

ESCONDIDO POLICE



SUMMER SAFETY

July 2015

Now that summer is upon us, homeowners are being reminded of security precautions.

With the nicer weather and longer evenings, people are thinking of vacations and summer fun. These welcomed activities can serve as a distraction to people thinking about home safety and security. The Escondido Police Department wants people to enjoy summer and not become a victim to would be thieves.

Summer Safety Tips:

- Keep doors in your home closed and locked including your garage doors. An open door is an invitation. If windows are left open, use secondary locks to ensure they cannot be opened more than two inches.
- Be a good neighbor and alert police to any unusual or suspicious activity in your community.
- Plan for vacations by having your mail and newspapers stopped or having a friend pick them up. Leave inside lights on timers to create the impression that your house is occupied. Be sure to set your alarm system. Have a lawn service or neighbor mow your lawn. Contact the Escondido Police Department to perform security checks of your home while you are away.
- When you have someone in your neighborhood who doesn't belong there, and especially if they are acting suspicious, don't hesitate to call and report it. Call the non-emergency number at **760-839-4722**, advise the Dispatcher with the description of the person, what they are doing, where they are (on foot, bicycle, in a parked car, etc.), and direction of travel. Advising us provides a police officer with a reason to stop and talk to this person or persons. It also sends a message that your neighborhood won't tolerate this type of activity. Notify your neighbors of the suspicious person/activity so they are also aware.
- Ensure garages and sheds are also secure this summer by installing enhanced locks. Many of us don't consider the shed or garage when looking at home security; however the items they contain are often very expensive, items like lawnmowers and power tools are often targeted by thieves.
- Consideration should also be given to installing quality outdoor lighting, a security alarm, cameras, or sensor lights. Any of these could enhance home security and deter thieves.

CALL 911 for an emergency, or (760) 839-4722 for non-emergencies