

**E-MAIL FROM HALTON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE  
HELP WANTED: RESIDENTIAL BREAK AND ENTER PREVENTION**

April 4, 2019

Dear Oakville residents,

Over the past couple months, the Town of Oakville has seen an increase in the number of residential break and enters. These break and enters vary and include incidents where doors and windows have been broken and incidents where doors and windows were left unlocked.

Recent trends include:

- Leaning small sticks against doors (including garage doors) to determine if anyone has returned home (opening the doors will drop the stick signaling that someone is home);
- The same vehicle slowly driving by a house approximately 3 times within a short time frame; and
- Suspicious people entering backyards to peer through windows.

In addition to the attached poster, please take an extra precaution to:

- Lock your doors and set your home alarm even if you are home;
- If someone rings the door bell, answer the door or at least make it known someone is home by calling out;
- Avoid keeping garage door openers in your car. Thieves are known to break into cars and use the opener to access your garage and house; and
- Call police if you see something out of the ordinary in your neighbourhood. You know your neighbourhood better than anybody else. Please report suspicious activity to the non-emergency line (905-825-4777). The Halton Police will be more than willing to investigate.

The following is a 28 minute video regarding how to prevent break-ins and recent fraudulent scams with Oakville Mayor Rob Burton and officers from Halton Regional Police Service:

[https://youtu.be/bnIG9D\\_cUYQ](https://youtu.be/bnIG9D_cUYQ)

If you're looking for specific information on how to protect your home, please go to the following times in the video:

- Learn how to better secure your doors: [https://youtu.be/bnIG9D\\_cUYQ?t=2m7s](https://youtu.be/bnIG9D_cUYQ?t=2m7s)
- Prevent window breaks: [https://youtu.be/bnIG9D\\_cUYQ?t=16m20s](https://youtu.be/bnIG9D_cUYQ?t=16m20s)
- Learn about home security cameras: [https://youtu.be/bnIG9D\\_cUYQ?t=19m56s](https://youtu.be/bnIG9D_cUYQ?t=19m56s)

The Security Camera Resource and Mapping program (SCRAM) enables our community members to voluntarily identify their residential video surveillance location through our secure and confidential online form found on the Halton Regional Police Service website, <https://www.haltonpolice.ca/scram/>. This tool will assist officers when investigating criminal

activity in your neighborhoods and furthermore, deter and prevent crime. Please consider registering your camera(s).

Need to report a crime or suspicious activity? Please call the Halton Police **non-emergency line:** 905-825-4777

Please call the emergency line only to report a crime in progress or, another emergency where assistance is required immediately: **EMERGENCY** 911

If you have any questions and would like to learn more about residential break and enters, please visit [www.haltonpolice.ca](http://www.haltonpolice.ca) or, contact Constable Brennan Bryan by email or phone.

Thank you,

*Brennan Bryan*  
*Cst. #9885*  
*Halton Regional Police Service*  
*Oakville – 20 Division*  
*Victim Restoration Officer*  
[brennan.bryan@haltonpolice.ca](mailto:brennan.bryan@haltonpolice.ca)



Halton Regional Police Service  
**HELP WANTED**  
(Residential Break and Enter Prevention)



**HELP WANTED** - *We need you to be our eyes and ears.*

The Halton Regional Police are seeking assistance from the public in order to reduce the number of residential break and enters occurring in your community. There are some simple steps you can take to reduce your chance of becoming a victim.

Please consider the following home security tips:

- Ensure your home looks occupied primarily between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 pm.
- Consider using timers to control your interior lights during evening hours.
- Thieves have been known to target homes near trails and parks. Consider installing additional fencing and motion sensor lights in your backyard.
- Consider installing home security cameras, a video monitored doorbell and window security film.
- Lock all doors and windows (including on the second floor) and keep your garage closed, whether you are home or not.
- Reinforce your door hinges with three inch screws and consider installing a strike plate and a higher grade deadbolt.
- Remove items from your property that can be used to gain access to your home. It is common for thieves to climb furniture and other outdoor items to gain access to a second floor window or door.
- Book an appointment to have a one-hour external security check conducted at your home; simply email [projectsafeguard@haltonpolice.ca](mailto:projectsafeguard@haltonpolice.ca) and include your name and contact number.

Please report any suspicious persons or vehicles in a timely manner to the police.

For more information on residential break and enter prevention, please visit [www.haltonpolice.ca](http://www.haltonpolice.ca) or call 905-825-4747 ext. 2216. You can also contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or through the web at [www.haltoncrimestoppers.ca](http://www.haltoncrimestoppers.ca). Be sure to follow us on twitter for more home protection tips.

*One Vision, One Mission, One Team*