

Crime Prevention Tips:

Secure Your Residence Before Going on Vacation

Summer is a time of year when many families go on vacation. You can make each trip more enjoyable and carefree if you take a few simple steps to reduce the possibility that your house will be burglarized or vandalized while you are gone. A vacant house, or one that appears to be unoccupied, is an appealing target for a burglar.

- Make sure all locks on doors and windows function properly and are engaged.
- Give your house a lived-in appearance. Put automatic timers on several lights, a radio and a television. Set the timers so that the lights and appliances will turn on and off at random times.
- Leave shades and blinds in a position that you would normally leave them.
- Arrange for a neighbor to pick up mail, newspapers, and any other packages. Ask your neighbor to use your driveway and garbage cans while you are away.
- Make sure smoke and burglar alarms function properly and are armed.
- Turn the ringer on your telephone down low or off.
- Do not leave lights on 24 hours a day.
- Ask a trusted friend or neighbor to watch over your property while you are gone and leave emergency contact information with them.
- Leave a normal message on your answering machine and avoid discussing your vacation plans in public.
- Go to www.nrhtx.com/police on the City's web site and submit a vacation check request. A day shift officer will be made aware that you are not home and will check on your residence while you are out of town.

Please report any suspicious activity to North Richland Hills Police Department at 817-427-7000.

The City of North Richland Hills encourages you to become an active part of your neighborhood safety by starting or joining a Neighborhood Crime Watch Program. For information about Neighborhood Crime Watch programs contact the North Richland Hills Police Department Community Services Section at 817-427-7021.

Recent Ordinance Changes To Help Improve Neighborhood Appearance

The City of North Richland Hills recently strengthened its ordinances relating to trash cans and fencing materials in an effort to help neighborhoods put their best foot forward.

- Residents are now required to store their trash cans and recycling bins out of public view on non-trash collection days. Trash and recycling containers should be stored in the garage or other location that is not visible from the street.
- Property owners are prohibited from putting up fences that are made of sheet metal, plywood, unfinished concrete masonry blocks and other materials not specifically designed for fencing.
- Repairs to existing fences must be done with material of the same character and appearance as the remainder of the fence. For example, when replacing a fence panel or picket, it should be replaced with a panel or picket that is the same height, style and size as the rest of the fence.

The City of North Richland Hills requests that all residents comply with these ordinance changes. With everyone doing their part, it will improve the curb appeal of each residence and the overall appearance of the neighborhood.

Questions regarding these ordinances may be directed to the North Richland Hills Neighborhood Services Department at 817-427-6650.

Welcome New Businesses

A & A Car Accessories

7131 Boulevard 26, 817-595-5755

Big Green Car Wash

8409 Bedford-Eules Road, 817-595-2733

Christie's Extreme Burgers

5209 Rufe Snow Drive, 817-656-9999

Jerry's Paw Spaw (Pet Grooming/Boarding)

7800 Davis Boulevard, 817-427-8400

Music and Arts (Instrument Repair)

8731 Bedford-Eules Road, 817-595-1847

Red Barn Bar-B-Que

8021 Main Street, 817-485-7427

Steel Forming, Inc. (Steel Fabrication)

6420 Wuliger Way, 817-232-1040

Trinity Computer Services

5121 Davis Boulevard, Ste D, 817-504-1810

Wayne Jordan Dents (Storage Facility)

5755 Carlisle Ct. #700, N/A

The City of North Richland Hills encourages you to support local businesses and shop NRH first!

Get Copies of Your Birth Certificate at NRH City Hall

Do you need a certified copy of your birth certificate? If you were born in the State of Texas from 1926 to present you can obtain a certified copy of your birth certificate, or an immediate family member's birth certificate, at North Richland Hills City Hall located at 7301 Northeast Loop 820.

Certified birth certificates can be used to apply for a passport, social security benefits, enroll your children in school, apply for a driver's license and more. To obtain a copy in person, please bring your driver's license or other valid government issued photo ID to the Municipal Records Office at City Hall and complete an application. You may also download the application form from our website at www.nrhtx.com/pdf/Birth_Record.pdf and mail or fax your completed application with a photocopy of your valid driver's license or government issued ID to Municipal Records, City of North Richland Hills, P.O. Box 820609, North Richland Hills, Texas 76182; fax 817-427-6066. The requests are processed the same day received. Certified copies are \$23.00 each. For additional information, please call 817-427-6075.

City of NRH Goes Social

Are you staying connected with your friends and family online through Facebook or Twitter? Now you can stay connected with the City of North Richland Hills on Facebook and Twitter too.

The City of North Richland Hills is expanding its efforts to communicate with citizens, businesses and the world in general through the use of several social networking sites. Residents are invited to follow the City of North Richland Hills on Facebook and Twitter. You can also view videos from the NRH Parks & Recreation Department on YouTube and share photos of our beautiful city with other residents through our Flickr Group.

For more information about the City's social networking effort, visit www.nrhtx.com and click on the "City of NRH Goes Social" link.

Think Green NRH

Consider carpooling. Leaving your car at home just two days a week will reduce your carbon dioxide emissions by 1,590 pounds per year.

Upcoming Events

Special Events at NRH₂O

- **Dive-In Movies** - Float in the wave pool or relax on the beach while watching your favorite movies under the stars. Movies begin at dusk every Friday night **through August 7**.
- **Fireworks** - Float in the wave pool and watch fireworks light up the sky on Saturday **July 18 and August 15**. Fireworks begin at dusk.

Rec Expo & Open House

The North Richland Hills Recreation Center will host its annual Rec Expo & Open House from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Saturday, August 1**. Join us for the registration kick-off of Fall 2009 programs offered through the NRH Recreation Center. Learn more about health and wellness programs, memberships, youth programs, and more! The NRH Recreation Center is located at 6720 NE Loop 820. For more details, please call 817-427-6600.

CPR Classes

The North Richland Hills Fire Department is offering a CPR class on **Saturday, August 8**. The class is American Heart Association approved and participants will receive an AHA certification card. The cost is \$25 for Heartsaver CPR and \$35 for Healthcare Providers. To sign up or get more details, please call Fire Administration at 817-427-6900.

Wii Can Play at the Library

Whether you are an avid Wii player or you've just heard your grandchildren talking about it, come out to the North Richland Hills Public Library on **Saturday, August 8** and play against your fellow patrons. Enjoy a game of bowling or join one of our tennis tournaments. Wii'll begin the games at 11 a.m. and play until 4 p.m. Please call or drop by the Library after July 12 to register for the tennis tournament. You must be 12 or older to participate. The Library is located at 9015 Grand Ave. For more details, call the NRH Public Library at 817-427-6814.

Companies in Action

The Companies in Action Coed Volleyball Tournament is scheduled on **August 15** at the NRH Recreation Center. The event allows area companies, organizations, churches and associations the opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of teamwork while playing the fun sport of volleyball. The event opens new levels of communication between employees and increases morale and fitness. The deadline to enter is August 10. The fee is \$175. For more information call 817-427-6600 or visit www.nrhtx.com.

Water Conservation Reminder

City ordinance prohibits outdoor watering from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except when watering by hand or soaker hose. Irrigation systems should be set to operate in the early morning or late evening, when the sun and temperatures are less likely to cause evaporation.