



CANADIAN VETERINARY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES

LOSS PREVENTION

Arson Prevention

Business owners and employees can reduce the chances of arson striking their company. Everyone should be made aware that arson is a very serious problem, and its effects can be devastating for both the owner and the employees. Businesses can reduce the threat of arson by practicing the following suggestions:

Make Your Property Less Inviting To Arsonists

- Keep the property well lit at night.
- Trim shrubs and trees to eliminate potential hiding places.
- Paint the building white or use light coloured bricks so that intruders are more visible during the nighttime.
- Secure all external ladders and stairways so intruders do not have access to upper floors and roofs.
- Make your property as burglar-proof as possible. Use good deadbolt locks on all doors and secure all windows. Install a monitored burglar and fire alarm system. Do a perimeter check of the building at closing to ensure it is secure.
- Erase graffiti and repair any minor vandalism as soon as possible. The more run-down your premises appear, the greater its chance of being attacked by vandals or arsonists.

Keep Combustibles Out Of Sight

- Dispose of all garbage and refuse properly and get it off-site as soon as possible.
- Store combustible materials, such as garbage bins, wood pallets, and empty cardboard cartons away from all buildings.
- Store chemicals and other flammable liquids in their proper place, and restrict access to them by locking them up in a fire-resistant cabinet when not in use.
- Familiarize yourself with fire hazards inherent in common combustibles that your business may use (for example: plastic and paper packaging) or business processes such as cooking and deep frying.

Practice Fire Safety

- Install smoke alarms as well as automatic and tamper-proof sprinklers and have them inspected and tested by a qualified contractor annually.
- Develop a proper fire safety plan and ensure designated people are aware of their responsibilities for fire safety.
- Educate employees about arson prevention and fire safety.
- Remember, vigilance is our best weapon against arsonists. Report anything suspicious to police immediately.

Source: www.winnipeg.ca/police



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