



QUAD / ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATVS)

Quad Bikes and All-Terrain Vehicles are a major target for thieves, especially in rural areas. Security measures for the vehicle and target hardening in the areas that they are used and stored is important to reduce the possibility of your quad/ATV being stolen.

- Take a photograph of your quad/ATV at all angles, including any areas that would assist identification such as adaptations to the vehicle, marks, scratches, any damage etc., videos taken of the machine at close range are useful too.
- Ensure you have a record of the make and model plus all vehicle numbers such as VIN and chassis numbers etc. On the Warwickshire Rural Watch website there is a record form that you may wish to use www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk.
- Fit a tracker, possibly consider two independent trackers so if the offenders find one and remove it there is still a second device that could help locate the stolen vehicle. There are many devices available, hard wired, independent battery trackers and those linked to specific mobile phone systems such as air tags. These systems can advise if a vehicle is being tampered with, be ring fenced so that if they go out of a certain area will it alert the owner and also track the quad/ATV notifying its location. These vehicles once stolen can be taken quickly to anywhere in the UK or abroad so being aware of the theft and where the vehicle is located is vital information.
- Wherever possible, whether stored or in use, try to keep the quad/ATV out of sight, especially when parked and not being used. Thieves will often watch locations where items are that they are interested in and note where they are taken back to for targeting at another time. This is particularly relevant if working in a public area, near to a road or by a public right of way.
- Consider the use of wheel locks, immobilisers, steering locks and clamps.
- Security mark your vehicle to assist identification, this acts as a deterrent and also provides additional information on identification if stolen. There are a number of ways to mark your quad/ATV, including visual marking and/or invisible marking using a forensic solution. The CESAR System is the National security marking system of the Construction Equipment Association and Agricultural Engineers Association. Ensure that you use visible warning labels on your vehicle and signs around your property warning that security marking is used. As well as the companies providing the security marking, signs are available on the Warwickshire Rural Watch Scheme, for further details email ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk.



- Consider registering your vehicle details with the DVLA for Off Road Vehicles (details on our website) and asset organisations such as TER, The Equipment Register.
- Wherever possible store your quad/ATV in a secure building which is kept locked at all times. A secure cage within the building provides additional security for the quad/ATV or park other vehicles or place obstructions around it to make it more difficult to remove.
- Fogging systems are available for buildings which will cloak the area in seconds if activated making it difficult to see.
- If there is no power to the building there are systems that operates from batteries, solar power and GSM.
- Alarm the building and if possible have CCTV in the building and outside which alerts you if triggered. If you have to keep your quad/ATV outside, store away from view, especially from the road or public rights of way. Have a specific area for storing valuable items such as your quad/ATV and other vehicles and equipment that you own then target harden that area with an alarm and cameras.
- Secure a chain to the chassis of the quad/ATV and attach to a strong anchor point in the building/yard, whether that is in the floor or wall.
- Restrict access to the farmyard and outbuildings, keeping gates and doors shut and locked, with entrances and gate places sealed off if no longer in use.
- Lighting is a good deterrent, especially around farms and large areas. Consider security lights controlled by an automatic timer or infra-red beams that react to heat or movement.
- Report any suspicious activity to the police by reporting online at www.warwickshire.police.uk or calling 101; if a crime is in progress or in an emergency always dial 999.
- Join the Warwickshire Rural Watch Scheme to receive alerts and information, plus visit the website www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk for further advice on crime prevention and details on the Rural Crime Team, plus lots more.