



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

PREVENTING
CRIME

SCRAP METAL THEFT

Scrap metal theft is appealing to thieves because of the high market value of semi-precious metals.

Building sites, occupied and unoccupied properties have items containing metals such as copper, aluminium, brass, bronze, cast iron and steel that can be a target for theft. Common items stolen include:

- copper piping
- electrical cable and wiring
- bathroom fittings (e.g. taps)
- kitchen appliances
- water meters
- hot water systems
- air conditioning units
- steel fencing, guttering and roof sheeting.

To reduce your chances of becoming a victim of scrap metal theft, please consider the following crime prevention security tips:

- Key lock doors and windows.
- Install security lighting, fences and lock gates.
- Aim to have goods delivered and installed on the same day.
- Consider marking building materials (including copper piping) with microdot technology or spray paint to make them less attractive to thieves.
- Arrange for materials to be stored securely and out of general view.
- Use anti-theft brackets on fixtures such as hot water systems.
- Keep building sites tidy. Do not leave scrap metal on site.
- Consider using CCTV, covert patrols or private security.
- Contact neighbouring properties (including businesses) and encourage occupants to report suspicious behaviour.
- Be aware of people loitering or removing materials from properties.
- Be alert to vehicles near building sites or unoccupied properties that have obscured or missing number plates.
- Report all suspicious behaviour to the police assistance line on 131 444.

For more crime prevention tips, please contact your local police station or visit www.police.sa.gov.au

South Australia Police (SAPOL) is committed to working in partnership with the community to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime to ensure that South Australia is a safe place to live, visit and do business.

BUSINESS SECURITY

