

What can we do about rural crime?

Know your neighbors

When we are away, we want them to watch our home, just as we should watch their homes when any of them are away.

Observe

Watch out for unusual activity in our area. Knowing who our neighbors are helps us notice strangers in our midst.

Record

Write down details of questionable activity (descriptions, licence numbers, date, time, etc.)

Report

Phone the RCMP to tell them what is happening or has happened. Let them decide whether it is important or not; what may seem trivial to us may be crucial for them. When in doubt, it is better to call them rather than take a chance that we or our neighbors will have property stolen or damaged.

Join the South East Alberta Rural Crime Watch

If you are not already a member, you should join the South East Alberta Rural Crime Watch Association. The RCMP would like to have everyone in Forty Mile and Cypress County's to be a member. **Lifetime household memberships are only \$25.** Your only obligation is to follow the four rules above. Members have access to fan-out messages that we send out about criminal activity in this area, as well as invitations to meetings with crime prevention, safety, and protection experts. Membership also gives a **free sign to post on your property** to show you are a member. The basic idea behind our organization is to have neighbors watching out for neighbors. The more members we have, the safer we are. To join, visit our website at www.seabrcw.ca or call 403-502-6591.

Some other steps we can take to protect our property are:

- 1) Keep property locked up
- 2) Mark valuables. You can engrave your name or your licence number on things or better, mark them with an invisible pen so that the mark shows up only under infra-red light. Without such markings, a thief can simply claim the property as their own.

South East Alberta Rural Crime Watch
Association

One of the most commonly asked questions from our members is “**How do we know when and what to report?**” This information below should help answer that question.

REPORTING INCIDENTS - WHAT RCMP ASK OF YOU

Report incidents to the police as soon as possible. Time is of the essence.

Do not hesitate to call the police for fear that you are “inconveniencing us” or that we “have better, more important things to be looking after”. We are here to help you and we take all calls seriously and record the information.

Do not assume that someone else has called us regarding an incident. We prefer multiple calls over no calls at all.

Please follow the instructions given to you by the call-taker/dispatcher. These instructions are being given to you as they have been proven to help keep you safe until help arrives.

REPORTING INCIDENTS INVOLVING PEOPLE

Description of the individual(s) involved which includes:

Ethnicity

Height

Weight (small, medium, large build)

Age

Hair color

Clothing

Marks/scars/tattoos/piercings

Weapons (if so, what type)

Alcohol/drugs

Did they leave on foot or in a vehicle?

Direction of travel

Anything else

REPORTING INCIDENTS INVOLVING VEHICLES

Vehicle Descriptors:

Color

Make/Model

Year

Style (SUV, Truck, Car, Hatchback, etc....)

License Plate

Anything Else (Dents, Broken Windows, Spoilers, Tinted Windows, etc....)

Number of Occupants

Direction of Travel

Any weapons seen?