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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