

Police say SCRAM program can help curb thief problem

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Tips for securing your home and vehicle can be found at www.halton-police.ca/CommunityPolicing, along with information on the service's new Security Camera Registration Monitoring (SCRAM) program.

SCRAM is a voluntary crime prevention program that enables homeowners to confidentially register their residential video surveil-

lance system with police, to assist in the investigation of criminal activity and crime prevention in their community.

Det. Sgt. Nick Milinovich is hopeful SCRAM will cut the time it takes to track down valuable footage from residents' security cameras.

Residents can sign up for the program through an online form on the police service's website: <http://bit.ly/1oZ99sd>

Armed with this information, officers can use an online mapping tool to quickly spot which homes have video surveillance and then contact the owners. Those images help identify suspects, solve crimes and boost the chances of convictions in court, police say.

Information about video cameras is kept confidential, "strictly for police," noted media relations officer Sgt. Chantal Corner. The database

was created in-house and didn't involve a third party.

Asked if residents should feel nervous about sharing details about their video cameras with police, Milinovich said deciding whether to participate is up to the individual. But he's hopeful for robust community participation in the program. There's potential for SCRAM to also enlist video surveillance from businesses, Milinovich said, but no ex-

pansion plan has been firmed up yet.

Anyone with information on the rural Georgetown thefts are asked to contact Detective Trevor Bradley at (905) 878-5511 ext. 2114.

The public can also use Crime Stoppers to report any illegal activity at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), through the web at www.haltoncrimestoppers.com or by texting "Tip201" with your message to 274637(crimes).

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