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Speaking of Real Estate...

“A man complained that [on] his way home to dinner he had every day to pass through that long field of his neighbor’s. I advised him to buy it and it would never seem long again.”

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Statistics Thurston County	
ACTIVE HOMES 10/01	1,882
TOTAL SOLD SEPTEMBER	216
SOLD-FORECLOSURE	48
SOLD-SHORT SALE	17
SOLD NEW-CONSTRUCT.	50
SOLD-RESALE	166
MONTHS OF INVENTORY	8.7

Provided by the NWMLS, includes single family homes, manufactured homes and condos.

Nine IMPORTANT SECURITY TIPS for Home Sellers

#2 Never let potential buyers know your schedule. Don't ever tell them when you won't be at home, when your spouse won't be home, when you pick up the kids, when you work, when you will be on vacation, etc.

For a **complete** list of **NINE** Important Security Tips for Home Sellers, email me at **KatyCrofts@kw.com**

Home Buyer Statistics

Information sources used in home search:

- Internet: 74%
- Real estate agent: 69%
- Yard sign: 22%
- Open house: 12%
- Newspaper ad: 9%
- Home book or magazine: 6%



For Sale by Owner (FSBO) Statistics

- Accounted for 9% of homes sales
- Typical FSBO home sold for \$140,000 compared to \$199,300 for agent-assisted home sale

Most Difficult Tasks for FSBO Sellers

- Getting the price right: 27%
- Preparing the home for sale: 18%
- Selling within the planned length of time: 14%
- Having enough time to devote to all aspects of the sale: 13%
- Understanding and performing paperwork: 10%

Source: 2010 National Association of REALTORS® Member Profile

What to do if Your Wallet is Stolen

5 simple steps to protect your credit

Your probably already know mostly what to do. Let this serve as a reminder to DO STEP 1!

STEP 1. The first step must be done NOW, before anything goes wrong. Make copies of: credit cards; ID cards; licenses. Everything in your wallet, both sides, OR list all account numbers and the toll free numbers you'd need to call to report them missing. Keep this photocopy or list in a safe place.

STEP 2. As soon as you discover the theft, call each of the card issuers to report it. If you use a debit card, call that bank FIRST! Use the toll free numbers—most are available 24 hours a day to deal with these emergencies. (Take notes, summarize your phone conversation, including the date you reported the loss and the person you spoke with.)

STEP 3. Next, call the police in the jurisdiction where your card was stolen to report the theft. Get a police report number; you may need it for the next step.

STEP 4. Call the three national credit reporting agencies to report the theft and ask them to attach a **FRAUD ALERT** to your credit report. Let them know of any personal identification that was in your wallet or purse, such as driver's license, birth certificate or social security card.

Credit agencies & their phone numbers:

- Equifax: 800-525-6285
- Experian (formerly TRW) 800-397-3742
- Trans Union: 800-680-7289

Fraud alert messages notify potential credit grantors to verify your identity before extending credit in your name, in case someone attempts to commit identity theft. This will provide a minor inconvenience any time you apply for new credit.

See Page 2 for STEP 5....

According to Washington REALTORS®, 85% of home buyers purchased their home through a real estate agent or broker.

Banked Owned Properties

From 140 total in Thurston County, here are a few at different price points.

2BR/2.5BA Condo, 1,206 s.f., Built 2007, Lacey: \$98,000	3BR/2.5BA SFH, 1884 s.f., Built 2008, Lacey: \$200,000
2BR/2.5 Condo, 1257 s.f., Built 1997, Lacey: \$99,900	3BR/2.5BA SFH, 1922 s.f., Built 2006, Lacey: \$210,790
3BR/2BA SFH, 1554 s.f., Built 1976, Olympia: \$129,950	2BR/1.5BA SFH, 1776 s.f., 1.8 acres, Olympia: \$214,900
2BR/1BA SFH, 784 s.f., Built 1947, West Oly: \$149,900	4BR/2.5BA SFH, 2411 s.f., Built 2008, Tumwater: \$274,950
3BR/2BA SFH, 1660 s.f., Built 1993, Olympia: \$149,900	4BR/2.5BA SFH, 3012 s.f., Built 2008, Lacey: \$319,950
4BR/2.5BA SFH, 1800 s.f., Built 1995, Olympia: \$179,900	3BR/3BA SFH, 3585 s.f., 1.5 acres, Olympia: \$339,900
3BR/2.5BA SFH, 1800 s.f., Built 1995, Lacey: \$179,900	4BR/2.5BA SFH, 2320 s.f., 4.4 acres, Olympia: \$349,900
3BR/2.5BA SFH, 2296 s.f., 6.7 acres, East Oly: \$199,900	5BR/3.5BA SFH, 4306 s.f., Built 2008, Tumwater: \$425,000

What to do if Your Wallet is Stolen—Cont'd.



STEP 5. If your social security card is missing, call the Social Security Administration (fraud line) at 800-269-0271. Also, be sure to notify the Motor Vehicles Bureau about your driver's license, as well as any other organizations from which you lost cards.

Any time you move or change your main home or work phone number, you should report the change ahead of time to your banks and credit card issuers.

I hope it never happens to you. However if it does, now you know exactly what to do!

Got Household Hazardous Waste?

HazoHouse is located at the Waste and Recovery Center at 2418 Hogum Bay Rd. NE and operates Friday to Monday from 8am to 5pm.

While you are there, check out the "Swap Shop" where residents can pick up FREE, usable items such as auto products, household cleaners and paints. Incoming products are checked to ensure they are in good condition and then made available FREE to the public.



Thurston County Solid Waste
360-754-3354
www.co.thurston.wa.us.wwm


"Home Health = Wealth" Corner

So why would "home health = wealth"? We all know that it's important to maintain our home, to keep it healthy, so to speak. Little problems like a small leak under a bathroom cabinet or clogged gutters can cause expensive fix-its if ignored. I've heard many inspectors say a home's worst enemy is water. **Look here for tips on those maintenance type items that should not be overlooked!**

Speaking of clogged gutters, do you know they can cause thousands of dollars worth of damage?

- **Rotting wood:** When water starts to build up and stand, any wood fascia can start to break down and decompose causing serious problems.
- **Roof leaks:** Clogged gutters can block the flow of water from the roof which can weaken shingles and the wood on the roof causing leaks into your attic and home.

Check out my Blog at:

 <http://olympiahomeselling.blogspot.com>

 Check out my Facebook Page and be a FAN!
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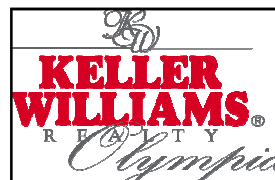
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