

May 2023 Brookfield Public Safety Advisory Committee Safety Message

The Spring is a traditional time to take a trip to the camp or seasonal dwelling to get it ready for warm weather and Summer enjoyment. Most of the time you find it just needing a few small repairs. Unfortunately, sometimes we find that someone has broken into our property and done damage or theft or both during the Winter or early Spring. We encourage you to notify the police and not trample on the scene until you determine whether the police will have the opportunity to do a thorough investigation.

In any event, you should do your own investigation complete with digital photos, measurements, etc. after the police do theirs or if they do not have the time to do a thorough one. There are at least two good reasons to do this. It will support your insurance claim and will give you some good ideas about preventing or discouraging future damage to or theft of your property. Also, if you provide the police your report, they might do more to apprehend the culprits even if they were unable to do a thorough investigation themselves.

Despite how angry this theft or damage may make you, do not set traps that might harm persons breaking into your property in the future. If someone is injured by one of your traps, you could be in serious trouble, both criminally and civilly. You might consider setting up a game camera and or a video system in or around the property. Video systems have come a long way and are reasonably priced. Some of these systems will give you access to the camera(s) via your mobile phone for real time coverage.

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