



From The Desk Of...
Sheriff John E. Zaruba

If you were ever to get locked out of your home, would you be able to break in? Do you keep a “fake rock” with a key in it, or possibly one unlocked window in the back? Keep in mind, if you are able to break into your home, so is a burglar. Most burglars spend less than 60 seconds attempting to break into a home, so simple steps you take can help keep you from becoming a crime victim.

Check your locks. Make sure that all exterior doors are solid, and protected by a dead-bolt lock. Simple door knob key locks are not enough.

Check the windows. Lock all windows when not at home, and make sure that any sliding glass doors have a secondary pole device to keep intruders from opening them.

Check the outside of your home. Make sure your house is well lit on the outside. Check shrubs and bushes to make sure they are well trimmed and not hiding any windows or doors.

If you plan to travel, make your home look the same while you are away as it does when your home. Use timers for lights in your home to turn off and on in different areas of the house throughout the night. Also, do not leave shades and curtains completely closed. Take advantage of the mail and newspaper stopping programs, or make sure a neighbor is able to pick them up every day. Call the Sheriff’s Office at (630) 407-2400 and request a Vacation House Watch while you are away.

Our Office also offers a service where Certified Crime Prevention Officers will come and assess the security of your home. There is no charge for this service, and it is available to any citizen of DuPage County, whether you live in an incorporated or unincorporated area. You can contact our Community Resource Unit at (630) 407-2317.

Please consider these steps to help make your summer as safe and enjoyable as possible.