



eninsula Detachment Crime Alert

6/13/08 - Changes for Unincorporated County Alarm Users

Citizens owning a residential or business alarm in unincorporated Pierce County need to know about the new Pierce County alarm ordinance and program which became effective January 1, 2008. Registration packets will be mailed to alarm users beginning in June.

To administer the new alarm ordinance, the Pierce County Sheriff's Department has partnered with Alarm Tracking and Billing Services of Colorado Springs, CO (ATB Services). They are working with each alarm company to obtain a list of current alarm users. Using this information, ATB Services will mail the registration packets. The registration packets contain the alarm registration form, additional information and instructions for all alarm users.

The new ordinance requires alarms to be registered annually. The cost of an alarm registration or renewal is \$24 for either a residential or commercial alarm site. Residents 65 years or older can qualify for a residential rate of \$12 per year. To qualify for the senior rate, the individual must be able to provide proof of age, be listed as the property owner or lessee and must have the alarm agreement in their name. An alarm owner with a permanent disability is also offered the same discounted rate. Call 1-800-861-5944 for qualifying requirements.

Also amended in the new ordinance were the penalties for false alarms. The penalty for a false burglar/intrusion alarm is now \$100.00 per incident. The penalty for a false robbery/panic alarm is now \$200.00 per incident. These rates are reduced from the rates in the previous ordinance.

For additional information about the new alarm procedures, visit the official alarm program website at <http://www.atbservices.com/piercecounty>.