

Keep Your Home and Family Safe and Secure

1. Always keep your garage door, interior door and front door closed and locked, even when at home. It only takes a moment for a burglar to enter your home and take something.
2. Remember to lock your windows, doors and use your alarm system when both home and away.
3. If you park your vehicle outside overnight, remove your garage door opener from view. Burglars could use it to enter your home while you sleep.
4. Place your purse/wallet in a location that is out of view. Burglars are known to look into homes prior to breaking in to see what they can take.
5. Participate in the Operation Identification Program. Record the serial and model numbers to your electronics, remove any irreplaceable items from your home and place them in a safety deposit box if applicable.
6. If going on vacation, have a neighbor watch your home and pick-up the mail and newspapers and participate in the Housewatch Program offered by the Prairie Village Police Department
7. Report suspicious activity when you see it without delay. There are officers on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to your call.

If Your Wallet or Purse is Stolen

1. Stay calm and think clearly!
2. Call the Prairie Village Police Department immediately - 913-642-6868 or 913-642-5151
3. Make a list of the contents of your purse or wallet. Include:
 - credit cards
 - check cards
 - checks
 - other personal identification items
4. Contact your credit card company(s) and let them know the card(s) have been lost or stolen.
5. Contact your bank(s) to let them know of bank cards and checks that were lost or stolen. Have the account numbers ready to provide.
6. Contact your local Drivers License Bureau to obtain a new license if your driver's license was stolen.
7. Contact the local Social Security office to obtain a duplicate card if your social security card is stolen.
Note: A new number will not be issued unless your number is being misused.

Check all your bills for unusual activity on your accounts. If fraudulent activity is discovered, report it to the detective handling your case. This information is important to the investigator and may assist in solving your case.

Housewatch Program

Housewatch is a free program offered to Prairie Village and Mission Hills residents. If you will be leaving your home unattended while out-of-town, simply contact the Police Department at 913-642-6868.

You will need to provide some information to the Police Dispatcher about your property. This information will be forwarded to patrol officers who will then perform random security checks of your residence while you're away.

Operation ID

Operation ID helps to deter burglars by using a specific number to mark your property.

Participating in Operation ID is easy. Simply engrave an identification number on your property. If it is later stolen and recovered by the Police, you will be able to identify it.

Operation ID stickers are available from the Police Department.

Operation ID works! Burglars know if they are caught with marked evidence, it is solid evidence against them. In addition, many pawn shops will not accept marked items because they know these items may be stolen.

Auto Theft

People often leave their cars running unattended in driveways and parking lots, only to return and discover they have been stolen. Thieves are known to drive through neighborhoods and business areas targeting vehicles left running and unattended. Most of these vehicles are unlocked, making them attractive to would-be thieves.

- NEVER leave your vehicle running and unattended for any amount of time. It only takes a few seconds to steal your vehicle.
- NEVER leave your child in your vehicle while it's running and unattended. This could result in not only the theft of your vehicle, but also your child getting hurt.
- Keep your vehicle locked at all times.
- Remove valuable property from your vehicle.
- Know your vehicle information such as: license plate number, make and model of the vehicle, and the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). This will assist the police if your vehicle is stolen.
- Report suspicious activity in our neighborhood when you see it.

Bicycle Theft

For many people, bicycles are an important form of transportation, especially for kids. Unfortunately, you can't just lock the doors on a bicycle. This sometimes makes bicycles prone to theft.

- Never leave your bike unattended. It only takes a few seconds to steal a bike.
- Lock your bike to a fixed object at all times, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- "Weave" the bike cable or chain through the bike frame, not just through the front or rear wheel.

- Place your bike in a secure area, such as a closed garage, where it is concealed from view.
- Engrave your bike frame with a set of identifiable letters to help identify your bike if it's stolen.
- Write down the model and serial number of your bike and keep it in a safe place.

Identity Theft

- If your purse or wallet is stolen, obtain a credit report immediately afterwards.
- Shred or tear up all paperwork with personal information on it before placing it in the trash.
- Shred all applications for credit cards that you receive in the mail if you are not going to obtain the card. Many times all it takes is a signature to activate an account in your name!
- Do not give out personal information to telephone solicitors or anyone you may be unsure of. Instead, obtain their phone number and call them back. Legitimate companies will have no problem giving you their telephone number.
- The Internet is a great source of information for society, but that includes thieves, too! Before putting personal information or your credit card number out on the Internet, determine if the site is a secure site.

Most sites will let you know if they are secure or not. A secure page begins with <https://> and will feature, in Netscape, a blue bar across the top of the window and a solid key in the lower left corner; or, in Microsoft Internet Explorer, a closed padlock in the lower right corner.

Internet Safety For Kids

In many ways, the Internet is like a busy city. There are exciting things to see and do, good and bad areas to visit, and scary things that happen every day and often go unnoticed, all with the click of a mouse. Just as we teach our children to be "street smart" they also need to be "Internet Smart."

Parents:

- Set reasonable rules and guidelines for your children on Internet usage and monitor what they are doing on-line. Post the rules near the computer and explain them to your children.
- Understand what on-line services your children use and know how to access them.
- Get to know your child's "on-line" friends just as you get to know any other friends.
- If possible, keep the computer in a common area of the house. Avoid putting the computer in your child's room. By doing this, you can monitor your children when they are using the computer.
- NEVER allow your child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission. Teach your children that the Internet is a great information source for both kids and criminals.

Everyone:

- When utilizing a chat room or bulletin board, never give out identifying information such as your name, address, telephone number, school address, or other personal information.
- Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make you uncomfortable.

- Teach children to report these types of messages to you. In turn, your local police agency should be contacted to make a report.

Unwanted Door-To-Door Solicitors

Every year, officers respond to calls on annoying or overbearing door-to-door solicitors. Sometimes these calls result in the arrest of a solicitor who has not followed the guidelines set forth by City ordinances.

Among the guidelines are:

- Solicitors must obtain a permit
- Individuals must obtain a solicitation permit from the City prior to soliciting door-to-door. The solicitation permit will include a photo of the solicitor.
(This does not apply to charitable or political organizations.)

“No Solicitors” means No Solicitors

- A solicitor should not knock on the door or ring the doorbell for the purpose of selling a service or product for profit if the property is posted “No Solicitors.” No solicitation stickers are available from the City Clerk’s office.
- Solicitors must leave when asked by the homeowner or apartment dweller.

Solicitors Must Follow Time Guidelines

- Solicitors may not solicit prior to 10:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. or between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Solicitors Must Tell You The Truth

- Solicitors cannot make any statements, which misrepresent the purpose of their call, or use any plan or scheme, which misrepresents their purpose.

By becoming familiar with the City’s door-to-door solicitation ordinance, you can contact the Police Department when solicitors do not follow the rules.

Download the City’s brochure, *Basics of Door-to-Door Solicitation*, available on the city website:
pvkansas.com/pdfs

Helpful Phone Numbers

Police Department: 913-642-6868

Crime Prevention Officer: 913-385-4613

Non-Emergencies 913-642-6868 or 913-642-5151