

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff



MEDIA RELEASE

Scam Alert and Prevention Tips

Hamilton County, May 20, 2020 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports that tree trimming, driveway repair and other common fair weather scams are beginning to be reported in our patrol area. Recently, a Sycamore Township resident was the victim of such a tree trimming scam and lost over \$900.

Sheriff Neil would like to remind everyone of some suggestions from his deputies to help avoid being the victim of such scams.

1. Pay attention to the vehicles that they arrive in. Most legitimate companies will have business information or logos on their vehicles and will be operating commercially licensed trucks.
2. Ask for proof of liability insurance and call to verify with the carrier
3. Ask door to door solicitors to see their solicitor's permit
4. Pay close attention to high pressure sales tactics and those who say the work must be done immediately
5. Verify companies through trusted resources such as the Better Business Bureau, Angie's List or the like before agreeing to the work
6. Get written estimates and take the time to review them before providing any form of payment.
7. If you suspect something fraudulent, call the Hamilton County Communications Center (513-825-2280) to report the activity and have a deputy respond.

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