



**BARRINGTON HILLS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
112 ALGONQUIN ROAD  
BARRINGTON HILLS, ILLINOIS 60010-5199  
NON-EMERGENCY (847) 551-3006  
FACSIMILE (847) 551-3055



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## **Vacation Security Tips**

Going on vacation is understandably an exciting event for every member of the family. Much thought usually goes into the scheduling and planning to be sure that all of the details are taken care of. However, when finalizing your plans, don't neglect the protection of your property and belongings that are staying behind - your home.

Before you leave, take a few minutes and review the following suggestions (Actually, many of these are excellent things to remember all year round.)

### **STOP ALL DELIVERIES TO YOUR HOME.**

- Newspapers and mail that accumulate are sure giveaways that no one has been around.

### **GIVE A KEY TO A RELATIVE OR TRUSTED NEIGHBOR.**

- Ask that person to check the house as often as possible. Any deliveries that were not stopped should be taken inside. Ask that person to open the curtains periodically. If there is a car in the garage, ask them to park it in the driveway occasionally. In short, the house should be made to look lived in.

### **INSTALL TIMERS**

- Having a light on each level makes the home look occupied. A timer on a radio is also a good idea.

### **DISCONNECT THE GARAGE DOOR OPENER**

- Make sure that it can't be opened. Also, lock the door between the garage and the inside.

### **IF YOU WILL BE GONE A LONG TIME, HAVE YOUR YARD TAKEN CARE OF BY SOMEONE YOU TRUST.**

- Have the grass cut promptly.

### **NEVER HIDE A KEY ANYWHERE OUTSIDE.**

- Burglars know these tricks, too.

### **FINALLY, CALL THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND REQUEST A VACATION WATCH.**

- Barrington Hills residents can register for the house watch service by filling out a house watch request form. House watch forms may be obtained at the police station or downloaded at <http://www.vbhcomm.info/police/house-watch.php>.