

# Drumheller & District Rural

## Crime Watch

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER, 2016

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Next meeting is October 19th at the BCF in Drumheller at 7 pm.
- AGM tentatively set for November 16, 2016

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## A Message From The RCMP

Drumheller RCMP will be cracking down on vehicle equipment violations in September, but not without giving drivers of vehicles with potential infractions a grace period to have their vehicles evaluated.

Starting September 14, Drumheller RCMP and other rural detachments will be partnering with Alberta Sheriffs to heavily target vehicles for equipment infractions such as tinted windows and brake lights, missing mudflaps, license plate covers, and other unsafe vehicle modifications. Until this date, drivers unsure of the legality of their vehicle's equipment are being invited by officers to bring their vehicle to the detachment for an evaluation, free of the fear of being ticketed.

"The kids are going back to school and we want all vehicles on the road to be as safe as they can be, all the time," said Constable Eric Doucette. "It's kind of an underlying issue not

just in Drumheller but across the province."

The top issue for the detachment are tinted windows, and while Doucette says most drivers with this modification are aware of its illegality, many don't understand why.

"It's illegal because that plastic film that attaches to the glass changes the way the glass breaks should it need to be broken, such as in an accident or rollover where EMS needs to break the window," said Doucette. "From an enforcement standpoint, we enforce this because people who are texting or not wearing their seatbelts can't be seen and if we can't see those violations we can't enforce those other safety issues."

Other issues include the removal of mudflaps from trucks or fender mods causing a truck's wheels to stick out beyond the vehicle. Vehicles in Canada are also required to

have daytime running lights. Brake lights may be tinted but there must be adequate red light coming through, Doucette said, while also noting tinted license plate covers are illegal as they prevent photo radar tickets, and there is a minimum distance officers need to be able to see it in order to read the numbers.

The grace period will run until September 14 and thereafter officers will be targeting equipment infraction hard for a period of time.

"I'd like to say permanently, but after we do this work with Alberta Sheriffs it will go back to current enforcement. That being said, if I stop someone out there I've ticketed before I'll issue a ticket."

This article was taken from The Drumheller Mail

## It Could Happen To You



Keep your vehicles  
secure

There has been an increase of vehicle theft in the rural areas. It used to be a crime that occurred mostly in the cities but the criminals have discovered a new area to steal from.

As a rule, most rural residents are a trusting bunch. No locked doors, keys left in the ignition, wallets and cell phones left in the vehicle. Sadly, we now need to be more conscious of

what can happen if we do that.

Recently, there have been a few vehicle thefts in our area. As well, a boat was stolen at Carbon and thankfully recovered the same day.

We need to remember not to leave the keys in our vehicles and keep them locked up. Never leave anything in your vehicle that you will not be able to replace.



## Upcoming Meetings

Our next meeting is going to be held on October 19, 2016 at the Badlands Community Facility in the small meeting room, commencing at 7 pm.

The Annual General Meeting is tentatively set for November 16th at the Diana Restaurant in Drumheller.

## Membership Renewal

Memberships for 2017 are due on November 1, 2016. If you are planning on attending the AGM, you can renew then, otherwise send your payment to the Association's mailbox listed on the back page.

# How To Make A Burglar Unhappy

Are you planning a vacation in the near future? You might want to do a few things before you go to reduce the chances of coming home to find out your house was broken into.

1. Don't broadcast on Facebook that you are enjoying the sunshine in the Caribbean. Resist the urge to post pictures of your trip while you are still on your trip. You could create a hidden Facebook group for your family and friends and post them there. Just remember to make the privacy settings as strong as you can.
2. Make sure all your valuables like jewelry are kept in a safe deposit box.
3. Use electrical timers for lights while you are away. Have someone pick up your mail daily and keep your sidewalk and steps shoveled off in the winter time.
4. Don't leave a key hidden outside. Leave one with a family member or trusted neighbor.
5. If you are going away, let a friend or family member know and give them an emergency contact number. This would probably be the same person who would be checking your house while you are away.
6. Never leave the boxes from your latest purchase on the curb or by the garbage. That's like advertising to criminals that you have that 50 inch tv in your living room.
7. Install web based security cameras outside and inside your house. You can check them on your smart phone while you are away.
8. Get a friend or family member to stay in your house while you are away.



## Livestock Shot Near Hanna

Recently, there have been a few incidents of livestock being shot.

Near Hanna, a black calf was found shot in a pasture not far from where a horse that was nursing a foal was also found dead with a gunshot wound in its side.

The RCMP are urging people to report any suspicious activity or come forward if they know who's responsible for the animal deaths.

There have also been reports of a horse shot south of Strathmore and one in the Gleichen area.



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Emergency: 911  
RCMP Non-Emergency #: 403-823-2630  
Report A Poacher: 1-800-642-3800

Harvest is a very busy time of year. Farmers have most of their equipment out in the field and will leave it out there during the night. It's a perfect time for the criminal element to steal equipment, fuel and parts. There are a few things you can do to deter theft. Lock up your combine. Get locking gas caps. Don't fill your equipment with fuel until the morning. Don't leave your fuel truck in the field. Don't leave your keys or wallet in your truck when it is parked in the field. Keep an eye out for suspicious vehicles parked in approaches. They could be "casing" out your equipment or your neighbor's equipment. Report any theft or suspicious vehicles to the RCMP.

## How To Contact Us

Thanks to our friends at Netago in Hanna, we now have email addresses for our executive and zone captains.

### General Mailbox

[info@drumcrimewatch.com](mailto:info@drumcrimewatch.com)



### Executive

#### President

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