

Safeguard your home



Ahh...summer vacation. You can finally pack up and get away from the daily grind. While you melt away all your worries, make sure that includes the security of your home. ERIE provides some tips to keep your home safe, and your eyes focused on vacation:

First things first; lock up

- Lock all doors and windows, including those within an attached garage. You can also put a nail or a screw into the frame of lower-level windows above the closed pane to prevent them from being lifted.
- Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track of any sliding doors.

Create an “at-home” appearance

- Leave a locked vehicle or let a neighbor park in your driveway.
- Never leave a message on your answering machine saying you’re out of town. Also, be careful what you post on social networking sites.
- Inside, use timers to turn lamps on and off at regular intervals.
- Outside, keep a light on at night.

- Have a friend or neighbor check your mailbox. If you are planning an extended vacation, arrange for someone to mow your lawn.
- Don’t close drapes; leave them in their usual position.

Take special precautions

- Trim trees and shrubs near any point of entry to your home.
- Install motion sensitive lighting outdoors.
- Lower the volume on the telephone ringer so unanswered rings won’t be heard.
- Hide cash, jewelry or important papers in a safe deposit box somewhere other than the bedroom (that’s the first place a thief will look).
- Make sure valuable items inside your home are not visible from the street.

This information is presented as a public service of Erie Insurance and your local ERIE Agent.



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