

REPORT THEFT OF POWER

Houses in the province are being used to illegally cultivate marijuana and most of these locations are stealing the electricity to do it. Not only is this extremely dangerous, it is costing our customers thousands of dollars a year. The impact is more than financial. Grow houses are 40 times more likely to catch fire than a normal residence.

Tell-tale signs to help you spot a potential residential marijuana grow house include:

1. Residents attend the home occasionally and for short periods of time
2. Unusual strong, pungent or skunk-like odours
3. Drapes kept drawn at all times
4. Homes without furniture
5. Lawns that go uncut, driveways not cleared
6. Visitors drive directly into a garage to enter the home
7. Bright lights escaping from windows often covered with condensation
8. Equipment, such as large fans, lights, plastic planters and soil, carried in at odd hours
9. Darkened windows to conceal activities
10. Garbage bags containing used soil and plant material discarded in the area
11. Interior lights left on for long periods of time, or on timers
12. Hydro meters with broken seals or other evidence of tampering
13. Sounds of construction and ventilation fans
14. Bare roofs while neighbour's roofs are blanketed by snow

Residents are reminded NOT to trespass on private property to satisfy their curiosity. However, if you suspect a residence is being used as a grow house, report the address to:

Hanover Police Services – 519-364-2411 – servicing the Town of Hanover

Ontario Provincial Police – 1-888-310-1122 – servicing the communities of:

West side of Elmwood, Clifford,
Harriston, Kincardine, Lucknow,
Mildmay, Palmerston, Ripley,
Teeswater and Walkerton

Saugeen Shores Police Services – 519-832-2500 – servicing the communities of:

Port Elgin and Southampton

West Grey Police Services – 519-364-2411 – servicing the communities of:

East side of Elmwood and Neustadt

Wingham Police – 519-357-1214 – servicing the communities of Wingham

Crime Stoppers – 1-800-222-8477

Or by dialling 9-1-1

Note: If you are a landlord, screen potential tenants carefully and inspect your rental property on a regular basis. You have a responsibility to ensure your property is not used to grow marijuana and could be subject to fines and penalties as well as see your property suffer fire or severe structural damage.