

## Police to offer safety tips at Markham Home Show

By Simone Joseph Oct 07, 2010 - 12:00 PM



**Reinforced glass.** York Regional Police Const. Shayne Mulligan tries but fails to break the window protected by a 3M Window Film as 3M's Kevin Hiller looks on at the York Regional Police Safety Village in Stouffville Oct. 6. Police will at York Region Media Group's Markham Fall Home Show Oct. 15 to 17 at the Markham Fairgrounds to offer safety tips for everything from mortgage fraud to home protection. *Staff Photo/Sjoerd Witteveen*

The Markham Fall Home Show will have a new addition this year. York Regional Police will spread its safety message and introduce you to safety-related vendors by joining forces with York Region Media Group to present the annual Markham Fall Home Show. The advice police provide can be extremely useful, Const. Melanie Moffatt said. "It gets people thinking; thinking like a bad guy," she said. For example, when you move, have the locks and keys changed because you never know how many pairs of the house keys could be out there, Const. Moffatt said. Vendors at the show will include alarm and surveillance companies. With mortgage fraud a growing crime, one vendor may be a title and insurance company. A pool and spa company will also attend. "It is about meeting neighbours, creating communities," Const. Moffatt said. Another information provider will be Crime Stoppers. A karate company will demonstrate self-defense. Child Find will fingerprint kids, while the Home Depot will bring pre-cut wood for children on which to create crafts. Another company will demonstrate a reinforced front door that cannot be broken. Every day, the police go into homes following break-ins and see safety measures that could have helped. Improving safety in your home could be as simple as putting an old hockey stick in place to secure a sliding door. "It is educating (people) on what you can do to prevent that happening. It is like a do-it-yourself project," Const. Moffatt said. It is all under one roof, she points out. You don't have to buy anything if you don't want to, she added — just take advantage of the tips. The event is for all of York Region. The RIDE truck, which tests for drinking and driving, will be there and can do breathalyzer tests. You can also check out the truck. Some vendors will make presentations on the main stage. Crime prevention officers will be on hand if you seek advice. Last year, the Markham Fall Home Show hosted about 10,000 visitors. Organizers are expecting larger numbers this year. The Crime Prevention Home Show at the Markham Fair Grounds runs Oct. 15, 1 to 9 p.m., Oct. 16, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 17, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Markham Fairgrounds, 10801 McCowan Rd. Fingerprinting takes place Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Oct. 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Anyone running a business that provides products or services to prevent crime who may be interested in being a vendor is asked to contact Const. Moffatt at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7189 or email at 812@yrp.ca. For more information visit [www.yrp.ca](http://www.yrp.ca) or visit [www.markhamhomeshow.ca](http://www.markhamhomeshow.ca)