

## Be aware this time of year

It's a busy time of year and Caledon OPP would like to remind everyone to do their part in making this holiday season a safe and happy one for all.

They report there are, unfortunately, some people who see opportunity at this time of year, and will use it to their advantage.

Police have a few simple tips.

Whenever possible, use banking machines that are in visible and active areas. If you have to use a bank machine after hours, have a look around, be aware of your surroundings and be prepared; and have your card ready to do business.

Always lock your vehicle, whether it is in your driveway or at a parking lot, and keep valuables and purchases out of sight or in the trunk. This will reduce the risk of theft from your vehicle.

Think about where you are parking and make sure it is in a well-lit area. You may be returning to your vehicle when it is dark. Have your key ready in your hand as you approach your vehicle.

Females are reminded to not leave purses in the cart unattended. You may have your back turned to your cart picking an item off the shelf; someone may be picking your wallet or purse out of your cart. It happens very quickly and you may not notice until you are at the check-out when you reach in your purse for your wallet and it's not there.

If your Christmas tree is visible from the outside, consider placing most of the gifts under the tree at the last minute. Once gifts have been unwrapped, be aware of the packaging that you are putting out to the curb. Anyone paying attention will know what new items you have such as electronics etc.