



SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Block Watch Beat

A Newsletter for Block Watch Community Safety

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WHY SURVEILLANCE MATTERS

Security cameras are not only an excellent deterrent, but residents like you also play a crucial role in providing digital multimedia evidence that helps solve crime.

CHOICES GALORE

You've got plenty of choices. Pick what fits you, your residence & budget

PLACEMENT

Consider professional service installation. Camera placement is critical

LIGHTING

All cameras struggle in the dark. Keep lighting in mind when planning your setup

RESPECT PRIVACY

Unless providing footage to police, do not share it with anyone

Fast police work depends on good information. By setting up a solid camera system, you're providing the 'digital eyes' that help investigators cut through the guesswork and close cases quickly. By bridging the gap between a crime occurring and an arrest being made, your home's technology becomes an essential tool for keeping the entire neighbourhood safe.



HOME SECURITY SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS



**MOTION &
LIGHT
SENSOR
ACTIVATED**

Don't just light up your doors. Focus on the approach. Lighting the perimeter fences and driveways stops a crime at the property line, keeping the threat as far from your front door as possible.



**INFRARED
CAPABILITY**

Helps detect movement or signs of suspicious activity in total darkness or low-light conditions that may not be visible on standard CCTV footage.



**HIGH
DEFINITION
ENABLED**

High-definition footage does more than just identify a person, it captures the small, critical details that helps build a solid case for the police and the courts.



**PLACED IN
HIGH
VISIBILITY
LOCATION**

Adopt a hybrid strategy: use visible cameras at main entrances to deter intruders, but install discreet backup cameras to record anyone attempting to bypass or disable the primary units.



**RESPECT
NEIGHBOURS
PRIVACY**

Angle your cameras to focus only on your property, avoiding neighbours' windows or backyards. Communicate your security goals with your neighbours and disable exterior audio to avoid recording private conversations.

For strata complexes, speak with your strata corporation/management company for further guidance.

WHAT TO TEACH YOUR CHILD ABOUT GETTING LOST

It's a common fear for parents: your child gets separated from you in a busy place. While we hope it never happens, teaching your child what to do if they get lost is one of the most important safety lessons you can provide.



Before Going Out: Prepare Your Child

- **Practice Personal Information:** Help your child memorize their full name, your full name, your home address, and at least one parent's phone number. Make it a fun game or sing a song to help them remember.
- **Identify Safe Adults:** Teach your child who to look for in an emergency. Safe adults include people in uniforms (like police officers, security guards, or store employees) or staff working behind a counter. Emphasize that police officers are always safe people to ask for help; teach your child to calmly approach an officer and say, "I'm lost, can you help me find my parents?"





Teach your child this 3-step rule if they lose you:

1. **STOP:** Stop walking immediately. Reiterate that wandering makes it much harder for parents and searchers to find them.
2. **STAY:** Stay in that exact spot or find a safe, visible place nearby to sit down and wait. Explain that you will likely retrace your steps to the last place you saw them.
3. **LOOK:** Look around for a safe adult or a staff member with a uniform or nametag to share their memorized contact information with.

Explain that they should never go anywhere with anyone they don't know, even if that person promises to help find their parents or offers them a treat. They should only walk away with a uniformed official or an official staff member. By consolidating these rules into clear, actionable steps, you can empower your child to handle the situation calmly and safely.



Beat the Heat, Lock the Cheat: Summer Crime Prevention

Warmer weather is on the way, but don't let your guard down as the temperature goes up! Crime prevention is a breeze when you turn these simple habits into daily routines.



Home Safety

- **Lock up:** Secure windows and doors before leaving to deter thieves.
- **Store Tools:** Keep ladders and toolboxes locked away to avoid giving burglars easy access.



Vehicle Safety

- **Close Windows:** Roll up all windows completely to prevent theft.
- **Hide Valuables:** Never leave spare keys in the car and ensure valuables are out of sight.



Valuables Protection

- **Avoid Leaving Items Unattended:** Don't leave bags or jackets unattended while enjoying activities.
- **Travel Light:** Bring only essentials and have a trusted friend watch your belongings while you're occupied.

We acknowledge the support of the Province of British Columbia.

The Block Watch Society of BC newsletter is a collective effort of volunteer Directors and society staff. If you see any errors, please notify blockwatch@blockwatch.com

BLOCK WATCH SOCIETY OF BC

blockwatch@blockwatch.com

www.blockwatch.com

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT

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