



From the Office of Sheriff John E. Zaruba

Deception Burglaries Blossom in the Spring

The DuPage County Sheriff's Department is taking a proactive approach in alerting its citizens to certain crime trends that have occurred throughout the County in recent years and have sprung up again this year. Spring is here and unfortunately, this is the time when these types of crimes are known to occur.

Suspects posing as legitimate workers approach elderly homeowners at their residence with the intent of gaining entry under a seemingly legitimate role, for example, local gas company, local electric company, water department, cable company, tree trimmers, pavers, county inspectors, or government officials. One suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect will enter the home and search inside for valuables and cash.

A variety of vehicles have been associated with these subjects including pick-up trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles. Suspects are known to wear reflective work vests and utility belts to try and fit the look of a legitimate worker. An actual worker will have a company identification card and company markings on their vehicle.

Be particularly alert to anyone in your neighborhood looking to perform home repairs or asking to gain entry into your home. Be sure to ask to see identification and let them know you are going to call and get authorization from their company before allowing them access. If they are legitimate, they won't mind the wait. Below are some examples of services and companies that may be in your area. Legitimate companies and providers WILL not come to your home unannounced and will not need access into your home unless you have called and set up an appointment or service ahead of time.

Remember, do not intervene, but call 911 immediately about suspicious activity.

Stay Safe-

Sheriff John E. Zaruba

