



**Lower Pine Crest –  
Riverside County Playground Road  
Neighborhood Watch**  
888.522.9001  
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[www.pinecrestwatch.org](http://www.pinecrestwatch.org)

## Neighborhood Watch Tips

Here are some tips you might consider to enhance the security of your home, and to be more effective in this neighborhood watch effort.

### Home Security Tips

- General security
  - Lock up the house- always!
    - Doors, windows- use rods in sliding window tracks
  - Keep garages locked
  - Don't leave 'hide a key' under a doormat, etc.
  - Consider door-installed viewfinders
  - Shuttered windows say 'no-one is home'. Consider leaving window drapes/shutters partially open.
- Vehicle security
  - Lock it up...every time! And don't leave keys in your car...
  - Don't leave anything of value inside your vehicle that can be seen
- Items in your home
  - Secure valuable items in a good quality safe (that can't be stolen)
  - Inventory your stuff- photos are helpful. Makes recovery or insurance claims easier if they are stolen.
- Good lighting! Criminal activity prefers darkness...
  - Motion sensor lighting on exterior lights
  - Light timers on interior lights (esp. for part-time residents)
- If you are away from your home for a period of time (or for part time residents):
  - Notify a trusted neighbor to keep an eye out for anything unusual.
  - Make your home look 'lived in':
    - Consider having someone do light maintenance (keep walks and driveways swept)
    - Have a neighbor park their car in your driveway
  - Put a radio or tv on a timer, loud enough to be heard outside
- Dogs make wonderful deterrents and early warning providers!
- Consider an alarm system- there are many options that are relatively inexpensive, and can be installed without professional help
  - Security cameras are inexpensive and useful for many security and logistical purpose
- 'BEWARE' signs notifying of dog or alarm systems are helpful
- Neighborhood Watch signs and stickers
  - Post these around your home. Contact [info@pinecrestwatch.org](mailto:info@pinecrestwatch.org) for more information (or look at Amazon).

### Neighborhood Watch strategies

- Meet your neighbors
  - Neighborhood Watch programs depend on neighbors knowing each other!
- Elevated awareness!
  - Watch & observe things around your neighborhood

- If you see something unusual, speak out
  - People shortcutting through yards
  - Personal descriptions: clothing, height, gender, distinctive characteristics, etc.
  - Cameras/Pictures: pictures and video are very helpful in reporting suspicious or unusual activity
  - Movement of materials out of a home
  - Unknown person sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child
  - Be wary of individuals who knock at the door selling items
- Vehicles
  - Watch for slow moving cars, with persons who are looking around (esp with lights off)
  - Keep an eye out for unfamiliar cars parked in front of neighbor homes
  - Contractors, service vehicles or trucks
  - If a vehicle looks suspicious, note the make, model, license...take a picture
- Things to avoid:
  - Approaching unknown persons (especially if you are alone)
  - Investigating any unusual activity at night