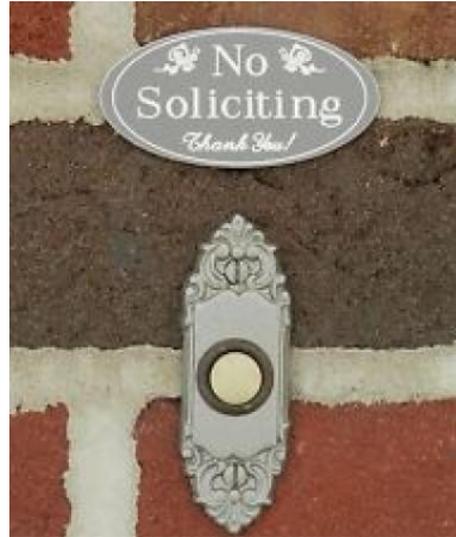


# Tips for Dealing with Door to Door Solicitors

As spring moves into summer, the number of solicitors out in our community always seems to go up. Residents have several options for refusing unwanted solicitations. Take a moment to understand your rights and the many ways you can partner with the Village to keep unwanted solicitation under control.

Amberley Village Code states that solicitation is only permitted in the Village if a solicitor complies with specific provisions, including registration with the Police Department, and permission from the property owner or occupant. If you do NOT wish to grant permission for solicitors to enter upon your property, one or more of the following gives the Police Department grounds to enforce your wishes:



- Amberley Village Police Department keeps an updated Do Not Solicit list, so be sure and register by calling 531-2040 if you choose not to welcome solicitors on your property.
- Posting signage on your property indicating “No Solicitors” or “No Solicitation” refuses permission to solicit.
- Verbal communication to the solicitor that you do not want to speak to the solicitor or want the solicitor on the premise is enough to allow enforcement if the solicitor does not leave.
- Be sure and contact the Police Department IMMEDIATELY with information about the solicitor, including the company being represented and which direction they were going. This better enables Police to catch up with the solicitor and ensure he or she is in compliance with Village Code.

The following crime prevention tips when dealing with solicitors can also help protect you, your family, and your property:

- Never open the door to someone you do not know.
- Always look through the peephole or window and see who it is.
- Teach your children what to do if they are alone and someone comes to the home or is looking in windows.
- If you do not know them, say “No thank you” through the door and walk away.
- Do not get into a conversation with a solicitor through the door. They will try to converse with you but getting into a conversation of any kind with a solicitor only encourages them to stay.

- If solicitors try to approach you while you are outside, do not let them approach. Say, "No thank you," and walk back into your house and close and lock your door. A conversation only encourages a solicitor.
- If the solicitor does not go peaceably on their way, call the police for assistance.
- Follow identify theft prevention guidelines by never giving credit card information or a check to anyone who solicits you and you do not know. It is often very difficult to determine if someone is legitimately representing a real organization or charity.
- Watch where the solicitor goes next and notice what they do. Look for suspicious behavior such as looking in car windows, testing doors for locks, or entering back yards.
- Report aggressive or suspicious solicitors to law enforcement immediately at 911 (aggressive or threatening) or Non-Emergency 531-2040 (suspicious). Provide a description of the solicitor and what direction they were headed.
- Alert other neighbors in the immediate area. Nextdoor is a great place to share information with neighbors.