



Property Safety

The Office of Crime Prevention is the centre of excellence in crime prevention in Western Australia, hosting a range of programs, undertaking research and promoting crime prevention publications. For more information on the publications available call the Office of Crime Prevention on 9222 9733 or refer to their web page on <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au>

To assist the Town of Bassendean residents keep their property safe, follow these simple guidelines:

- Whilst staying at any accommodation, secure your property.
- If you wish to leave a door open for ventilation, consider installing a security door which complies with Australian Standards 2803.1 and 2804.
- When going on holidays, take steps to give your house that "lived in" look by cancelling milk and papers, have your mail held or redirected, ask a neighbour or friend to remove junk mail and have the lawn mown, turn down the telephone, wheelie bins should be locked away or have your neighbour bring in your wheelie bin after being emptied.
- Ask about using bank security facilities to store passports and other important items.
- Remember not to take all your money and valuables with you if you are partying or day trekking.
- Try not to advertise that you have purchased something, place bags or storage boxes out of sight.
- Leave valuables in a secure location when going to the beach or pool.
- Carry your shoulder bag at the front of your body.
- Engrave or mark your property (see below).

Engraving or Marking your personal property clearly

If you don't already have your belongings marked for identification, and wish to clearly mark them, the Office of Crime Prevention and WA Police recommends using the Property Identification System.

Unmarked items that are most at risk of theft or loss include cameras, binoculars, clothing, wallets, sporting goods, music, camping equipment, bicycles, power tools and bags.

Marking your property using this system deters people from stealing it and helps the police return recovered property to its owners.

The Property Identification System involves marking property with an electric engraving tool. The engraving is personalised in your own code so that police anywhere in Australia can identify your property, and arrange to return it to you.

To assist you in this process, you can borrow from the Town of Bassendean Library an engraving machine. Call 9279 2966 to make a booking for the engraver.

A Personal Inventory

A detailed inventory should be kept of all your property. Record serial numbers, makes, models and full description. When your inventory is complete, keep the list in a safe place, e.g., home safe, or in an envelope at your local bank. This will help police to recover stolen items and will assist in cases of insurance claims.

How to make up your personal code:

To prevent identify theft, it is suggested to use the first initial of your first name, the first initial of your family name, your date of birth (day/month/year), and the letters WA to signify Western Australia.

For example:

- Keith James NARRACOTT
- Date of Birth: 18-06-1975
- His personal code is - KN180675WA

Your personal code can be used to mark all of your belongings. We recommend that where possible, you place your identification number on the back of the item in the top right hand corner.

Your personal property code details can then be provided to police so it can be computer recorded at the nearest police station.

If your property cannot be effectively marked, photographs should be taken of items such as jewellery, watches or sunglasses and copies of the photographs forwarded to your insurance company.

Tips for ensuring vehicle security

- Lock your unattended car properly.
- If you need to leave your valuables in the car, make sure they are out of sight or lock them in the boot (trunk) or glove compartment. Even a pile of loose change may be enough to entice an offender to break into your car.
- Find out how to immobilise (and re-mobilise) your car's engine in case you need to leave your vehicle for a long period of time.