

## Keeping Up Appearances

- Well maintained yards create an appearance home owners care about their property and expect others to respect it too.
- Physical conditions like abandoned cars or overgrown vacant lots may contribute to crime.
- Ensure your fence and gate are in good repair. Keep your gate locked at all times. Install privacy slats in chain link fences.
- Maximize the ability to see and be seen. Do not let shrubs and trees become overgrown creating hiding spots. Avoid planting shrubs or trees that will interfere with visibility near windows and doors. Trim shrubs to well below window lines and trees up to 7 feet. Install exterior light fixtures with motion detectors or controlled by timers to turn on at night and off in the morning.
- Organize a community clean-up or beautification project.
- Assist seniors in your neighbourhood who may have difficulty maintaining their yards.
- When away for extended lengths of time, maintain an appearance of being at home. Install timers for lighting and radios. Make arrangements to have someone check-in on the house, maintain the yard, collect mail, newspapers and flyers.

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