

OACP launches Lock?It or Lose?It for another year

On November 27th in Toronto the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) are launching another year of the province wide Lock-it or Lose-it program.

The Shelburne police service has participated in this crime prevention program for many years. Every summer officers check vehicles throughout town to see if they are secure. A pamphlet is left on the windshield of every car indicating if the vehicle was secure or not, or whether there were valuable items in plain view inside the vehicle. The pamphlet reminds car owners of the importance of securing vehicles at all times.

Shelburne police are taking advantage of the announcement for this program to remind our community members to take simple steps to help prevent becoming a victim of a theft from a vehicle.

These tips are important for both personal and business vehicles:

- ? Keep vehicles locked at all times ? while parked at home, shopping or at work
- ? Keep valuables out of sight including purses, cell phones, GPS, tools, sports equipment, gifts
- ? Park in a well lit area

Criminals generally target insecure vehicles because they can be accessed easily without drawing much attention. However criminals may take greater risk to gain access to a secure car if it has valuables clearly visible inside.

During the holiday shopping season be extra careful about leaving gifts in plain view to avoid drawing extra attention to your car.

Shelburne Police encourages everyone to do their part to help prevent crime in the community. They also encourage everyone to call the police if they observe any suspicious activity in parking lots or residential areas.

The members of the Shelburne Police Service wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday shopping season.