

## Home security tips

In light of the recent day-time break-ins and thefts that have occurred within our detachment area, the OPP is offering home owners the following tips to help protect their property:

- ? Tall trees, shrubs and fences create hiding spots for criminals. Keep your landscaping neatly groomed.
- ? Always lock the doors and windows, even if you are away for only a short period of time. Consider using quality locks and a deadbolt on each outside door.
- ? Keep the grass cut or, in winter, keep the driveway shovelled.
- ? Don't let the mail accumulate if you're going to be away.
- ? If you're planning a trip, be careful who you tell. Don't advertise your absence using social media.
- ? Get to know your neighbours. Watch out for one another. Report suspicious people, vehicles or activity to police right away so they can investigate immediately.
- ? Ensure that the outside lights work. Consider motion sensor lights.
- ? Engrave identifying marks on your property. This makes it easier for police to identify recovered stolen items.
- ? Don't leave valuables in plain sight.
- ? If you hide a key outside, ensure it's not hidden in an obvious location.

Break-ins are a crime of opportunity which you can help to control by taking some pro-active steps to protect your property. For more information on crime prevention tips can, visit [www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)