

REPORTING CRIME

Every year crimes occur in Athabasca.

Approximately half of all crimes are reported to the police.

It is likely that more than 50% of all crimes that take place are witnessed by neighbors looking out of their windows, by a person walking a dog, and hearing the sounds of breaking glass, or by a driver observing a person swerving all over the road.

Why don't people report crime? In most cases it is because they don't want to get involved, they are afraid of being wrong, or they are not sure what to do.

A five-minute delay in reporting crime reduces the chance of catching a criminal by 65%

It is your duty as a citizen to report all crime.

The emergency number for reporting a crime in progress is 9-1-1.

The phone number for non-emergency complaint calls is

When reporting a 9-1-1 CALLS:

Guidelines to calling the police

Stay Calm

- don't get excited
- take a deep breath

State the Problem

- "I want to report a crime...."
- a break and enter in progress
- an injury accident
- a fire
- a suspicious vehicle or person

State the address of where the crime is occurring

- give full address
- give directions from nearest cross street, (i.e. north, south, east, west, in the alley at the rear)
- name, address and phone number where you are calling from

Let the police operator contro the conversation.

- answer all questions
- if you wish, tell police you wish to

remain anonymous

- give your phone number so police can call back later if necessary
- don't hang up - stay on the line.
- only hang up when told to do so by the operator.

If 9-1-1 doesn't work, dial "0" for the operator.

Major Factors in describing suspects:

- Description of Crime
- Physical Description
- How suspects left area and direction of travel.
- Type of weapon
- Vehicle Involved
- Vehicle description

Be aware and practice these precautions:

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- Be alert to odd behavior of others.
- Be familiar with surroundings

- Be aware of strangers
- Be on the lookout for the unusual, such as unfamiliar cars in the neighborhood, strangers, and unusual phone calls.

Reporting a crime is not a hard thing to do.

The police evaluator will "walk" you through the complaint.

If you wish to remain anonymous, the police will respect that wish.

Remember a five-minute delay in reporting a crime reduces the chance of catching the criminal by 65%

Imagine how you would feel if you were being attacked on the street, calling out for help, and no one would come to help you.

Your faith in mankind would be lowered considerably.

Yell FIRE - it always attracts attention.

It is your duty as a citizen to report crime.

Get involved.

Make your community a safer place to live.

You're spending a quiet night at home when you hear a crash.

You look outside and see someone prowling around your neighbor's house.

You call the police but are a little confused about what information they might need from you.

Here are some tips on how to avoid all the confusion and correctly report a crime.

- Call 911 for emergencies and 780-675-4252 for non-emergencies.
- It is wise to have the number readily accessible in case of an emergency
 - Identify yourself by your name and address and then relay you're information.
- For example—This is John Smith, a Neighborhood Watch member. I live in 26 Moon Street. There is a suspicious person prowling around my neighbors house at 28 Moon Street.

Give the exact location of the crime or activity.

- Remain in contact with the Police dispatcher until all the necessary information has been obtained

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➤ **DO NOT personally confront the situation.**

- Wait for the Police to arrive.
- When reporting an incident to Police you may be asked to repeat the address. This is to ensure that the address has been correctly understood.
- At the same time as you are relaying the information, a car is being dispatched to the scene of the emergency.
- Any additional information that is required helps the Police determine the level of police response.