



MEADOW LAKE ASSOCIATION  
24678 Lake Meadow Drive  
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February/ March, 2005

# MEADOW LAKE ADVISOR

## **WORTH REPEATING...**

*This item was in the newsletter a few years ago  
but it is worth repeating..*

Do you leave the door unlocked between your kitchen and your garage?

Because we have electronic garage door openers, it is possible for thieves to open your garage door by searching different combinations on their own garage door openers – thus gaining entry to your garage.

If your inside door is unlocked, it gives the potential thieves access to your home, your belongings and your safety.

Also, if you leave your car outside with a garage opener conveniently fastened to your sun visor or dashboard, a thief could break into your car and using the opener, gain entrance to the garage. This actually happened at one of the Meadow units a few years ago, and fortunately the co owner's own dog began barking at the intruder who was still in the garage, but left when the co-owner yelled at him.

We are glad that we have a feeling of security around our complex, but it does not hurt to be a little cautious.

## **Speaking of Dogs...**

I have been gratified to find that most of the folk who walk dogs around here are also "picker uppers" if you catch the drift. This makes it so much easier for those of us who walk with or without animal accompaniment. Thank You.

## **SIMPLE PRECAUTIONS TO HELP YOU SAVE MONEY.**

You may not realize it but you can sometimes achieve substantial savings in your energy costs by

taking some relatively simple precautions and running a few tests in your condo.

**Ductwork:** Go through and check your ductwork for leaks and separations. Minor duct repairs costing just a few dollars can save a lot in heating and cooling costs.

A simple trick used by repairmen to tell when a duct is leaking is to check your ductwork with the unit running. Leaks that might not be visible can be felt as warm or cool air coming out if you run your hands along and behind the ductwork while the furnace or air conditioner is on. Also, leaks are often found where grills come through ceilings or walls.

**Fireplace protection:** Make sure during any extremes of weather (when you're running the furnace or air conditioner) that they are blocked off with an insulated screen and that the flue is closed. If you don't do this, in winter your hot air can go straight up the chimney. Even in summer, you can lose air conditioning efficiency when your cool air is forced up the flue by air pressure from inside the building.

**Fans:** Ceiling fans can be great savers of energy. Fans keep you comfortable while the air conditioner is at a higher setting. In winter, they can blow the warm air down from the ceiling, where it collects, to help you feel comfortable at a lower thermostat setting.

The basic rule on ceiling fans is that a room 10 feet by 10 feet needs a 36-inch fan, while rooms up to 15 feet by 20 feet need a 52-inch fan.

**Check with an expert:** Your heating and cooling system should be checked regularly. Twice a year is the very minimum.

