

Personal Property



- Keep items locked that are stored outside such as bikes and tools
- Keep gates and sheds locked
- Record serial numbers of items of value such as firearms, electronics and tools
- Keep the serial numbers in a safe place separate from the items
- Engrave items of value, especially those with no serial number, with your driver's license number so police can return the property to you if it is recovered
- Store blank checks and credit cards in a safe place

On Vacation

- Tell neighbors when you will be gone
- Stop the newspaper, mail and other deliveries
- Have someone check on your home while you are gone
- Keep lights on inside and out
- Request a Vacation House Check from the Richland Police Department

In your Neighborhood

- Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other
- Report suspicious activity to the police immediately
- Start a neighborhood watch program

Receive **Free Email Alerts** from
The Richland Police Department
Sign up today at:
www.richlandpolicedept.blogspot.com

Find out about crime in your
neighborhood at:
www.crimereports.com

This brochure was prepared by the
Richland Police Department's
Crime Prevention Unit
As part of our continued efforts in
*"Pursuing Innovative Solutions to Issues
through a Partnership with the Community"*



This brochure is intended to provide basic crime
prevention techniques

For more information on Crime Prevention:
Please contact the Richland Police Department's
Crime Prevention Officer at:
509-942-7340

Richland Police Department
871 George Washington Way
Richland WA 99352 509-942-7340
www.ci.richland.wa.us/police



Home Security



Richland Police Department

Most criminals are opportunists:

They strike when it is easiest for them!

Here are a few simple steps you can take to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime:

Physical Security



- ***Always*** lock your windows and doors, even when you are home
- Use a heavy duty deadbolt and striker plate, installed with 3 inch screws into the wall stud, on every entry door
- Use a secondary lock on windows and sliding glass doors
- Install an eye viewer on your front door at a height everyone can use
- If there is a glass window next to the door, reinforce the glass so it can't be easily broken
- Use solid core doors for every entry door, including the door from the garage into the house

- Do not keep a spare key “hidden” outside – Criminals know the common hiding places
- Keep your garage doors shut and locked when not in use

Lighting



- Keep entry ways and door ways well lit at night, even while you are home
- Keep a light on inside your home at night
- Look at your home from the perspective of a criminal. Are there dark places to hide?
- Be sure your address is visible from the street and well lit

Landscaping



- Keep landscaping pruned to below 3 feet or above 6 feet to minimize hiding places
- The more privacy your landscaping gives you, the more privacy it gives criminals
- Consider planting bushes with thorns in areas to create a natural barrier



While Home



- Never allow someone you don't know into your home
- If someone asks to use your phone and you want to help them, make the call for them or hand them a cordless phone, don't let them inside
- Never allow an unsolicited or unscheduled repairman or service worker into your home
- Be cautious of door to door solicitors, ask to see their solicitor's license. The City of Richland requires individuals to be licensed to solicit door to door.
- If a solicitor is aggressive and won't leave, shut the door and call the police if necessary

Alarm Systems



- Can be an effective burglary prevention tool
- Can provide peace of mind
- Use a reputable monitoring company
- Must be installed correctly to maximize effectiveness and minimize false alarms

