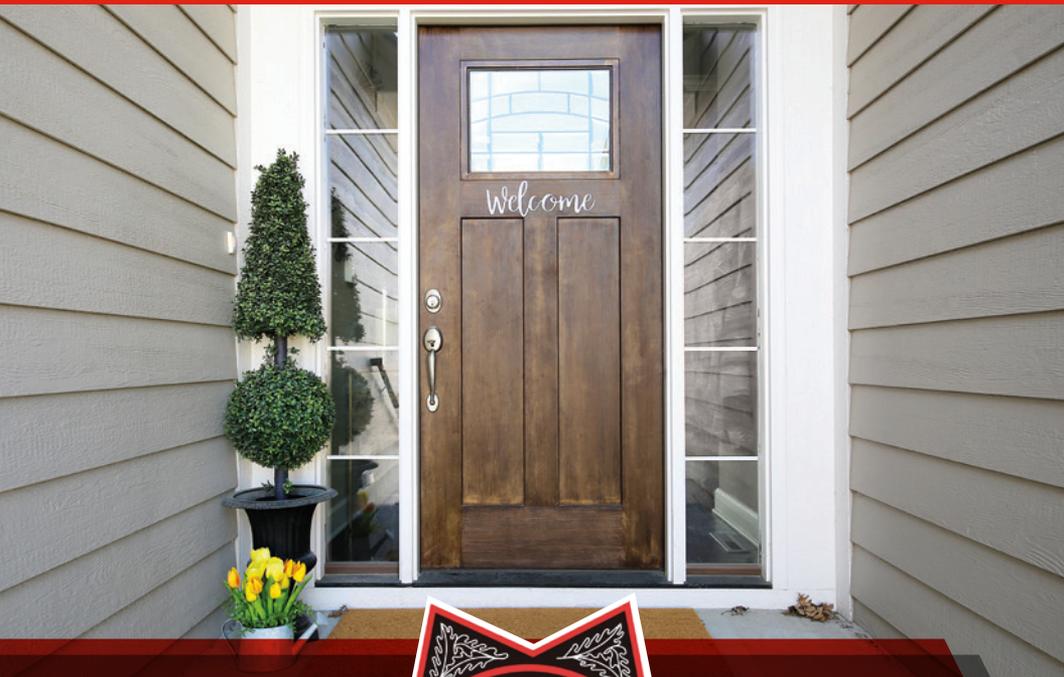


RANCHO CORDOVA POLICE DEPARTMENT



CRIME PREVENTION

RCPD wants to offer its residents tips to help keep you, your home and your vehicle secure, and how you can report criminal activity. By taking a few simple steps, you can reduce the risk to yourself while also discouraging those who commit crime.



GOING OUT OR ON VACATION?

Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.

Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers to build up while you are away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail, or arrange for a friend or neighbor to take it regularly.

Sign up for a FREE Vacation Home Check by our Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff (VIPS) by calling 916.875.9600.

In short, make your house look lived in.

Remember, if you come home and see a broken window or a jimmied door, don't go in. Confronting a burglar can be dangerous. Contact RCPD immediately by calling 911.

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you, especially if you are alone or it is dark.

Educate yourself concerning prevention tactics by attending a Neighborhood Watch meeting. Visit RanchoCordovaPD.com for more information.

Be aware of locations and situations that would make you vulnerable to crime, such as alleys and dark parking lots.

Stay in well-lit areas as much as possible.

Walk close to the curb. Avoid doorways, bushes and alleys where someone could hide.

Walk confidently and at a steady pace.

Make eye contact with people when walking.

Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street— just continue walking.

If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and your body.



VEHICLE SECURITY TIPS

Don't leave anything of value in your vehicle. Most burglars are simply looking for something of value to take. When parked at home, take valuable items into the house.

Always lock the doors and close the windows of your vehicle. Many burglars simply check door handles and move on if the door is locked.

If your vehicle is equipped with a security system, use it. If your vehicle will regularly sit outside at home, consider getting an alarm system installed on your vehicle. The noise caused by the alarm will scare most burglars away, as you and your neighbors will be alerted.

Use your garage to park your vehicle in. Keep your garage door closed and

locked. It's not always practical, but a car in the garage is safer than a car on the street.

If you can't use a garage, park your vehicle in your driveway or assigned parking space within your community. This is one more visible barrier to a burglar, as many simply walk down the street and check parked vehicles.

Ensure adequate lighting on the vehicle, driveway and surrounding areas. Sensor lighting that comes on at dusk and off at dawn works best. Motion lighting can be defeated by a burglar with little effort.

Consider installing a video camera that will clearly record someone attempting to break into your vehicle or home.

HOME BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS

Always lock your doors and windows, even when leaving for "just a minute."

Never leave a house key available, such as under a doormat, in a flower pot, on the ledge of the door, or other "secret" hiding places. These are the first places a burglar will look.

Install deadbolt locks on all your exterior doors. Exterior doors should

have deadbolt locks with a one-inch strong metal bar extending into the frame.

Install special locks on sliding doors and windows. "Ventilation" locks and auxiliary locks will increase security.

Install good locks on garage, cellar, patio or other doors that lead out through storage areas or a spare room.





HOW TO REPORT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

RCPD is asking residents and businesses to **report any and all criminal activity**. Here are ways you can make a report:

- To report a crime in progress or suspicious activity, call 911.
- You can also send a text message to 911 from your mobile phone or handheld device.
- To report a crime after the fact, please call our non-emergency number at 916.362.5115.
- File a police report online at: RanchoCordovaPD.com/ReportCrime
- Have information on a crime? Submit a tip online at: RanchoCordovaPD.com/SubmitATip
- Report an issue or ask a question using Rancho Cordova Connect, the city's online reporting system, at CityofRanchoCordova.org/RanchoCordovaConnect.
- **Do NOT report a crime via our social media pages.** These pages are not monitored 24/7 and neither are we able to track these reports for data purposes.



RANCHO CORDOVA POLICE DEPARTMENT
2897 Kilgore Road • Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916.875.9600 • RanchoCordovaPD.com



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