

Wauwatosa Senior Commission

Senior Lock Box Program

- ✓ Can save your emergency responders valuable time. Your central dispatch can simply notify the responders that a lock box is in use.
- ✓ Provides an alternative to forced entry. If a lock box is used, emergency responder may not have to damage windows and/or doors.
- ✓ Lock boxes are only accessible by authorized personnel in the event of an emergency. In Wauwatosa, only the Wauwatosa Fire Department has a key that can open the lock box. Friends, family and neighbors cannot use this system to access a home.

Supra, A UTC Fire & Security Company offers two different lock boxes (wall or door mounted) which can be used for homes and businesses throughout Wauwatosa. The lock boxes are priced under \$100 and can be ordered by contacting Kidde at 800-654-9677 and asking for Karen Fetzer. Your Title Key will be 6040. When you receive the key safe, contact the Fire Prevention Division at 414-471-8457 to pick a suitable location on your home or building for the key safe or if you have additional questions.

For information on purchasing a lock box call the Fire Department's non-emergency number: 471-8490.

Getting by with a Little Help from Your Friends

Can you imagine what it might feel like to live alone and not have daily contact with friends, neighbors or loved ones? Isolation and loneliness would be what most of us would feel. For a retired, older adult it could also be dangerous. Unless people have a place to go to daily, such as work or school, if they become incapacitated in their home, it could be a day, two days or even longer before someone would wonder where they were.

This year the Wauwatosa Senior commission collaborated with the Wauwatosa Police and Fire Departments, the Wauwatosa Health Department and Interfaith Older Adult Programs Inc. to merge Tosa's Project Reassurance with Interfaith's telephone Reassurance.

Telephone Reassurance is a free service for older adults who live alone. The purpose of the program is to ensure that older adults can maintain their sense of well-being while remaining independent in the community. Volunteers make daily calls to these individuals, providing them with a sense of security and safety. For some people it may be easier to call Interfaith rather than having Interfaith call them..Some people might need the phone calls 7 days a week, while others only need calls during the week. Interfaith can accommodate them!

Wauwatosa residents who participate in Telephone Reassurance are encouraged to purchase a lock box for their home. That way, if the fire department needs to get in the house, they can do so without damaging the door.

One simple phone call can help give older adults peace of mind knowing that a caring volunteer will be checking with them daily. For more information call Greater Tosa Interfaith at 453-5750.

