

OTHER WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR MAIL

Is there a device that would alert me when my mailbox has been opened?

There are two devices we are aware of. One is called Mail Guard (not to be confused with the MailGuard locking mail box), and is sold by Radio Shack. It appears to be a discontinued item, but still may be available in some stores. It uses a light-sensitive emitter attached to the inside of your mailbox door which sends a wireless signal to a receiver you have plugged into an electrical outlet in your home. It has a range of around 150 feet. The other device is called Mail Alert, and is similar to the Mail Guard but has a range of 300 - 600 feet, depending on what model you purchase. You can search the Web for these or other similar devices.

Why should I invest in a paper shredder?

Any mail that contains personal information about you, especially credit card, Social Security, or bank numbers, can be used by a thief to use your identity for criminal purposes. Before tossing paper with this information, either in the trash or in paper recycling bins, put it through a paper shredder. ALWAYS use a *cross-cutting* shredder; thieves can (and will) piece back together material shredded with a parallel blade shredder. Cross-cut (or confetti) shredders are available at office supply outlets, Costco, etc