



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM/DE: Orillia OPP Detachment

DATE: August 22, 2011

MARIHUANA GROW OPS- BE AWARE

(ORILLIA, ON) – It is that time of year again. Time for the fall harvest of the illegal marihuana crop. Typically, marihuana crops will be harvested starting as early as late August up until the beginning of October.

The Orillia Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the OPP Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) want to remind the public of the danger that can be associated with this type of criminal activity. Marihuana grows pose a real threat to both public and police safety.

A vast majority of the marihuana grown in Ontario is for export to the US, and returns to Canada/Ontario as cocaine, cash or guns to support criminal enterprises.

These illicit crops are generally located in swamps, corn fields, wooded areas, along rivers and on rural rental properties with large acreage.

Common indicators of outdoor marihuana grows include;

Abandoned vehicles parked on the side roads and trails
Bags of fertilizer, planting trays or chemicals located in remote areas
Numerous “No Trespassing” signs appear out of nowhere

If you suspect a crop of marihuana plants, do not enter the area as there is a potential for danger. Often these areas have booby traps set or you could be confronted by the criminals growing these plants. There is always the risk they may be carrying weapons.

Leave the area immediately and call police at 705-326-3536. You may remain anonymous.

Provide as much information as possible of the location. If you have GPS coordinates that is very helpful. Drug enforcement officers are trained to handle these situations.

- 30 -

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