

# Crime prevention advice for Trailer Theft



Trailers are in the top 4 items of equipment stolen from rural businesses and farms. Trailers come in all shapes and sizes. They have a multitude of uses which makes them a valuable item to steal. They have poor identification as standard which makes them hard to trace if stolen. Below are some ideas to make your trailer unique and less desirable to the thief.

- Where possible park the trailer where it cannot be seen from the road, public rights of way and when you come onto the yard. Ensure there is good lighting and the area is secure with gates and locks.
- When not in use, park or place something in front of the trailer so it cannot be moved.
- Secure the trailer with a chain or steel cable to a strong anchor point. Consider a cable alarm where an alarm will go off if the cable is cut.
- Use a wheel lock and/or hitch lock.
- Consider a beam alarm for the area where the trailer is stored and CCTV.
- Record all relevant numbers, e.g. chassis, body, hitch numbers etc. (a form is available to print off or download on this website).
- Make the trailer unique to you so it stands out, this can be done by putting the farm/stable name on the side or using a motif or logo. This will act as a deterrent and make it easily identifiable.
- You could put your vehicle registration on the roof of your vehicle, this can be done by oil based paint or there are kits you can buy with vinyl lettering.
- Consider marking the trailer with a solution such as Smartwater or SelectaDNA or have the windows glass etched and put stickers on the vehicle warning it is security marked.
- Take photographs of the vehicle from all angles, include close ups of any unique markings such as scratches, dents, scuffs and any security markings and keep them in a safe place to give to the police to help them identify the vehicle if it is stolen.
- Consider fitting a tracker that will notify you if the trailer is moved and allow you to track it and pass the information to the police.
- Ensure any property within the trailer is post coded, such as horse tack, tools etc and put signage on the trailer stating that it is security marked.
- Join Warwickshire Rural Watch go to the home page of this website (see below) and click on 'Join Here'. It is free and will provide you with alerts to incidents in your area so that you can warn your friends, family and neighbours and be extra vigilant.
- Display signage showing you are in a police approved watch scheme. Warwickshire Rural Watch gate signs are available from your Rural Crime Coordinator – (see contacts on this website)

Further information and other factsheets can be found on our Website  
[www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk](http://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk)

