



Alaska Owned and Operated since 1974

GUARDIAN

Alaska's only locally owned security company. Monitoring your safety 24/7

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Update Policy:

Changes must be made in writing. A telephone followup to verify your identify with your passcode must occur *before* changes take effect.

Plan accordingly for contact list updates, or your personal contact information.

Changes can be made via mail, email, the website, or at the main office in Anchorage.

Expect a phone call verification of these changes.

It's our policy to protect your account at all times.

Update online at <https://www.guardiansecuritysystems.com/support/update-emergency-contact-list/>

Summer Security

Now that summer is on the way, we are sprucing up our yards, tuning up lawnmowers, and preparing for a summer of hiking, fishing, and enjoying the season of midnight sun.

A break-in would ruin anyone's day. Don't let your home be a target.

Security professionals have a term for a secured home. A "hardened target" is a home whose owners have taken time to reduce the risk of invasion with a few simple steps. Basically, when a homeowner increases the time and effort it would take for a crime to happen, the homeowner has increased the chances of a would-be criminal avoiding their property. For starters, even though plant growth abounds in the summer season, homeowners should keep shrubbery low

around the home, especially near doors and windows. The fewer places a criminal has to hide, the better.



Also, the property should be well-lighted. Motion detectors on lights save electricity and also highlight anyone creeping around your property.

Tools and toys are put away. It is always wise to remove valuable items from roadside view, however, a savvy burglar is happy to steal from an unsecured shed. Be sure keys to ATVs and dirtbikes are secured inside the house, trailers are padlocked, and even out-of-season items such as snowmachines are secured.

Summer is the season when Alaskans are enjoying many activities requiring all kinds of equipment. Keep it secured, keep your yard neat, and reduce the chance of an unpleasant break-in at your house.

They Keep A-Knockin'

Believe it or not, some security system outfits feel the best way to sell you their product is to show up at your home unannounced. A total stranger flashes some bit of identification, acting friendly, and asks to be *let in your home*.

Now, what's wrong with this picture? A stranger is at the door, usually an employee flown in for the summer. You don't know this person and this person doesn't know you. Yet you're supposed to let him inside so you can discuss how your home would benefit from a security system.



It bears repeating that in the Valley last summer, a man was impersonating a security alarm salesperson and approaching homes for undetermined reasons. And if that weren't bad enough, even the legitimate salespeople get complaints. According to a *Frontiersman* article, police are called when door-to-door salespeople and their overbearing tactics become a nuisance. (For more information, read the article at http://www.frontiersman.com/news/who-s-there/article_dbdbf246-6304-5bc8-8d2b-5c5becdf89e8.html).

So, we all know it will probably happen this summer. Even though it's illegal to solicit door-to-door in Palmer, for example, many security alarm salespeople disregard the law and did it anyway. Regardless of where you live, chances are, someone will come knocking on your door soon. Hopefully he's just a salesperson. If so, he'll probably try to tell you he has the latest and greatest thing for you to buy. Since Guardian never sends salespeople to your door without an appointment, and since Guardian is always local, and in the state year-round, you know it isn't us. And chances are, if they say they have a better deal than the agreement you have with us, they are wrong.

Guardian takes the safety and security of our customers very seriously, and highly recommends that all exterior doors remain locked, even when you are home. Guardian also recommends proceeding cautiously when a stranger with no local connections asks to come in your house, because the given reason could be a ruse, and the actual motive could be criminal. Of course, parents should caution children to never open the door while the parents are away from home or occupied in other parts of the house.

We can't stop people from trying to make a buck, and summer is the time when other security system companies come around, canvassing neighborhoods, making promises, and giving us the hard sell.

Just remember that Guardian is locally owned, competitively priced, and always has your safety and security in mind. That creepy guy on your doorstep? That's not us. It's up to you whether you let him in.

Anchorage
274-5275

Mat-Su Valley
376-4700

Kenai Peninsula
283-5652

Fairbanks
459-5275

Statewide
1-800-478-1898



More than a century ago, one Anna Jarvis wrote to thousands of leaders across the country appealing for a day to recognize “the best mother who ever lived—your own.” She even had the endorsement of Mark Twain and after years of effort, Mother’s Day became an official national holiday in 1914.

