



## Cumberland County District RCMP-GRC- Business Owner Crime Prevention- Information Sheet

As a business owner there are several security measures to make your property less of a target to criminals. These measures can be deterrents to criminals but cannot guarantee your business will never be a target, offenders are opportunists and if an easy situation presents itself, they will likely take advantage of it.

### Exterior Security Measures:

**Lighting** – such as motion sensors (also enhance video footage if there are cameras), lighting in back areas and around sheds or outbuildings.

**Cameras-** can buy cheaper versions that are wireless (on Amazon or such sites) or fixed wired systems, you will get what you pay for and must be aware that footage may be blurry.

**Signage-** posting that cameras or alarms are on the site and no cash left on premises can deter a criminal and no trespassing signs will give the owner or rep more cause under the PPA. (see below)

**Alarm Systems-** many versions and options with these, do your research to determine what will best suit your needs (exterior and interior options are available depending on the company)

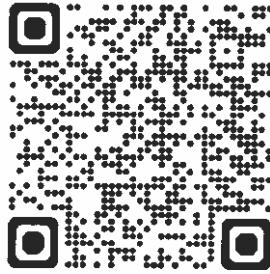
**Clean and clutter free property-** things like vehicles, waste bins, sheds, tools, are necessary at some businesses however, ensuring things are tidy and put away, grass is mowed down and unused items taken away provides less hiding or obscuring options if someone is going to trespass on your property

**Locking and double-checking entry points-** it can be made a close-up rule to double check all windows, doors, sheds, padlocks, gates, vehicle or equipment doors and ensuring keys are not left in them, etc... prior to the last employee or owner leaving, then there is no guessing if things were secure. Something as simple as a window latched when a criminal tries to open it may lead to a decision to move along from your property.

**Judicial/Police Measures:**

**Protection of Property Act- (PPA)**-Civil avenue -Notices can be served on criminals by police and they can serve as a first step in getting an individual held accountable for being on your property, prior to criminal charges.

Refer to the PPA online at: <https://nslegislature.ca/sites/default/files/legc/statutes/protect.html>



**Criminal Charges-** trespassing, mischief, theft, robbery, etc... can lead to harsher accountability for the offender if they have been repeating the crimes

**Reporting options:**

**Urgent-** call 911 or a detachment mainline (will be transferred to dispatcher if no office staff are available)

**Non-urgent** – call a detachment mainline, report online, attend a detachment to report in person, use CrimeStoppers- phone or online option

**Compile information to provide to police-** any footage, serial numbers, photos, records, times, dates, descriptions of items, description of offender (if known), possible persons who may be suspects, anything else you believe could be useful.

**Resources:**

**RCMP NS- Non- emergency line** –1-800-440-1323

**Amherst Detachment-** 902-667-3859

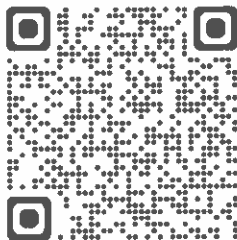
**Springhill Detachment-** 902-597-3770

**Oxford Detachment-** 902-447-2525

**Parrsboro Detachment-** 902-254-2424

**Pugwash Detachment-** 902-243-2181

RCMP- Online Reporting- <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/ns/report-a-crime-online>

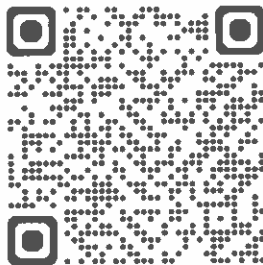


Nova Scotians in areas of RCMP jurisdiction **can submit an online crime report for some non-emergency incidents**, such as: Mischief/damage to property or vehicle (under \$5,000), Hit-and-run of an unoccupied vehicle/property (under \$5,000), Theft under \$5,000 (including bicycles and theft from vehicles), Lost property (including licence plates and registration tags), etc.

After submitting the online crime report, you will receive an email confirmation with an incident number, and an officer will follow up with you in five business days.

**Do not submit a report online if:** stolen property includes firearms, credit cards or personal identification such as a driver's licence or passport, the value of stolen or damaged property exceeds \$5,000, there are witnesses or video evidence of the crime

**Crime Stoppers-** 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), texting TIP202 + your message to "CRIMES" (274637) or online at: <https://crimestoppers.ns.ca/>



Taking some simple steps to make your property less desirable to a criminal may make them pause before deciding to steal or damage something at your business.

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