

# When to Call Police

## Before you need police

Get to know your local police officers well before you need them. Make a point of stopping in to local detachments to have a conversation. Here are some things to include:

- Be friendly, but to the point. Tell the police about your farm – where it is, what you do there, and who you live with.
- Be clear you are not asking for anything – just introducing yourself.
- Be professional. Express serious concern about issues that could affect your farm or your family.
- Get their names and keep in regular contact.

## If you are targeted

If your property becomes a target, phone the police immediately. Be as clear as you possibly can about your understanding of the incident. Your goal is for them to send an officer to begin an investigation.

## Crime scenes

- If you are dealing with a crime scene or potential crime scene, do not touch anything until police arrive.
- Take lots of photos.
- If you are aware of other events in the area, be sure to raise them with police.

## Suspicious individuals

- If you are calling to report a suspicious individual in the area, be as clear as possible in your description.
- Communicate license plate number and vehicle description.
- Be as clear as possible about time of day, date and what you saw.

**Tip:** Do not assume that local law enforcement shares information. In rural Ontario some areas fall under provincial police jurisdictions while others are regional – they don't always communicate. In addition to police, report instances to The Ag & Food Exchange to ensure your incident is on the radar.

**Tip:** Download a **sample [suspicious incident form](#)** here.



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