



Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

South Mitchell

On holiday, how safe is your home?

The holiday season should be a time to relax and celebrate with family and friends, however coming home to a home which has been burgled can ruin it.

The reality is that criminals could detect your absence and if you don't prepare your property. In order to have peace of mind while you are away, we recommend you consider the following safety tips:

- Ensure your mail is collected regularly by a trusted friend or neighbour;
- Cancel any newspaper or regular subscriptions;
- Arrange for a neighbour to take your bins out and in. They may also do other things to make it look like someone is home like use your driveway to park their car;
- Park a car in your driveway;
- Set a timer for a radio and/or lights;
- Secure your valuables by keeping them in a safe place;
- Ensure all doors, gates and your garage doors (including your rear access doors) closed and locked;
- Lock away ladders and tools, anything which could be used in a burglary; and
- DON'T advertise your holiday on social media.

Before you leave on your holiday, submit an **Absence from Residence** form available online from <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/absence-residence>. This form informs Police of what the temporary situation is, dates for which you will be absent, which vehicles should be at the property, who will be caring for your property while away, etc, and the Police patrols will keep an eye on your property while you are away.

Hotlines:

000

131 444

1800 333 000

Online Reporting: <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/palor>



Not all plastics can be recycled, and some have specific ways to be recycled.

The number inside the triangle which most think is a recycle symbol, is in fact a plastic ID code. All plastics should have a plastic code on them, but this does not indicate you can recycle them. Here is a quick summary of these plastics:

Recycle:



Common plastics incl. water bottles - recycle



Hard plastic bottles, rinse out & recycle



Flexible plastics incl. take-away food containers - recycle

Don't Recycle:



PVC - waste transfer or general waste only



Soft flexible plastics can be recycled (not avail. locally)



Miscellaneous plastics - these are rarely recycled

Can be recycled at certain companies:



Polystyrene - general waste OR recycle at Foamex Victoria, Somerton.

Emergency

Police Assistance Line

Crime Stoppers

For more information, visit:

<https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home>



www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc

email: newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com