peephole and use before opening the door
- Install quality exterior doors, solid wood or steel reinforced
- Install door locks with pick-resistant cylinders or heavy-duty deadbolt locks
- Replace exterior door hinges for interior hinges; change hinges to a non-removable type
- Replace a standard strike plate with an extended strike plate, hardened 2"- 3" screws
- Secure sliding glass doors with a steel rod or wooden dowel in the track
- Install heavy-duty screws and a keyed locking device in a sliding door frame or sliding windows
- Do not use door chains; a floor-mounted retractable door stop is more effective
- Install a heavy-duty "hook and eye" on the upper part of a storm door
- Replace sheet or plate glass with tempered or safety laminated glass
- Firmly secure window air conditioner units to the window frame
- Install metal grates or grills on ground level windows

Garage, Sheds, Outdoors:

- Always close and lock garage doors
- Secure machinery, lawn furniture, ladders, and tools inside
- Secure extension ladders with chain and padlock
- File off stamped key numbers on the bottom of padlocks to prevent duplication of keys
- Place garden trellises away from second-floor access

Vehicle Tips:

- Always lock your vehicle and park in the garage if available
- Do not leave a garage door opener or personal items in an unlocked vehicle
- Leave only the ignition key on your car ring
- Do not leave valuable items (purse, wallet, electronics, etc) in the vehicle

Personal Safety Tips:

- Do not let strangers in to use the bathroom or phone
- Stamp "Do Not Duplicate" on your keys
- Keep house keys on a separate key ring
- Lend keys only to trusted family/friends
- When parking in a commercial garage, leave only the ignition key with the attendant and remove your garage door opener
- Insure your possessions
- Mark/Inscribe valuable items
- Store valuables in inconspicuous hiding places
- Keep emergency telephone numbers available
- Do not keep large sums of currency in your house
- Do not answer telephone inquiries or respond to mail/e-mail questionnaires about the type of home, alarm system, or occupancy

Vacation Tips:

- Create an occupied, lived-in appearance in the home while away
- Have a trusted friend, neighbor, relative or property management care for home
- Transfer valuables to a safe deposit vault or trusted friend/family member
- Do not leave notes on the door or messages on an answering service indicating absence
- Move valuable items away from windows
- Leave a vehicle parked in the driveway and have it moved periodically
- Lock all windows, screens, storm windows, sheds, and gates
- Put lights and a radio on automatic timers
- Make arrangements for mail and newspaper delivery to be held
- Set self-timers on lights in various rooms