

I would like to take a moment to thank you for contacting the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office about performing a patrol check at your residence/business. In the past, our agency has been able to assist with these premise checks, however we can no longer provide this service to every house on a routine basis. The information we provide will better allow you piece of mind while you are away.

In recent years, our agency has been answering more calls providing emergency and non-emergency response to the citizens and business's of our great county. Providing a patrol check of your residence/business by a deputy does not have the same benefit we can offer with crime prevention tips. Our agency is willing to assist you with these helpful tips, providing you with a crime prevention plan of action to assist you in keeping your residence/business safe and secure.

Please take a moment to review the attached information and call our agency if you have any questions.

Thank you for contacting your Sheriff's Office. Please feel free to contact Sheriff Hofmann if you should need further assistance.

One of the crimes most frequently reported to the police is residential and commercial burglary. It's also the most preventable. It doesn't take much or cost a lot to outsmart most burglars. Most burglars are not professionals, but rather people taking advantage of an easy target. Burglars may do more than steal things. If someone coming home surprises them or if they choose a home that is occupied, someone may get hurt.

Make a Secure Home or Business Part of Your Away Plans

- Plan to take time in advance to repair or replace broken window and door locks.
- Stop all deliveries and arrange a trusted neighbor to check your doors, pick up your mail, newspapers, place and remove trash cans on pick up dates. Have a grounds keeper or neighbor remove snow, and maintain your lawn.
- Do not overly communicate your vacation schedule or even your day-to-day schedule.
- Do not tell people you are not home on your telephone answering machine.
- Put timers on indoor lights, television sets, radios and miscellaneous appliances. Purchase timers with random patterns that suggest movement and activity in the house. Ensure that all outside lights have new bulbs, and ensure that they are working.
- Do not close all blinds; closing the blinds gives the house an away look.
- Move valuables away from windows where they cannot be seen, place small appliances out of sight, place documents and jewelry in a safe deposit box.
- Lock all windows and doors; use locking devices such as "Charlie bars", wooden dowels, etc. Remember, do not close all blinds or curtains.
- Have a neighbor move vehicles in the driveway, even moving their cars to your driveway on occasion.
- Contact your trusted neighbor and have them make periodic checks on your house, both inside and out. Make sure the neighbor has your emergency contact information, including your family and trusted friends.
- Inform your trusted neighbor when you plan on returning home.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sheriff's Office. Have a safe vacation.

Sheriff's Resource Guide



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

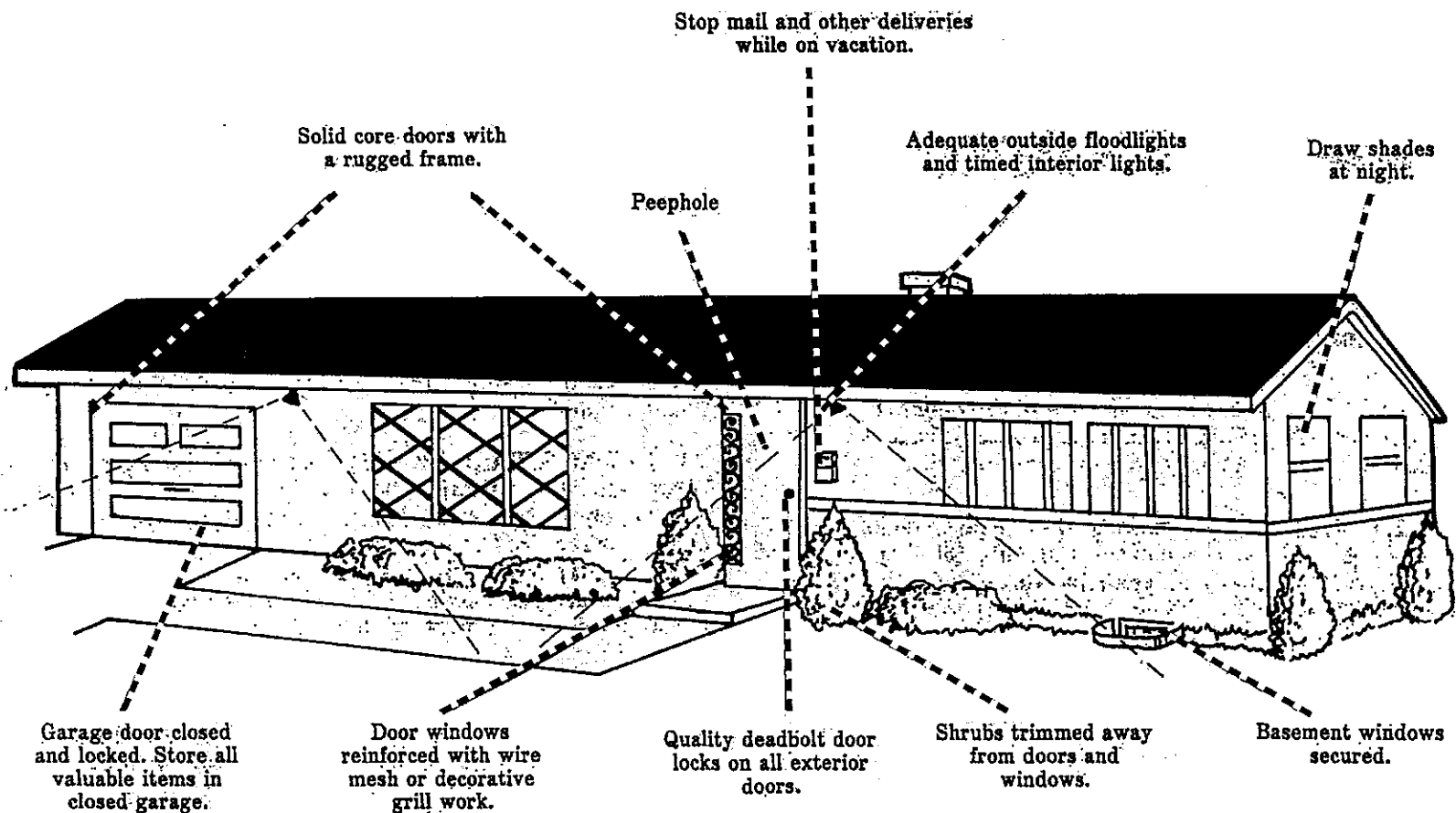
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*Protecting your home or
business while you are
away, starts with you.
The tips included in this
brochure will ensure that
you are doing your best to
keep your place secure.*

MAKE YOUR HOME-SAFE-HOME



Alarm systems can be hooked up to alert resident of illegal entry.