

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior citizens represent the most rapidly growing segment of the population in the United States. Their number will increase as baby boomers age and life expectancy increases. By 2030, the number of senior citizens in the U.S. is expected to exceed 64 million

Although national surveys indicate that senior citizens are the least victimized age group, they often exhibit the greatest fear of crime. This fear can at least partially be contributed to their fear of personal vulnerability.

Due to the natural consequences of aging, i.e., loss of hearing and/or eyesight, along with other chronic and debilitating conditions, senior citizens perceive themselves as more vulnerable to physical injury if attacked.

Senior citizens often live in isolation due to the loss of family members. They are also more likely to live in inner city neighborhoods that may have high crime rates.

If you require additional information or need assistance from Oakland Housing Authority staff, call:

Resident Comm. Services 874-1588
Director 874-1586

OHA Police 535-3100
OHA Police Chief 535-3104

Housing Management Department (HM)
West District 874-1536
East District 777-4181
Director (HM) 874-1521

Leased Housing (Sect.-8) 587-2100
Director 587-2113

Language translation services are available in 151 languages at all offices at no cost.

Los servicios de traducción en 151 idiomas están disponibles en todas las oficinas sin ningún costo.

所有辦公地點都會免費提供 151 種的外語翻譯服務。



SENIOR CITIZEN RESIDENT SAFETY WHEN YOU'RE AWAY FROM HOME

OAKLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY
1619 HARRISON STREET
OAKLAND, CA 94612

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When You Are Away

Comment [s1]:

When you leave your apartment for a prolonged period of time, discontinue your newspaper and other deliveries by phone or in person ahead of time. Do not leave notes.

Notify the post office to hold or forward your mail, or have a trusted person pick it up daily.

Put lights both inside and outside the house on timers. Also, place one or more radios or TV's on timers so they will come on periodically.

Turn the volume on the telephone down so it cannot be used as a cue that no one is home.

Deterring the Street Criminal

Purse Snatchers, Pickpockets, and Muggers

Purse snatchers are most frequently teenagers who prey upon people in crowded places. The pickpocket attempts to steal a wallet when the owner is distracted in a crowd. The mugger looks for victims in out-of-the-way and secluded places.

Recommendations

Carry as little cash as possible and carry credit cards in a concealed coat or chest pocket.

For a woman with a purse, carry it close to the body, preferably in front. If the purse has a clasp, cover it with your hand.

Don't wrap the strap of the purse around your wrist.

Never leave a purse unattended.

If you carry both packages and a purse, put the purse between your body and the packages.

Avoid carrying a wallet in a back or side pocket.

If a robber attempts to snatch your purse:

Don't resist.

Give the robber what he wants.

Sit down to avoid injury.

Observe the robber as closely as possible to get a description for the police.

Never pursue the attacker.

After sitting down, make noise by calling for help.

Carry a whistle and blow it repeatedly.

When Walking

Plan your route and stay alert to your surroundings.

Never exhibit or flash large sums of cash or other valuables.

If you must walk at night, choose the busiest and best-lit streets.

Walk with a companion whenever possible.

Greet familiar people, merchants, and vendors.

Stay away from buildings and walk next to the street.

Avoid dark places, short cuts, alleys, thick trees and shrubs, and sparsely traveled areas.

Be wary of strangers who attempt to start meaningless or odd conversations.

In Stores

Don't display cash except in small amounts.

Don't leave a purse unattended, in a shopping cart, or on a counter while examining an item. Don't get separated from a purse in a crowded restroom.

If you are purchasing something and opening your purse, don't allow yourself to be distracted. Close it as quickly as possible.

Always make sure you retrieve a credit card from a clerk after using it.

When Using Public Transportation

Don't wait alone at a transit stop any longer than necessary.

Carry exact change in your hand.

Stand in view of other passengers.

Sit in the front of the vehicle near the driver or in the middle of the car away from doors.

When arriving by taxi, ask the driver to wait until you are inside before driving away.