

Police warn of men posing as utility workers

By Cara Spoto
cspoto@conley.net.com
262-513-2653

WAUKESHA — The Waukesha Police Department is warning residents not to open their doors to anyone suspicious, after receiving three reports of two men posing as Waukesha Water Utility workers requesting to enter homes.

The incidents reportedly occurred between the hours of 4 and 5 p.m. in the northwest part of the city, with the men claiming they needed to enter the caller's homes to inspect water pipes in the basement, a press release states.

In two of the three incidents, the suspects were denied entry into the home. During the third incident, the suspects were allowed in and several items were stolen from the home, police said.

As part of the scam, one of the suspects will come to the door asking to inspect the water pipes or other mechanicals of the home, the release states. This person sometimes acts as a distraction. Once inside the home the person will look to steal items of value while the other person will wait outside in a vehicle as a lookout. The other person may also come into the home to steal items.

Police are still investigating the incident, but would like residents to know that if anyone comes to their doors claiming to be a utility worker, they do not have to let them in.

Utility workers will often wear fluorescent vests or uniforms with their name and the utility logo on the front, and residents can ask them to show identification.

In a separate notification, the Waukesha Water Utility reminded customers that if water utility employees are working in the area and need access to their home, they will always have proper I.D. and be in a clearly marked vehicle.

“On a rare occasion, we may need to notify you of a water situation (water main break) and come to your front door unannounced, however, we would never ask to enter your home without an appointment,” the notice states.

If you are suspicious of anyone coming to your home asking for access, do not hesitate to call the Waukesha Police Department at 262-524-3831.

Any residents that have had similar contacts with the suspects or who may have more information about them are urged to contact Waukesha Police Det. Jay Carpenter at 524-3812.