

## Help Extinguish Arson in your Community

It is impossible to predict where or when an arsonist will strike, but there are some things you can do to help deter incidents in your home or neighbourhood.

Protecting your home or garage from arson involves many of the same techniques used to prevent burglary, including:

- Ensure you have well-bolted doors and strong, locked windows.
- Install motion-activated lighting near entrances and poorly-lit areas to help reveal someone's presence.
- Encourage well-lit buildings in your community. Because arsonists (and burglars) prefer to work under the cover of darkness, a bright and busy neighbourhood discourages trespassers.
- Have a neighbourhood watch program that includes everyone. Your neighbours can spot an intruder when you are not around - and you can do the same for them.
- Keep small or minimal shrubbery, because an unobstructed view won't give arsonists the solitude they need.
- Install or maintain a monitored alarm system connected to a fire or smoke detector. If the alarm detects fire, a signal can be automatically transmitted to a monitoring station which will alert police and fire departments.

An important part of your household defenses should be an extensive homeowner's insurance policy - one that will protect your property and belongings against disasters such as arson.

For more information about home insurance designed for credit union members, call CUMIS Insurance at **1-800-810-2847**.

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