While the popularity of Mother’s Day grew very quickly, Anna Jarvis was reportedly unhappy that the day had become such a commercial enterprise. Never her intention to start a holiday for profit, Mother’s Day nonetheless has

become the most popular occasion for which to purchase greeting cards and gifts. Back then, the official flower of Mother’s Day was the white carnation, and Ms. Jarvis would sue any other organizations who also used the white carnation.

This May 8th, white carnations or not, many mothers across Alaska will be receiving breakfast in bed, crafts, cards, or candy. Happy Mother’s Day from Guardian Security!

Five Reasons to Have an Alarm System

1. Protect your home against invasion, fire, flooding, freezing, and more.

Homes without security alarm systems are three times as likely to be broken into as homes that have security alarm systems.

2. Homeowner’s insurance discounts.

Many insurance policies offers discounts—sometimes as high as 20%— off premiums when a monitored alarm system is in use.

3. Save money on utility bills.

Home automation allows for programmed and reduced heating and lighting costs.

4. Instant access to help when needed.

Even if you can’t get to your phone, a tripped alarm means help is on the way.

5. Peace of mind knowing that your home and loved ones are protected.

Rest easy knowing that your home is being monitored 24/7/365.

Refer-a-Friend

Here’s how it works:
Recommend a friend or family member to Guardian.

We will provide an informative security assessment and recommendations.

If your friend signs up for Alaska’s *only* locally owned security system monitoring, we will thank *you* with a month of free monitoring!

We’re Guardian, and we’re here to serve!

The Other Monthly Test

Some checks are recommended to be performed annually, like smoke detector batteries, orthodontics retainers, and CPR retraining. Some should be done monthly. Tornado sirens in the midwest, for example, go off once a month to be sure they're working. Emergency lighting on airplanes is tested monthly, too. Breast self-exams for women. Drinking water in some parts of Massachusetts is also tested monthly.

You might be familiar with the need to test your security alarm system. For example, if you haven't pushed many buttons on it since it was installed, a regular monthly testing will help be sure that you press the right button at the right time should an urgent situation arise. Or, if a wire has broken or sensor shifted, regular testing will find these things long before a problem occurs.

To test your system, first call Central to inform them you're conducting a test. Otherwise, Central will receive alarm signals and notify the proper authorities on your behalf. Then systematically trigger each component of your system, and check that it goes into alarm as it should. This means every door, every window, every environmental sensor, and the smoke detectors, if applicable. Make sure every piece of your system operates the way it's supposed to. At the end of your test, call Central again to let them know the testing is over and we will begin monitoring again as usual.

If your system checks out, great. You're done for another month. If it doesn't, make arrangements with Guardian to get it looked at. Obviously, you can handle fresh batteries yourself, but Guardian is always ready to help you with your system.

The importance of regular testing cannot be overstated. Your alarm system does its job only when it is in proper working order. Take the few minutes each month required to verify it is ready to protect your home and family.

For any questions or concerns, call a Guardian Security Consultant. We are Guardian, and we're here to serve!

Around Alaska

Astronomy Day, Anchorage. May 14, 11:00a-4:00p. Celebrate Astronomy Day with hands-on activities and workshops all over the museum! Learn more about the stars and the universe. All activities, including the show about the aurora called "Above Alaska" are included with the price of admission (\$7-\$15). <http://www.anchorage.net/event/astronomy-day/35432/> for more information.

Mother's Day at the Musk Ox Farm, Palmer, May 8, 10:00a-6:00p. Bring your mom for free admission to the Musk Ox Farm. Live music, food, and local ice cream. See the new baby musk oxen on your farm tour. www.muskoxfarm.org for more.

Lemonade Stand Workshop, Soldotna, May 7, 8:00-11:00a. Free, though preregistration is required. Go to Home Depot for helping getting the kids' lemonade stand built just in time for summer! Call (907) 262-9814 for more information.

Fly Casting Class, Fairbanks Folk School, May 25-27. Join instructor Fred DeCicco and learn proper casting techniques for overhead casting and roll casting, as well as the basic casting stroke and forming smooth casting loops. \$60, preregistration required. www.thefolkschoolfairbanks.org for more.