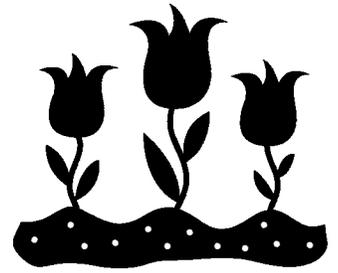


May 2020

# ELM PARK

[www.elmpark.org](http://www.elmpark.org)



## Tips for Keeping your Home & Surroundings Safe

**Keep in mind that neighborhood safety requires team effort.** The following tips are great for keeping your own home and family safe, but also for fostering a safe community. If everyone in your neighborhood practices these simple tips and works together to be vigilant by looking out for each other, it can really help to ward off thieves and criminals -- making it a more enjoyable place to live.

### **Never leave anything out in plain sight inside your car.**

Yes, even if the doors are locked! Thieves can break through the windows to take your belongings if they feel motivated enough. So, don't give anyone any reason for them to target your car. Even if it's something as simple as a blanket - by leaving this out in the open, thieves may think that the blanket exists in there to hide something valuable beneath it. By keeping your car completely clear of your possessions, it will not only save you the trouble of recovering your valuables and the inconvenience of having to fix broken car windows. To be extra safe, lock up your car's compartment and trunk from the inside as well. This way, if someone is able to somehow get in the car, they aren't able to go through these parts of the vehicle.

### **Do not keep garage door openers in a car parked outside.**

If you have a garage, but park your car outside with a garage opener in the car, then you might want to consider placing your garage door opener inside. A thief can break into your car, and then use the garage door opener within your car, to easily gain access to your garage and possibly your house as well. If you need to park outside but want to use the garage opener as a way to enter the house when you get home, then develop a habit of bringing the garage door opener inside with you. Over time, it'll become as habitual as always grabbing your keys and your purse/wallet, and this will go a long way in preventing serious break-ins.

### **Get a reliable security system installed.**

When used properly, a good home security system can really help to improve neighborhood safety. In fact, a Rutgers study in 2009 found that the more homes that had a security system installed in an area, the less robberies took place in that given area

### **Get a guard dog.**

Not only do dogs make great pets, they can also be great members of the community. Thieves tend to stay away from homes with loud barking dogs. If you don't have a dog, it couldn't hurt to place a "beware of dog" sign somewhere visible on the outside of your home anyway. Don't let a dog replace your home security system, but a good guard dog can intimidate intruders and make them think twice before committing any crime.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

President: Veronica Jimenez  
Vice-President: Getachew Kiros  
Treasurer: Eric Efuetngu  
Secretary: Carlos Fuentes  
Member-at-Large: Leroy Clemons

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

DATE: Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Panera Bread

1345 W Renaissance Pkwy,  
Rialto, CA 92376

The final agenda will be posted at the pool. You may also obtain a copy of the agenda by contacting Management at 909-297-2554.

#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

##### **ASSOCIATION MANAGER:**

Sarah Buel  
sbuel@keystonepacific.com  
Phone: 909-297-2559

##### **Emergency After Hours:**

909-297-2550

##### **COMMON AREA ISSUES:**

Fawne Adams  
fadams@keystonepacific.com  
Phone: 909-297-2558

##### **BILLING QUESTIONS/ ADDRESS CHANGES/ WEBSITE LOGIN:**

Phone: 909-297-2550  
customer@keystonepacific.com

##### **INSURANCE BROKER:**

Roy Palacios Insurance Agency  
26081 Merit Circle, Suite 101  
Laguna Hills, CA. 92653  
949.582.0964—Office  
949.582.0655—Fax

##### **POOL KEYS & POOL TAGS:**

Phone: 909-297-2558

Managed by Keystone  
3155-D Sedona Court, Suite 150  
Ontario, CA 91764

## May 2020 REMINDERS

- Keystone is Closed in Observance of Memorial Day - Monday, May 25th
- For after-hours association maintenance issues, please call (949) 833.2600 to be connected with the emergency service line. Please call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies.
- Trash Pick-Up Day - Wednesday  
Please remove trash cans from the common areas after this day.
- July 15, 2020 - Board Meeting @ 6:30 P.M.  
Location: Panera Bread

### HOMEOWNER ASSESSMENT CHANGE

Effective immediately, the payment address for assessments is:

PO BOX 513380  
Los Angeles, CA 90051-3380



### Tips for Keeping your Home & Surroundings Safe (continued)

#### Be conservative with your pricey possessions.

Flaunting your luxuries may result in unwanted chaos and break-ins when you least expect it. Try to keep these things on the down-low. If you've just purchased a brand-new iMac computer, for example, take the time to carefully deconstruct the box before throwing it away. When throwing it away, make sure that it can't be easily found or seen by passerby-ers.

#### Utilize blinds and curtains.

These guys are especially handy at night because people can easily see the inside of your home and track activity, where you're putting your valuables, which room you're in and which ones are vacant. By keeping the blinds closed and curtains drawn, you prevent any creepy stalkers from targeting your home. Install motion-sensored lights outside of your home. Burglars are usually discouraged by these lights. When the lights go off, it gives them a chance to run away from the bright lights before you catch them trying to enter your house. This is also a great way for you to know when someone is approaching your home.

#### Keep your neighbors informed.

It's always smart to get to know your neighbors and get to a level where you can at least trust one of them. This is a good idea especially if you plan on being away for a few days or more. By giving a copy of your keys to a trusted neighbor, you can have them make sure everything is okay at home. Inform a trusted neighbor that you will be away for a few days if there's a vacation coming up. Give them a copy of your keys. This way, they can make sure that everything is okay at home. Having mail accumulate can be a red flag and invite intruders. Ideally, you don't want your mail, packages, and newspapers stacking up in front of your door or in your mailbox. With that said, kindly request that your neighbor collect mail and hold it somewhere safe for you until you get back. If you have a car, you may also want to ask your neighbor to move your car around to make it appear as if you are home. Are you a pet owner? Your neighbors can make sure that your pets are safe and sound, and well-fed! Of course, it goes the other way around too. If a neighbor needs help, you can be there for them and report any suspicious behavior around their home if you see it. Create a neighborhood calling tree with a few trusted neighbors and place it somewhere readily accessible so that in case of an emergency, you can easily contact them.

#### Lock all doors and windows.

As simple as this sounds, it's important to make note of. Many homes have multiple doors and windows and it can be easy to overlook one or more of them. For optimal safety, make sure to lock all doors and even consider a doorbell camera when you are not home or home alone. Make sure that windows are securely fastened so that burglars can't enter the home through any of them. If you have any sliding doors, place a rod in the track to prevent thieves from forcing the door open and entering.