



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE



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From Where I Sit

By Senior Sergeant Steve BARTON

While the crush is still a few months away, it's a good time to review your security, especially with the sharply increasing fuel price at the moment which shows no sign of slowing.

This includes checking to ensure your present security is working. For example, check that alarms do work, check your CCTV to see where the cameras are facing, how clear the footage is and that the unit is still working. And switch them on!! Some models have the capacity to send an instant time alarm to your mobile phone that enables you to view the footage live (and continue to record) so you can determine if it is a false alarm or alerting the Police if it is not.

Where possible, park tractors and other machinery beside residences, etc. I know this isn't possible a lot of the time, so consider other actions that can be taken to reduce your vulnerability to these types of offences, such as parking the tractors and other machinery away from the road and out of sight, the use of farm cameras to keep surveillance on your machinery, etc.

If you don't have CCTV or farm cameras, check them out on the internet and consider investing in some. If you do, make sure they have the ability to record good quality footage at night.

Generally speaking, most farm and business sheds contain a host of tools, fuel, quad bikes and similar equipment that make them attractive targets for criminals. In many cases these items are easy to 'move on' by offenders and hard for owners to positively identify.

Where your property has identifying particulars, record the make, model and serial numbers. Where your property doesn't have any of these, engrave them. In the past something like "Q" for Queensland then followed by your date of birth "dd/mm/yy" was done. In any case, keep a record of any of these identifying particulars. Should it be stolen and then recovered, it will make identifying the owner much easier plus also assist Police prove correct ownership of that property.

Ensure appropriate steps are taken to safeguard your property – secure your car keys, wallet, mobile phones and don't leave them in vehicles; lock your car.

If you have any information about the thefts or of suspicious activity in your area, I urge you to contact your local police station or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Ensure appropriate steps are taken to safeguard your property – secure your car keys, wallet, mobile phones and don't leave them in vehicles; lock your car. For example, in Ayr, the vast majority of vehicles unlawfully entered in Ayr division are in private property and unlocked. Through 'Lock it or Lose it' vehicle checks of vehicles parked in public places, we find extremely high compliance rate of over 90%

If you have any information about thefts or suspicious activity in your area, I would urge you to contact your local police station or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Yours sincerely

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