

Rural Crime Alert For Farm Horse Watch – Oct/Nov 2019

This is an alert from Wiltshire Police offering an update on the latest incidents across the Wiltshire & Swindon affecting the rural community from 24/10/2019 - 12/11/2019. Below the latest incidents are 10 Principles of Crime Prevention that might help you check the security of your property and belongings, and avoid being targeted.

If you have can offer any information on the following incidents call **101**, [report online](#) or you can report through [Crimestoppers](#) on **0800 555 111**.

If you have something new to report you can:

- Report a non-emergency [online](#)
- Report a non-emergency by calling **101**
- In an emergency situation always call **999**.
- Report 100% anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** or report to [Crimestoppers online](#)

Replies to this message are not monitored 24/7 - please use the details given above to share information or report something new.

Latest Incidents

Lyneham, SN15 4

24/10/2019 13:00 - 17:00

Criminal Damage - Unknown suspect/s have gained access to a church yard by smashing down a chain-link fence which separated the grounds from a residential street. The door handle of a metal shed in the grounds was smashed off but no access gained. Suspect/s have then attempted to gain access to the church itself through the vestry door by smashing 2 stained glass windows in the process, no entry gained.

Salisbury, SP3 5

25/10/2019 21:00 - 26/10/2019 08:00

Theft - Caddy aluminium 640 trailer worth approx. £280 stolen overnight.

Mildenhall, SN8 2

26/10/2019 00:01- 31/10/2019 14:40

4 burglaries at same location

1)Unknown Suspect has broken into IP's unit on the farm and stolen metal that was stored in the unit.

2)Suspect/s via unknown means have smashed the padlock of a stable unit. They have gained access to the tack room but no items have been taken.

3)Hinges have been cut off of the doors to the lock-up where work equipment stored. Suspects have pulled the very heavy doors open enough for a person to enter and stolen the following items valued at well over £1000 in total: Makita Impact Screwdriver, Makita combination Screwdriver/Drill, Makita Reciprocating Saw, Makita 4" Angle Grinder, 6 batteries for the above tools, a Stihl Chainsaw and a socket set - brand unknown.

4)Suspect/s have reversed into IPs lock up forcing the roller doors off, nothing appears to be missing from inside.

Rowde, SN10 2

26/10/2019 16:00 - 27/10/2019 16:00

Theft - Unknown suspect/s have entered the farm yard and force open a combination lock securing a white diesel tank. Suspect/s have then taken an estimated 300 litres of fuel from the tank, valued estimated at £350.

Stratford Road, Salisbury, SP1 3

27/10/2019 16:30 - 27/10/2019 16:30

Criminal Damage - Unknown person has been witnessed leaving the church yard on a moped. When checking the premises and area, the boiler house door shows signs that the suspect has attempted to gain entry.

Corton, BA12 0

28/10/2019 20:00 - 29/10/2019 04:45

Burglary - Unknown suspect/s have forced entry into a farm workshop and stolen tools, including welders, chainsaws and a mobile generator. Total value of goods stolen approx. £2000. Entry was gained by placing a chain around the padlock on the door to the workshop, suspect/s have then pulled the chain with a vehicle, which has pulled the door and door frame away from the building.

Zeals, BA12 6

28/10/2019 20:00 - 29/10/2019 08:00

Burglary - Unknown suspect/s have used an unknown item to jimmy the corner of a metal container and stolen a few items from inside, they have also moved a tractor from within a barn to the front gate of the farm.

Ogbourne St George, SN8 1

29/10/2019 06:30 - 30/10/2019 05:20

Vehicle Offences - Unknown suspect has lifted yard gates from their hinges in order to enter a farm yard and then stolen the RP's locked Horse Lorry, a White Fiat with Red Stripes.

Burbage, SN8 3

30/10/2019 16:45

Suspicious Circumstances - 2 males in an old Silver Mercedes Estate with Lurcher dogs in the back, suspected to be hare coursing/poaching, were seen on farmland and asked to leave.

Axford, SN8 2

30/10/2019 01:05

Burglary - Unknown suspect/s have broken into a garage by unknown means and stolen some garden machinery : 1 Stihl Hedge Trimmer and a Leaf Blower TVO £1000

Farleigh Wick, BA15 2

30/10/2019 12:00 - 31/10/2019 11:00

Theft - Unknown suspects/s have gone onto private land and stolen an IFOR WILLIAMS flatbed trailer, which also contained some building materials & a company sign. The suspect/s have carried out the theft overnight and by unknown means.

Poulshot, SN10 1

02/11/2019 11:50 - 02/11/2019 12:00

Theft - Someone has driven to the location, exited their vehicle and looked around the yard then quickly left at speed. Reporting person has heard the car speeding off and noticed that a chainsaw was taken from their yard.

Chippenham, SN15 3

02/11/2019 16:00 - 03/11/2019 12:30

Safety/Welfare - An unknown animal, reporting person believes a dog, has come onto the farmland and scared 4 sheep into the river where they have sadly drowned. 4 other sheep have survived and have bit marks around their legs and other small wounds.

West Ashton, BA14 6

03/11/2019 16:25

Rural Crime - 3 males and 4 Lurcher dogs seen to be hare coursing in fields using a silver/grey Citroen.

Axford, SN8 2

04/11/2019 01:00 - 04/11/2019 07:30

Burglary - Unknown suspects have used gas to break the locks on a shipping container and have stolen a Quad Bike worth £600 and an Lfor Williams Trailer.

