

## MARKING YOUR PROPERTY

Engrave property with the letters "VA" and your Virginia Drivers License number or Virginia I.D. Card Number. Example – "VA123456789." (It is best not to leave spaces between numbers) If you are military, use your branch letters and service number. Example – "USMC123456789."

List property, noting serial numbers, make, model, color, and take pictures.

Put your list in a place safe from theft and fire. The freezer in your refrigerator is a good place if you do not have access to a safe deposit box or a fire safe.

## ENGRAVERS

Engravers, which were donated by the Prince William Crime Prevention Council, are available for check out at most of the Prince William Public Libraries located throughout the County. Please contact them for availability. Prince William Crime Prevention Council is the "Organization of Neighborhood Watches" in Prince William County.

## WHAT TO ENGRAVE

Anything that can be taken away! Bicycles, TV's, cameras, stereos, speakers, tools, car radios, lawn & garden equipment, guns, office equipment, binoculars, hub caps, video equipment, cell phones and computers. These are just a few suggestions.

## PHOTOGRAPH / VIDEO TAPE

Photograph or video tape all property, including jewelry, silver, and collectibles.

## THEFT PREVENTION

**BICYCLES:** Bicycles are the most commonly stolen item. Children should be taught not to leave their bicycles outside unattended without being locked up. Use a cable type lock to secure the bike to a fixed object. Expensive bikes should be secured with a solid steel bike lock.

**CARS:** The highest dollar theft loss items are motor vehicles. Always lock your car and take your keys. Park in well traveled and well lighted areas. Consider using additional locking devices, alarms or LO-JACK on high targeted vehicles.

**THEFT FROM VEHICLES:** There is a high rate of theft of car radio and stereos, auto parts and personal property. Always secure loose property in the trunk or out of site. Always lock your doors. Most auto thefts occur from unlocked vehicles.

**LIGHTING:** Most thefts occur right in front of your home while you sleep. Leave exterior house lights on all night, putting your car in open sight. You may also want to utilize a sensor light aimed at your vehicles.

**CRIME REPORTING:** Report all thefts, however minor it may seem to you. Police look for patterns to identify problems and to help solve crime.

**DO NOT HESITATE** to report a suspicious person, vehicle or noise. Your alertness may be the best crime prevention. Vandalisms are best prevented by following the above tips. Speak with your children about respect of others property.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT  
703-792-7270

NON EMERGENCY  
703-792-6500

**EMERGENCY 911**

# OPERATION ID



Prince William County  
Police Department

