## Spring cleaning can help prevent crime in your neighborhood

Spring cleaning is not only good for your home, it can also help deter crime. Get tips and tricks to keep your home safe this season.

## **In Your Yard**

- Trim back overgrown bushes
  - Make sure you can easily see over bushes or under bushes
  - 6ft/3ft rule
  - You want to be able to see out and be able to see trouble from the sidewalk
- Keep a regular maintenance schedule
- · Fix or add fencing
  - Replace broken planks and latches
  - Consider locking gates with locks to prevent people from accessing backyard
- Be intentional with your plantings
  - Use natural elements to help denote how to access your property and/or limit other ways onto your property
- Check lighting
  - Replace broken light bulbs and fixtures
  - o Consider dusk-to-dawn or motion sensor lights
  - Ensure your property is well lit and that it doesn't create glare so you can better see what is going on and others can see too
    - Do not just rely on street lights

## **In Your Home**

- Check that all interior locks for windows and doors are functioning properly.
- · Check that screens are intact
- Adjust timers for daylight savings time
  - Consider varying schedules
- When donating items, check pockets and labels. Make sure to remove anything with your name and address.
- Shred any documents or mail with your name and address on it.
- Cut up boxes that may have held high dollar value items in it before you place in the recycle bin.
- When cleaning out your medicine cabinet, properly dispose of old prescription medications.
  - List of pharmacies that accept old prescription medications can be found here:
    - https://www.folsom.ca.us/government/police/how-do-i
  - Remove all personal information from containers
- Update home inventory lists

## Filing/Tax Season Reminders

- File your taxes early
- · Get mail daily
- Shred documents you do not need and anything that contains personal information including name and address
- Update account passwords with strong passwords



