



Chief Cst. John Lo

Welcome to the Chief Constable's Block Watch Newsletter!

Updated messages for West Vancouver Block
Watch providing high level updates from your
friendly Police Department

Hello Block Watch Captains, Co-Captains & Participants,

As we move into the holiday season, it is important to be extra vigilant protecting your property. Property crime typically spikes in December with offenders targeting vehicles and houses knowing that people have purchased new gifts for their family and friends.



Organized Residential Break and Enters

We put out a press release on October 30, 2024 (<https://westvanpolice.ca/west-vancouver-police-warn-of-increased-break-and-enters/>) advising West Vancouver residents of an uptick in residential break and enters. This uptick is a trend that we are seeing throughout the region and it appears that the suspects are very organized, sophisticated and efficient. The modus operandi that we are seeing often includes suspects:

- Knocking on doors or ringing doorbells to see if anyone is home
- Accessing upper floor points of entry by using ladders to get onto a balcony
- Targeting the master bedroom and stealing items that are small but have high value (jewelry, purses, and cash)
- Removing safes

We encourage you to remain alert. Please don't hesitate to call for patrol attendance to check any suspicious persons or vehicles in your neighbourhood.



Stay Safe During The Holiday Season

Residential Break-ins & Home Safes

It is important to note that if you have a personal safe to secure high value items in your home, they still may not be secure, especially if you have a low end, inexpensive safe.

Having a safe may provide you with some mental reassurance that your valuables are secure; however, if the safe can be easily extracted from your residence with some simple equipment or tools then it is an easy target for criminals.

A good safe is one that is immovable. One that is cemented or embedded into the foundation of your house.

Please keep this in mind if you keep large amounts of cash or items that are of high value in your residence.



Thefts From Vehicles

The next few weeks will be busy especially at shopping malls and grocery stores.

The dates for shopping before Christmas are more concentrated this year. Please make sure that you do not draw attention to your vehicle.

Keep shopping bags out of sight, park in well lit areas and lock your car doors.

And as part of your nighttime routine, make sure that your vehicle is locked before you go to bed.

If possible, avoid leaving items of value in any unattended vehicle, even for short periods of time.



Thank you all for being a part of keeping our community safe. Please know that we are nearby and available. If you notice anything suspicious, please call us. We are here to help.

Chief Constable John Lo
West Vancouver Police



**WEST VANCOUVER
POLICE**

Excellence in Response & Investigation for a safe West Vancouver

www.westvanpolice.ca