



24/7 MONITORING | VIDEO SURVEILLANCE | INSTALLATION | PATROL

# Boyd Bugle

BOYD & ASSOCIATES  
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## Quarterly Dispatch

According to medical professionals, wearing a mask is essential to curbing the spread of Covid. Of course we wear masks to protect ourselves and those around us. Burglars and others bent on committing crime are taking advantage of widespread mask wearing to conceal their identities without looking suspicious.

Law enforcement increasingly relies on video cameras to aid in the apprehension of perpetrators of all different kinds of crime. When a crime is committed, detectives will not only seek the archival footage of any cameras at the site but also any footage that may be available from cameras many blocks away. The problem is that footage of a masked man in a hoodie and sunglasses is of very little use.

In New York City there has been a rash of violence on the subways. In many cases investigations are hampered by camera footage that fails to provide valuable information. The same type of situations are occurring all over due to the mask wearing. Unfortunately, this unintended consequence will continue to hamper law enforcement until the pandemic is under control.

In the meantime, wear your mask, maintain your distance, use your burglar alarm, stay aware and stay safe!



## TAKE A VIRTUAL DAYTRIP FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME



Looking for fun ideas to keep the family entertained? Check out these attractions available online for an interactive experience.

### 7: Monterey Bay Aquarium

Most of us haven't been traveling much lately, so give the kids a virtual trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Meditate to the Moon Jelly Cam, frolic with the Sea Otters, or tune in to the world of tuna, turtles, and sharks by watching the Open Sea Cam.

### 8: Exploratorium

A hands-on museum in San Francisco, California, that explores the world through science and art. The Exploratorium is offering online educational activities and events, plus a whole section of their website is dedicated to exploring the world using materials and tools you might already have.

### 9: San Diego Zoo

Let the littles explore the San Diego Zoo and connect with animals through one of their many web cams. There's a Platypus Cam, Hippo Cam, Penguin Cam, Elephant Cam, Koala Cam, and more.

# TOP SPRING CLEANING TIPS FOR BETTER HOME SECURITY

## OUTDOOR Home Security

Home security starts with your property's exterior. Consider the following tips when giving your system a spring refresh:

- Check all lighting around the outside of your home. This means double-checking all bulbs and batteries in case replacements are needed.
- Ensure the address numbers for your home are properly positioned and painted on your front curb and/or the front of your house. This ensures both are visible for responders in case of an emergency.
- Examine all outdoor security cameras. If you live in an area with extreme winter weather, inspect all cameras outside your home. Snow and harsh weather conditions may have damaged cameras. Clean all camera lenses with a soft cloth and tighten all mounts.
- Maintain your home's landscaping. This includes trimming back bushes to eliminate potential hiding spots for intruders. Also, inspect and repair any damage to fences or other outside boundaries.

## INDOOR Home Security

Once you've secured your home's exterior, it's time to check the interior. This means:

- Checking all window and door locks. Inspect all window and door locks. If any locks seem loose, tighten or replace them. Additionally, clean all windows. The better you can see, the safer you'll be.
- Cleaning security equipment. This includes all camera lenses and light fixtures. Not only will you be able to see clearer, dust and dirt can cause equipment operating issues in the future.
- Emptying fireplaces. If you have a wood fireplace in your home, discard any ash and clean the grate. Additionally, call a chimney cleaner to ensure the flue is clear.
- Refreshing batteries on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, three out of five residential fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms. Check the batteries to all detectors and replace them as needed.



## BEFORE CHANGING YOUR TELEPHONE SERVICE PROVIDER...

Many older security systems send signals to our central station through your home's landline telephone. **Before you change your phone service provider, it is imperative that you contact Boyd & Associates to advise us of the impending change and request a service call.** A technician will need to reprogram the system to enable it to send a signal via the specific type of service you choose.

You may want to consider using a cellular connection to enable your alarm system to signal our central station in the event of an alarm activation. If you would like more information about enhanced services, **GIVE US A CALL AT 1-800-381-BOYD.**

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