## Going on Vacation?

## Here are a few tips to keep your home more secure:

Double and triple check that your doors and windows are closed and locked.
Set your alarm. Make sure your alarm company has instructions to CALL THE POLICE FIRST in case of an alarm trip. Having them call anyone else first wastes valuable time.
Have a trusted neighbor / relative check on your home periodically, having them make the home look occupied, bringing in newspapers, mail, or parcels. Almost anything they can do to give your home signs of 'life' is a good thing.

## Have mail delivery to your home stopped.

If your home has a landline telephone, have phone calls forwarded to your cell phone or to the phone of a neighbor / relative who can take your calls. This will give the appearance that your home is occupied to someone who is calling to see if it is.
Purchase semi-random light timers for your home. These timers will vary their programming slightly, avoiding the appearance that a timer is controlling the lights in the home.
Pulling the drapes and blinds of a home give it the appearance of being unoccupied. Avoid this.
Ask a trusted neighbor to occasionally park their car(s) in your driveway. This will give your home more of an appearance of being occupied.
On garbage collection day, ask a trusted neighbor to put one of their garbage cans at the end of your driveway. During your absence, leave a radio on in the home, preferably tuned to a talk station. The radio should be just barely loud enough to hear from inside the home.
Make sure your lawn is cut in your absence, if it will be needed.
If you are a Bloomfield Township resident, call us at 248-433-7755 to let us know what your vacations plans are. Call load permitting, we will do our best to adjust our patrols to afford your home extra protection.

The Bloomfield Township Police Department
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Geof Gaudard, Chief of Police
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