

Reminder to Make Unoccupied Rural Residences Look 'Lived' In

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The Cochrane RCMP would like to remind homeowners to take steps to secure their residences and to make them look 'lived in' when left unoccupied for long periods of time. If you're going to leave your residence for an extended period of time, make sure you've made arrangements for someone to take care of your home. As well, make sure your immediate neighbours know you're away, so they can keep an eye on your home and can call the police to report any suspicious activity. The Cochrane RCMP have received a couple of calls recently, of unoccupied residences being broken into. Often times, homes that 'look' lived in and are lived in are less of a target.

“It is important that the home looks lived in,” said Constable Kary Moore of the Cochrane RCMP, “it can be as simple as having someone shovel your walks and pick up your mail, or it can be a little more involved with timers on your lights and alarm systems etc.”

Residents provide the RCMP with local intelligence. Members of the community know when there are strange vehicles in the area, suspicious behaviours being observed or knowledge of attempted crimes. When the RCMP receives this information it assists with the deployment of resources. The public is encouraged to report crimes that have been committed, no matter how small. This feeds into the RCMP's larger intelligence picture.