Upper South Wraxhall, BA15 2
30/10/2019 08:00 - 01/11/2019 09:59

Burglary - Unknown suspect/s have gained access to an insecure shipping container on a farm and taken 2 STIHL CHAINSAWS TVO £650 and a STIHL Strimmer value £250 and made off.

Marlborough, SN8 4
04/11/2019 16:00

Rural Crime - A person known to the reporting person seen to have allowed their dog to run without a lead off of a footpath into a fenced off area, where the dog has been worrying livestock.

Everleigh
06/11/2019 09:35

Rural Crime - Two vehicles spotted on farmland with dogs hare coursing.

Westbury
03/11/2019 17:00 - 08/11/2019 07:30

Criminal Damage - Unknown suspect has put an unknown silver substance into the padlock on the gate to her field, causing damage to the lock and preventing her from opening the gate to let her horses out.

Ramsbury, SN8 2
09/11/2019 21:09

Theft - Unknown suspect/s have stolen trailer and scaffolding tower.

Upavon, SN9 6
08/11/2019 17:30 - 09/11/2019 09:00

Burglary - Unknown suspect has broken into secure/padlocked farm barn, padlock removed by unknown means as was missing, and stolen a white and orange KTM XFS 250 off-road motorbike - chunk of plastic missing from the mudguard and back tyre was quite bald and due to be replaced.

Beanacre, SN12 7
10/11/2019 16:00 - 11/11/2019 14:15

Theft - Unknown suspect/s have stolen a galvanised silver Lfor williams trailer, the owners number plate has been ripped off the trailer.

Marlborough, SN8 3
09/11/2019

Suspicious Circumstances - Wheel marks discovered all over crops and grasslands where birds are usually active, concerns area being used for hare coursing.

10 Principles of Crime Prevention

Look at your home, place of work or business from the perspective of an offender - where are the weak spots they could gain access? Are there areas they would be fully concealed and hidden once darkness falls? The following principles can help you reduce the opportunity for crime to occur at your premises and can act as a check-list to see what steps you could take for your own circumstances. You do not have to use all of the principles, just one suggestion may help you or a combination of several.

1. Target Hardening: Make your property harder for an offender to access.

- Upgrade locks on your doors, windows, sheds and outbuildings. Look for British Standard locks and chains.
- Fit sash jammers to vulnerable doors and windows.

- Use secure passwords to prevent criminals hacking your online accounts. Try to use a mix of letters, numbers and special characters to create a strong password.

2. Remove the target: Ensure that a potential target is out of view.

- Don't leave items on clear view through any windows.
- Keep high value items locked away - consider ground anchors to secure potentially moveable items (machinery, trailers).
- Be cautious about what you post online, as it may be used to identify or locate you offline.

3. Remove the means: Remove items that may help a criminal commit an offence.

- Clear away any tools and ladders and clearing up any rubble/bricks.
- Keep wheelie bins out of reach, as they may be a climbing aid or help transport items to a waiting vehicle.
- Dispose of quickly, or conceal, any old metal/old batteries promptly to avoid opportunistic criminals, attracted in by loose items.

4. Reduce Payoff: Reduce the profit the criminal can make from the offence.

- Security mark your property - this can be done as easily as writing postcode in permanent marker on items, to purchasing specialist marking liquids.
- Mark your property in such a way that others will not want to buy from the thief
- Make checks to feel confident you're not purchasing anything you believe or suspect to be stolen.

5. Access Control: Look at measures that will control access to a location, a person or object.

- Lock your doors and windows to your premises, gates outbuildings and vehicles and know who has access to keys and lock codes; change codes at work premises when staff leave.
- Ensuring that fencing, hedges, walls and other boundary treatments are in a good state of repair.
- Consider security systems at a commercial site (Entry Barriers, Security Guards, ID cards).

6. Surveillance: Improve surveillance around homes, businesses or public places to deter criminals.

- Remove high hedges that could allow a criminal to access easily or undetected.
- Consider adding CCTV to a commercial site or public place.
- Install dusk to dawn security lighting, to remove any concealed or hidden areas and act as a deterrent.

7. Environmental Change: Ensure your property and wider community looks cared for.

- Ensure that graffiti and domestic/commercial waste is cleared up.
- Reporting issues with fly-tipping or broken street lights to the relevant authority.
- Working with a local authority to close a footpath if there are persistent issues.

8. Rule Setting: Change habits by setting rules and positioning signage in appropriate locations.

- Introduce a rule that the last person entering / leaving should lock the door and remove keys.
- Inform visitors to commercial sites that they must report to a reception/designated waiting area.
- Restrict visitors to certain times of the day, by prior arrangement, and consider putting signage stating that so that anyone spotted outside of these times can be assumed to be there without permission.

9. Increase the Chances of Being Caught: Increase the likelihood that an offender will be caught to prevent crime occurring.

- Make use of security lighting and that everything is checked to be in working order regularly.
- Use good quality CCTV and/or alarm systems, especially on commercial sites and easily accessible places.
- Upgrade security to delay an offender, meaning they have to spend more time attempting to gain access.

10. Deter Offenders: Deter an offender or deflect their intention.

- Use timer switches to make homes look occupied if vacant after the hours of darkness.
- Shop fronts often use life-sized cardboard cut-out police officers as a deterrent; mannequins in outbuildings can also act as a deterrent and look like someone is there already.
- Work with local police to report any repeat suspicious circumstances or people at every occasion.

Principles adapted from [West Yorkshire Police](#)