

## Suspect nabbed following sexual assault on Stone Road

**By Brock Weir**

A 23-year-old Aurora man is facing sexual assault charges after an attack on a 47-year-old local woman was caught on camera. York Regional Police is sending out thanks to the community for its "overwhelming assistance and support" in identifying the subject after video of the attack, edited to protect the identity of the victim, swept news websites and social media.

"On Saturday, August 11, York Regional Police responded to an address on Stone Road for a report of a sexual assault," said Constable Laura Nicolle of the YRP. "Officers learned that at approximately 3.30 p.m., a 47-year-old woman was outside mowing her front lawn when suddenly a male suspect ran up behind her, lowered his shorts, and grabbed her, pulling her towards him. The victim then turned and confronted the suspect. The suspect fled on foot.

"Investigators released images and video of the suspect and appealed to the community for assistance in identifying the suspect. In a short time span, investigators received several phone call tips, emails, social media messages, and Crime Stoppers tips, which quickly led to officers successfully identifying the subject."

The accused was arrested on Thursday, August 16, at 6.45 p.m. and was charged with one count of Sexual Assault and appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice in Newmarket last week.

"Due to circumstances associated with the accused, his identity is not being released," said Constable Nicolle.

"We are grateful for the strong partnership York Regional Police enjoys with our community," added York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe in a statement. "This fast response assisted us in bringing this investigation to a successful conclusion and shows that our citizens are equally committed to a safe and secure community."

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact the York Regional Police Sexual Assault Section at 1-866-876-5423 x7071, by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or by leaving an anonymous tip online via [www.1800222TIPS.com](http://www.1800222TIPS.com).