



Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other



**Caravan and recreational
vehicle security
home and away**

Security when Away



Securing your caravan/recreational vehicle

Don't reverse into your space. Instead put the hitch away from the standard access which means that a criminal would have to turn your car and van (or motorhome) around to escape – and that takes longer.

Lock all windows and doors when you leave your caravan or recreational vehicle even if it is parked on your own property or you will only be away for a short time.

At night, park your caravan or recreational vehicle in a well-lit and secure area, if possible.

Don't hide a spare set of car keys anywhere in or around your car, caravan or RV.

Don't leave the engine of your recreational vehicle running if it is unattended.

Consider using additional security such as a wheel clamp, hitch security device, alarm, steering lock, engine immobiliser or tracking device.

Securing your personal property

Remove temptation.

Never leave valuables visible in your caravan or recreational vehicle when you leave it. Remove them or put them away in a drawer, cupboard or security box. Get a safe. If you are travelling with any valuables, consider bringing along a small safe.

Close the curtains so that the interior of the caravan is not readily visible.

Install a light which switches on automatically when it gets dark to make the caravan look occupied. You may even install some external sensor lights for when you are caravanning out in the bush or away from a caravan park.

Mark your property with your personal identification number as a deterrent to thieves. Your property should be marked with your Driver Licence number prefixed with a "V" - for Victoria. You can mark your property with an engraver. Use an Ultra Violet pen on delicate objects.

Property that cannot be marked should be photographed eg, jewellery, antiques etc. Place a ruler beside the item when photographing to give an idea of its size. Record details of the serial numbers, make and model of all items of value. Secure the list with your valuable documents.

When on the road

Pilot lights are the small gas flames that light larger ones in ovens and fridges in vehicles such as campervans, caravans, food vans and boats. The law states that all pilot lights must be extinguished before entering a service station.

When getting fuel, lock your car or motorhome when you go to pay.

If you need a quick power nap, park in a well lit location – such as a shopping centre car park or outside a police station – and make sure your vehicle is locked.

Neighborhood Watch

When caravanning with others, talk to your neighbours and arrange to keep an eye on each other's vans.

If you see something suspicious, ring the Police on Triple Zero (000) immediately.



Security when Home



Securely storing your caravan/recreational vehicle

Store your caravan when it is not in use in a securely fenced yard, locked building or commercial storage facility. Keep in mind that if you usually park your van on the front lawn or in your drive, when you go on holidays it will be very obvious that you are away. Lock all windows and doors when you leave your caravan or recreational vehicle even if it is parked on your own property. Don't hide a spare set of car keys anywhere in or around your car, caravan or RV. Consider using additional security such as a wheel clamp, hitch security device, alarm, steering lock, engine immobiliser or tracking device. If the van is regularly parked at your home, install sensor lights.

Securing your personal property

Never leave valuables visible in your caravan or recreational vehicle when you leave it. Remove them or put them away in a drawer, cupboard or security box. Close the curtains so that the interior of the caravan is not readily visible. Mark your property with your personal identification number as a deterrent to thieves. Your property should be marked with your Driver licence number prefixed with a "V" - for Victoria. You can mark your property with an engraver. Use an Ultra Violet pen on delicate objects. Property that cannot be marked should be photographed eg, jewellery, antiques etc. Place a ruler beside the item when photographing to give an idea of its size.

Record details of the serial numbers, make and model of all items of value. Secure the list with your valuable documents.

Neighborhood Watch

If you leave your caravan at home when you go away, tell your neighbours that you will be absent and that you haven't given anybody permission to use the van. If you are travelling with your van - which is usually parked at your home - ensure that your neighbours know that you are away and:

- Make it look like someone is home.
- Arrange a house-sitter or ask a trusted neighbour for help to bring the bin in and out and empty the letterbox.
- Lock all doors and windows.
- Improve the security of your home: Sensor lights, alarms

Secure valuables by keeping them in a safe place.

And ask your neighbour to ring the Police on Triple Zero (000) immediately if they see something suspicious.



This booklet has been made possible by a partnership between the Caravan Trade & Industries Association of Victoria, and Neighbourhood Watch Victoria.

The Caravan Trade & Industries Association of Victoria (CIA VIC) was formed in 1952 to foster the growth of caravaning holidays, the Association quickly became an integral body for like minded entrepreneurs who were manufacturing caravans.

Today, 90 per cent of all caravan manufacturing in Australia takes place in Victoria. Major component suppliers use Victoria as their base including chassis manufacturers, timber, aluminium and fibreglass suppliers. There are also a growing number of electronics and alternative power manufacturers.

Over 60 years since our inception, our Association now represents over 200 caravan & RV brands, hundreds of models and a large number of suppliers, retailers and service providers .

If you're looking for information on Victoria's caravan, camping and

motorhome retailers and manufacturers, be sure to visit our Members Directory at www.ciavic.com.au

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria commenced in 1983. 35 years later - as well as existing in the real world with active Neighbourhood Watch groups comprising thousands of volunteers in all areas of Victoria getting together regularly to inform and engage their local community - we also have over 70,000 followers on social media.

Neighbourhood Watch is a community based crime prevention program which aims to improve the quality of life within a neighbourhood by minimising preventable crime and promoting closer community ties through education and our partnership with VicPol.

Join us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nhw.vic and visit www.nhw.com.au to get involved.



Join a Neighbourhood Watch Local group now!

Visit www.nhw.com.au

**For more hints and tips to prevent crime
when home or away, visit www.nhw.com.au**

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