

# Police ask for public's help in preventing 'mischief' crime

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While police have apprehended several suspects for theft and damage occurrences, these crimes continue to be committed and police are asking for help from the public in providing suspect information and in taking steps to protect themselves from property crimes.

Halton Police offer several tips:

- Lock your car doors.
- Culprits who enter cars look for unlocked doors. If a vehicle's door is locked, suspects will usually pass by.
- Remove valuables from cars.
- If a vehicle is locked but valuable items are in plain view, suspects are likely to attempt to break-in to get the valuable.

Police recommend everyone remove items of value at the end of the day, or lock them in the trunk.

- Park your vehicle off the roadway, in the driveway, garage, and a well-lighted area or where there is a motion sensor.
- Report suspicious people and suspicious activity immediately.

Don't wait to call police. By calling police immediately there is a better chance the crime can be solved.

- Don't touch your car if you have been victimized.

If you do need to handle the car, don't touch items handled or moved by the criminal.

All information given to police directly can remain confidential. As well, anyone can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

All information provided to Crime Stoppers is confidential and a monetary reward might be paid for information leading to the arrest of individuals responsible for committing crimes.

Police say damage and theft is a community problem that affects everyone. They hope by raising awareness and through help from the

community in identifying suspects there will be a reduction in the number of crimes and the community will be a safer place to live.

Anyone with information about property damage/ theft from autos, or any other crime, is asked to call Halton Regional Police 11 Division Street Crime Unit at 905-878-5511 ext. 2106.

## Police blotter Homeowner catches thieves in mid-theft

A Five Sideroad Halton Hills man caught two thieves red-handed as they were leaving his garage Tuesday.

The homeowner found a blue van in his driveway when he returned home at about 11 a.m. While checking the front door of his home, which was still locked, he was surprised when two men came out of his garage carrying his computer equipment.

Halton Police report two males in their late teens told the homeowner not to call police as there was another male in the home with a gun.

The two males then fled in the van with approximately \$1,000 worth of computer equipment. They left a television behind.

One was found in the home.

The homeowner provided police with the licence plate number from the van. Police said the van had been stolen earlier in the week from Hamilton.

At press time police did not release a description of the males.

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Halton Police report a serial number plate was removed from an excavator parked at D & V Plastics Inc. on Commerce Crt., Acton sometime between August 11 and August 20.

## Councillor concerned bylaw fines are 'too onerous'

Worried that proposed bylaw fines are "too onerous" Acton Councillor Mike O'Leary deferred a report on the subject to the September 4 council meeting.

O'Leary wanted to discuss the matter with the Clerk's Department before council approves new fines— some doubling the existing fines— for some provincial statute and

municipal bylaw infractions.

Changes include failure to display licence (\$200), failure to obtain licences in personal care service, retail trade, specialty trade contractor fields (\$250) or failure to get a licence for an amusement and recreational premise (\$350) or failure to get licence for food services (\$375).



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