

Protecting Your Private Property

Population growth and urban sprawl of communities across the country often increase behaviors and activities that impact the livability of a community. As a private property owner, there are several things you can proactively do to prevent or minimize nuisance behaviors and activity. The following tips can help private property owners take action to secure, protect and prevent unwanted activity.

Action

Signage



How it Helps

Start with **signage**. Clearly post a notice to mark areas on your property where access to the general public is not allowed. This makes clear the restricted areas on your property and allows the Police Department to assist with enforcement.

Motion Detector Lights



Motion detector lights installed at key spots around your building offers both illumination as you enter a darkened area but also conveys that you are paying attention to unauthorized movements in such areas. It also suggests to visitors that their movements are being watched.

Fencing



Fencing can be installed to limit access to areas where you do not want any unauthorized persons to enter. Placement of some types of landscaping along fence lines also can deter efforts to access these areas. This also is a good place to post a No Trespassing sign.

Security Cameras



Security cameras offer an additional means of monitoring activity around your property, especially in places you don't always have in your direct view. Cameras come with a wide variety of functions from motion detection to recording. You can also register your camera with the GPD as part of the City's Neighborhood Watch program:

greeleypd.com/neighborhood-watch-camera-program

Secure Outdoor Outlets



Cover and **secure outdoor electrical outlets** to prevent unauthorized access and theft of your electrical service. Covering outlets also limits the tendency for individuals to loiter in such locations while waiting for electrical devices to charge.

Key pad Dead-bolt Locks



Install **key pad dead-bolt locks** on entries to rental properties and areas for restricted access. This will help deter unwanted access into main foyers and prevent access to other parts of a building. The success of this security tool depends on the consistent efforts of all building tenants to resist sharing the code with guests, prop doors open for visitors or deliveries or for convenient loading/unloading.



Protecting Your Private Property Continued

Action

Graffiti Removal



How it Helps

Prompt **removal of graffiti** is another way to convey that a property is regularly checked and maintained. The City takes the time to view graffiti for any trends, 'signatures' and other messages that would help with apprehension of the vandals. To report graffiti and for any help with its removal call the City at 350-9336.

Property Maintenance



Good **property maintenance** goes a long way to avoid "attractive nuisance" behaviors. Properties with dead, poor or missing landscaping, boarded windows, scattered trash containers, etc. communicates neglect and invites invasion. If the property is next to an alley take extra measures to limit access and to keep trash receptacles from overflowing.

Secure Trash Containers



Keep **trash containers** locked and inaccessible to prevent persons from sorting through discarded items and keep the property clean and well maintained. You can dispose of items left on your property (blankets, clothes, backpack, etc.). If you are uncertain about the contents of such items (e.g. phone, keys, personal identification, drugs, needles, etc.) you can ask the Police Department to retrieve the item or you can drop it off at the Police Station.

Report Support Suspicious Activity



Report all suspicious activity. Illicit and nuisance behaviors persist in places where individuals think no one is paying attention. Call 9-1-1 if the issue is immediate or threatening. If you notice a pattern of activity, damage to property, or items out of place or concerning, call the non-emergency number at 350-9600.

No Soliciting



Disallow solicitation for donations on your private property. While public sidewalks and spaces are not limited areas from which a person may express themselves, solicit signatures, or request help, your private property is an area where this can be limited. Posting a sign prohibiting such activity will allow removal of such persons from the property.

Helping in other ways

Some individuals in our community struggle with adequate shelter, resources and household stability. If you know of someone in this situation who needs help, or you would like to help those organizations that offer a variety of services to assist individuals contact United Way of Weld County at 970-353-4300 or go to the local United Way website to learn more: unitedway-weld.org/household-stability