

January 2007

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Peace of mind while you're away

Everyone needs a holiday some time. And however much we like our homes, there is nothing like a change of scenery. But we all want to come home and find everything as we left it. Almost half of all burglaries happen when a flat or house is empty.

## Before you go

Make your home look like someone is living in it. Don't close curtains in daytime, this shows the house is empty. Use automatic timer-switches to turn your lights on when it goes dark.

Cancel any newspaper deliveries and asked the post office to hold your mail or have someone pick it up for you..

Avoid discussing holiday plans where strangers may hear details of your absence from home.

Make arrangements for snow removal or grass cutting while you're away.



Consider leaving important documents and valuable items with other family members or a bank. Or lock them in a safe.

Do not put your home address on your luggage when you are traveling to your holiday destination.

If you normally leave bicycles or similar items of value in your shed, consider putting them in the house.

Finally, make sure that you've locked all outside doors and windows and, if you have a burglar alarm, make sure it is set.

And just before you set off, it's worth spending a couple of minutes checking that you've done all you had to do and taken everything you need with you. Don't forget your luggage!

SERVICE-PRIDE-INTEGRITY



GARDEN CITY POLICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

CITY DEPARTMENT  
PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY-911

POLICE 525-8088

DETECTIVE BUREAU 525-8863

DRUG TIPS 525-8896

CITY HALL 525-8800

21ST DIST. COURT 525-8808

BUILDING DEPT. 525-8820

CITY CLERK 525-8808

LIBRARY 525-8855

MAPLEWOOD CTR. 525-8846

PARKS & REC. 525-8843

# TRAVEL TIPS

## General tips on home security

Fit Single Dead Bolt locks to all outside doors, and locks to all downstairs or easily accessible windows.

Consider having an approved alarm system installed .

Try not to leave valuable items, like your TV, stereo, video or DVD, where thieves can see them.

Asked to be placed on the Garden City Police Vacation Watch List.

Participate in Operation ID and engrave your valuables with your driver’s license number.

Keep a list of the make, model and serial number of these items and take photos of any valuable items that can’t be marked, like jewelry.

Give copies of the list and photos to a trusted friend or relative.

Most burglars get in through a back door or window. Make it difficult for them by locking all side or back gates and adding trellis to the top of walls and fences. Fit lights that come on at night to cover the sides and back of your house.

Make sure that you have up-to-date contents and buildings insurance.

Put all your tools away so they cannot be used to break into your house and lock your garage and shed with proper security locks.

If you have to leave a ladder out, put it on its side and lock it to a secure fixture with a ‘close shackle’ padlock or heavy-duty chain.

Participate in Neighborhood Watch and ask your neighbors to watch your home while you are away.

## WATCH BLOCK NEWS

As a reminder, our meetings again are in :

**October**

**December-Christmas Party**

**March**

**May-Crime Prevention Month**

When reporting crime: Remember– WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and HOW.

Who is doing/did what. What did or are they doing. Where are they doing/did it. When was it done and How did they

do it. You may not be able to answer all these, but as much as possible makes our response more effective.

D/Sgt. Brian Aure’

# CITY WIDE CRIME STATISTICS

December crime stats\* “YOU DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

### Criminal Activity Totals

Breaking/Entering	16	Assault/Battery	23
Larceny	40	Public Peace	0
Criminal Sexual Conduct	0	Fraud	9
Stolen Vehicles	7	Runaway	2
Assaults	7	Drugs	8
Murder	0	Forgery	3
Robbery	1	Property Destruction	36
		Drunk Driving	12

\*NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH STATS ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME