

Door-to-door solicitations are one of the most common methods for scam artists to reach older adults. Based on neighborhoods and home values, scammers can target people they believe to have money.

As warmer weather arrives, so do more door-to-door solicitations. Residents should be cautious anytime a stranger comes knocking unsolicited, especially if the visitor is trying to sell you goods or services. Here are some tips for avoiding door-to-door scams:

- Don't do business right on the spot. You can and should always get a second opinion.
- Remember that a receipt is worth nothing unless the business is valid and reputable.
- Never pay for services in cash and be wary of paying upfront for a product or service that will be delivered at a later date.
- Watch out for deals that offer steeply discounted prices that seem too good to be true.
- Listen for scare tactics, like the solicitor telling you he smells a gas leak coming from your home.
- Be sure you read and understand any agreements or contracts you sign.
- Don't be afraid to offend someone by not doing business with them.
- Never let someone into your home that you did not invite.

Remember that it is easy to fake credibility, so always ask and check with an objective third party to verify someone's identity. Never give out sensitive personal or financial information to someone who shows up at your door unannounced. If you have questions about door-to-door scams, don't hesitate to call AARP Foundation ElderWatch to speak with a volunteer specialist.

**Recognize,
Refuse,
Report!**

**Call us
Monday–Friday,
9 a.m.–4 p.m.**

800-222-4444
Option 2



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