



Port St. Lucie Police Department



How to prevent crimes during hurricane season

Before, during and after a storm, you can prevent crimes from occurring by taking simple precautionary steps such as:

Assess your property for vulnerabilities

Conduct a walk-through, inspecting exterior doors, garage, sliding doors, windows and outdoor valuables. Keep in mind tree limbs close to the home that could break windows, locks that are loose, doors that have gaps around the frame, door jambs that are weak and sliding-glass doors without additional locks.

Secure your home or business

Decide what actions need to be taken to protect your property (shutters, tree trimming, additional locks, window film or Lexan) to stay safe before, during and after the event.

- Securing your valuables by locking the doors to your home, business and vehicles. If you plan to leave your home, take important paperwork such as birth certificates and bank documents with you.
- Work together with your neighbors and help each other keep an eye on homes throughout the storm.
- Avoid announcing your hurricane preparation plans on social media. There is no need to alert potential criminals if you are leaving your home.
- Verify the authenticity of a charity. If you would like to donate to relief efforts and ensure your contributions are going to an actual, helpful cause, donations should be given directly to recognizable charities.
- If you suspect price gouging, report it to the Florida Attorney General by calling 866-9NO-SCAM.

Secure your property if damage occurs

If you were evacuated and authorities have deemed it safe to return, be sure to take measures to secure the areas of your property that were breached. If you remained on the property during the storm, assess any damage once the storm has passed and begin to take immediate action to secure your property.

Remember!

*Reducing the opportunity is key to crime prevention.
Call the PSL Police Crime Prevention Unit for a FREE
home or business security assessment.
It's never too early; don't be too late!*



772-871-5027



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