

Police warning concerning marijuana

The Dufferin Detachment of the OPP wishes to warn residents and visitors of the dangers association with marijuana grow-ops. Police continue to warn the public about the increasing threat to public and police officer safety posed by the expansion of marijuana cultivation in Ontario.

During late summer and early fall each year, people involved with growing illegal marijuana head into rural areas to cultivate large plots of marijuana plants. These illicit crops are often located in corn fields, wooded areas, swamps or on rental properties with large acreage.

Marijuana plants are bright green in colour and grow to between three and five feet in height. Common indicators of outdoor marijuana grow operations include:

- ? Abandoned vehicles parked on side roads or trails;
- ? People observed walking in remote areas for no apparent reason;
- ? Bags of fertilizer, planting trays or chemicals located in remote areas;
- ? Well-trampled trails in wooded or swamp areas;
- ? Cleared out areas in swamps, wooded areas or corn fields
- ? Numerous ?No Trespassing? signs appear out of nowhere.
- ? We need everyone's help to assist in the interdiction of marijuana.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact the Dufferin OPP at 519-925-3838 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). You can submit information online at www.crimestoppersdm.com Crime Stoppers Simcoe/Dufferin/Muskoka does not subscribe to call display and you will remain anonymous. Being anonymous, you will not testify in court and your information may lead to a cash reward of up to \$2,000.