

Top 10 things to help prevent crime in Pigeon Lake

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Crime Prevention

- Crime Prevention for Businesses
- Crime Prevention for Home

Home: Tip 1 – Lock it up

- Lock up your vehicles
 - Vehicles, ATV, farm equipment
 - Don't leave keys in or near the vehicle
- Vehicle and ATV thefts are big in Wetaskiwin County
 - Take the vehicle and commit other crimes with them
 - Ex: Armed robbery in Millet – Vehicle stolen from Whitecourt and was used all over Central Alberta to commit crimes and armed robberies

Home: Tip 2 – Light it up

- Keep property well lit
 - A well lit property keeps “bad guys” away
 - Bad guys are like vampires – they like the cover of darkness to commit crimes
- Lighting also aids with surveillance cameras....

Home: Tip 3 - Surveillance

- Surveillance systems
 - Helps with proving someone was on the property
 - A lot of the time RCMP members will recognize someone which leads to an arrest and or charges
- Trail cams, door bell cameras, traditional systems, etc.

Home: Tip 4 – Info on your Items

- Know the details of your items
 - VIN, Serial number, licence plate marker, Make and model of vehicle
 - Helps us identify stolen items and return it to the rightful owners
 - Keep a spread sheet in Excel and add to it when you get new electronics, etc.
- Many times we locate property we know is stolen but without the owner knowing the serial number, etc. it is difficult to return the property

Home: Tip 5 – Call the RCMP

- Call in suspicious vehicles and people
 - RCMP do not know what is going on everywhere at all times
 - The public is our eyes and ears
 - RCMP don't mind coming to check out a suspicious person/vehicle

Business: Tip 1 - Surveillance

- Surveillance system
 - Helps with reviewing thefts/ other occurrences
 - Helps RCMP be able to ID people
 - Assists with proving the occurrence in court
- Many have “live links” where you can view the surveillance if you get an alarm hit

Business: Tip 2 – Alarm

- Alarm system
 - Having an alarm system will help deter thieves who have entered your business
 - Have one with a loud audible alarm
 - Have one where a live video link is accessible from your phone
 - RCMP can be there quickly and are alerted to where there is an alarm trip and how many “hits

Business: Tip 3 - Layout

- Layout your business in a way which deters bad guys
 - The set up of the store has a big impact on which stores will be targeted for “grab and goes”
 - If its harder to get out of the store in a rush, they will be less likely to visit
 - Try to eliminate “dark spots” try to have sightlines in all/most areas of the business

Business: Tip 4 - Training

- Train employees
 - To notice things are not right, stick to store policy, it is okay to refuse someone business
- Many fraud occurrences are from people who intimidate employees and then the employee breaks away from store policy and does something their gut tells them is wrong
- The pre-paid Visa fraud example...

Business: Tip 5 – Sharing is Caring

- Share information with each other about suspicious incidents
 - If one store gets targeted in a unique way, share the information with each other to prevent the same thing happening to another business
 - Stop Theft program in Wetaskiwin City
- Can also share tips of things you have noticed working to prevent crime

Safety Plan

- Have a safety plan in place for when something happens (ie: Robbery)
 - Comply with what the bad guys want
 - Call 911 and lock the doors
 - Don't touch anything while waiting for Police
 - Have access to surveillance to burn video

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