



KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF

SHERIFF ROCKY WATSON
UNDERSHERIFF TRAVIS CHANEY

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KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE OCTOBER 21, 2011

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office is investigating a large spike in the number of day time burglaries over the past couple of months.

In 2010 between the first of September and the middle of October there were 21 residential burglaries reported in the county. This year, for the same time period, there have been 91 residential burglaries. Most of the recent burglaries have occurred during the day time hours, while no one is home, where a door has been forced open and easy to carry items are stolen from the residence.

The Sheriff's Office has reassigned deputies to work saturation patrols in residential areas and through investigative and patrol efforts, along with citizen information, been able to develop some good investigative leads on several of the cases.

Suspects have been reported to possibly be checking out residences by knocking on doors and offering to sell the homeowner firewood or to be hired as a dog-walking service.

Anyone who observes suspicious vehicles or persons in their neighborhood should contact their local law enforcement agency immediately. Anyone with information regarding the recent string of burglaries is asked to contact the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office at (208) 446-1300 attention to Detective Franssen.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff
By: Major Ben Wolfinger