

Property crime rate drops 13%

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In more good news for home and business owners, Halton's property crime rate dropped by 13.0%, with 10,025 offences committed in 2011. Crimes in this category include theft, breaking and entering, mischief, counterfeit currency, arson, fraud and the possession of stolen goods.

The breakdown of types of crimes committed remained virtually identical to previous years, with property related crimes comprising 73.3% of all criminal offences committed in the region; violent crime such as robbery, assault and homicide equaling 18.8%; and other crime such as prostitution and offensive weapons representing 7.9%.

One trend Crowell is not pleased to see in the Region is an increase in motor vehicle collisions. Despite a 19% increase in traffic enforcement by police, motor vehicle collision totals were still 10.1% higher in 2011 compared to 2010 (up from 7,649 to 8,425). Property damage collisions were up 10.5%

and injury collisions were up 8.2% year over year. The number of fatal collisions increased from 13 in 2010 to 15 in 2011.

"As police, we are doing everything we can by using a combined approach of enforcement, education and engineering to improve traffic safety, however far too many people are still being injured or killed on our roads," said Chief Crowell.

"There is no question distracted drivers, impaired drivers and aggressive drivers are posing a serious risk to themselves and others. I cannot say it any more clearly: motorists must slow down, focus on the road, and do not get behind the wheel while under the influence of any substance which could impair response or judgment."

Statistics Canada and police use crime rate measurements to give the most accurate comparison of criminal activity between communities with different populations, and within a single community over different time periods.

Crime Stoppers: Copper wire stolen from Bell tower

Halton Regional Police Service is investigating a theft of copper wire from a Bell tower in Halton Hills.

On February 16th, a Bell employee attended the Bell Mobility tower located at 13958 Trafalgar Road and discovered a hole had been cut to the chain link fence surrounding the tower.

Investigation revealed that 30 feet of the copper grounding wires had been cut from several locations around the site. Total loss is valued at \$1,500.

Anyone with information on this or any other crime is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or www.haltoncrimestoppers.com or by texting "Tip201" with your message to 274637 (crimes)

If you have any information that

leads to an arrest in this or any other matter, you may be eligible for a cash reward. You will never have to give your name or testify in court. Crime Stoppers of Halton does not subscribe to call display.

Thanks to our tipsters... whoever you are. A safer community is your call. Please call 1-800-222-TIPS (1-800-222-8477) or check out www.haltoncrimestoppers.com



Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills needs volunteers for major April fundraiser. It will only take a few hours of your time to canvass your street.

Please volunteer! Call Betty Fendley 905-702-8886



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