



GATED COMMUNITIES

Access & Security

Everyone wants to feel safe when they are in their own home and living in a gated community can increase a person's sense of security. However, this is just a feeling and doesn't necessarily reflect the reality of it being a crime free environment. For that to be the case, added measures should be taken to compliment security gates with real prevention methods. Two specific areas to address are the access points and security within the community.

Access Points: This is defined as any area where a person can enter the community without taking extraordinary means to do so. Securing the access points often means more than just installing a gate. Let's look further into this.

Front gate:

- Gated – Should be a reinforced gate that cannot be rammed into opening, but still light enough that it doesn't break down often.
- Remotes v. Fobs – Fobs are not as expensive as one might think. They can track who is coming in and out. Also, they can easily be activated or shut off.
- Gate + Wooden swing arm – Keeps people from "tailing" other people into the community. Forces only one vehicle at a time.
- Security Guards – At the entrance can monitor who is coming in and out of the neighborhood. They are there in case there is a problem that arises at the entrance to the community and can act as the first line of defense for the residents.
- LPR Systems – Read every license plate that comes into your community. Good for tracking who is accessing the neighborhood.

Other Access Points - Areas to “Walk into the Neighborhood.” A gate to keep vehicles out doesn’t mean that there aren’t areas where people can park near the community and just walk into the neighborhood unimpeded.

- Cameras – Multiplies the effectiveness of security guards by allowing them to be in more places at once (visually). Also gather evidence in the event of a crime or other problem. These can be placed throughout the community in random areas or these “access points” to help response time in recognizing criminal behavior.
- Fencing – If able to, fencing around the gated community’s property lines is another barrier keeping criminals out. It is more difficult for them to enter and harder for them to exit, especially carrying stolen items.
- Signage – Placing signage that states “Private Property – NO Trespassing” gives fair notice to individuals trying to access the community illegally (With or without fencing). This allows law enforcement to enforce criminal statutes immediately, adding another deterrent to potential burglars.

Within the Community

Security – Whether armed or not, uniformed security offers protection to your community. They should be well trained and knowledgeable about the area. These are some of the ways that they can help keep the neighborhood safe.

- Random patrols – Both in the car and on foot throughout the interior and perimeter of the community.
- Communication with the Residents to report problems (two-way communication)
- Knowledge of the residents, regular visitors, and vendors coming to and from the community.
- Keeping documentation of their incidents and contacts with individuals.

Residents – Crime is not always 100% preventable, but there are many things that residents can do to protect themselves. It is our personal responsibility to participate in that process.

- Alarms – Deterrent to criminals, also earlier notification of potential problem
- Cameras – Evidence gathering and crime prevention. Some allow you to monitor in real time, even giving you the capability to hear and speak to people on your property. (Camera Eyes Program)
- Lock up - Close your garage, lock your cars, and don’t leave valuables in plain view
- Neighborhood Watch programs – Neighbors looking out for each other, information sharing.

- Vacation Watch – Allows people to watch out for your house when you are not around.

The goal of crime prevention is to make the criminal feel the increased probability of getting caught. If your “Gated Community” takes these steps, the potential thief will look to a more opportune target in a different neighborhood. If enough communities take the preceding steps to protect themselves, eventually the criminal will move on to different areas/cities altogether. So, remember, there is more to just putting up a gate; take the extra time and spend the money to “actually” make your community safe.

If you would like more information about the programs we offer, please contact your Crime Prevention Officer.

District 1 Mckellips to Osborn	Ofc. Pocklington PA Henningsen	(480) 312-8212 (480) 312-2064
District 2 Osborn to McDonald	Ofc. Polasky PA Reyes	(480) 312-3474 (480) 312-1223
District 3 McDonald to Cactus	Ofc. Hartmann PA Sachs	(480) 312-8146 (480) 312-5053
District 4 Everything North of Cactus	Ofc. Katzaroff PA Egan	(480) 312-8802 (480) 312-8801