

Five Summer Vacation Safety Tips

- Make sure your house has effective locks, and that those locks are used. For maximum protection, choose high security locks. Even the best locks can't protect you if you don't use them.
- Do some yard work before you leave the house for an extended period of time. Trim your hedges and bushes so thieves won't have a chance to hide out, and you won't give the impression your home has been left unattended and vacant.
- Remember to secure your spare key. Leave it with a trusted neighbor. Never hide it on the property. Keyless entry locks are also a great option. Burglars have more experience looking for keys than you do hiding them.
- Be sure all outside entrances of the home are well lit. A timer or solar-powered light on the front, back and side of the house make it difficult for burglars to hide.
- Think twice before posting upcoming vacations on Facebook, Twitter or any other social media outlet. You'd be surprised how fast information can travel on the information highway - and sometimes to the wrong computer screen.