



Get Sheducated and weed out thieves!



A community safety advice leaflet on garden security from North Yorkshire Police

Is there open access to the rear of your property?

If 'Yes', consider suitable fencing - not the kind that can be used 'as a ladder' to climb over - or thick hedging which will restrict access.

 Y N

Are there items of gardening equipment left out in your garden such as a spade, trowel or fork which a thief could use to force open a door or a window?

If 'Yes', make sure you securely lock away any such implements - they could be used to break in to your home or a neighbour's home.

 Y N

Do you have outside lighting to illuminate the rear of your property?

If 'No', the cost of installing lighting really isn't as expensive as you might think and will be well worth the investment. You can even buy battery powered light units if you don't want to have a power supply.

 Y N

Is your outbuilding, shed or garage secured with a mortice lock or padlock?

If 'No', you could be inviting a would be thief to take your property. Trying to force open the door or break the lock will both take time and create a noise which a thief will try to avoid. This will also make an alarm go off if you have one fitted.

 Y N

Are your more expensive items such as lawnmowers, strimmers, etc. property marked in some way to show they belong to you?

If 'No', you can very quickly and with little cost clearly identify your property with items purchased at your local DIY store, or ring for availability of loan equipment.

 Y N

Do you know if your household insurance policy covers you for the theft of equipment and other items from your garden area?

If 'No', a quick call to your insurance broker or agent will clear this up.

 Y N

Now make an evaluation of the value of your property you keep in your garden and outbuildings. The total replacement cost will be a lot higher than you might think!

The total replacement value of the equipment in my outbuilding(s) is

£

By using the advice contained in this 'Sheducation' leaflet you can make life harder for the thief!

Re-order ref: NYP12-0003

For crime prevention advice visit www.northyorkshire.police.uk/crimeprevention

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SHEDUCATION - BEAT THE GARDEN THIEF

Secure the access to your garden area by locking gates and using thorny bushes next to walls and fences. The boundary is your first line of defence.

Have you visibly marked the contents of your shed, garage and outbuildings? It is recommended that you mark your property with your postcode or other recognisable features and make a note of any serial numbers. Photograph valuable plants, ornaments and garden furniture.

External security lights which are activated by movement are a strong deterrent to a thief.

Doors and windows of sheds, garages and outbuildings need securing. Use good quality security fittings such as padlocks and bolts. Metal grilles or locks will help make windows less vulnerable.

Use coach bolts or non-return screws to secure door hinges and security fastenings.

Chain cycles, mowers, ladders and tools to strong anchorage points on shed framing or floor.

Alarms for sheds, garages and outbuildings are inexpensive (under £15) and can be obtained from DIY shops and catalogue shops, or ring the number on this leaflet for advice.

Together we'll crack crime. Join a Neighbourhood Watch or Countrywatch Scheme.

Examine your insurance policies. Check that your household policy covers you for theft from your garden and outbuildings.

Plant Protection

'Natural barbed wire'

A few examples of spikey and unfriendly groundcover:-
pyracantha; shrub rose; creeping juniper; firethorn; pencil
Christmas tree; berberis golden bamboo; common holly; blue spruce;
etc. etc.

HOW SHEDUCATED ARE YOU?

Did you know that there are more burglaries to outbuildings than actual homes? Recorded crime figures regularly show that thieves are far more likely to target your SHED, OUTBUILDINGS or GARAGE than they are your house.

Making life more difficult for the criminal, to keep them out of your home or outbuildings really needn't be as difficult or costly as you might think. There are lots of useful tips in this leaflet to whet your appetite and further literature is readily available at your local Police Station or DIY store.

To start you off, we have provided a check list overleaf which you can use to look at the rear of your premises.

Starting from the outer boundary and working towards your house, decide for yourself how easy it would be for a thief to steal your property.

The questions and your answers will help you decide.

To report a crime or incident, or provide information dial the non-emergency number



Press option 2 if you know the name of the person or department you wish to speak to and state collar number or full name to ensure your call is directed correctly. Alternatively, **CRIMESTOPPERS** can be contacted anonymously on 0800 555 111

In an emergency always dial 999

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