

# Fact Sheet

## Living in Rural Areas or Near Open Space (Parks)

While being surrounded by nature can be peaceful, there are a number of unique safety precautions residents living in rural areas or near open spaces should be aware of.

### Get to know your neighbours

Saying hello to your neighbour helps to promote a strong and cohesive community. Neighbours who know each other are more likely to help one other out if there is an emergency. There are many ways that you can get to know your neighbours and increase community connectedness in your local area, such as:

- Joining or getting to know your local Neighbourhood Watch group.
- Initiating small events, such as a community barbeque in a local park and doing a letterbox drop to invite all your neighbours along.
- Participating in a community project, such as Neighbour Day to celebrate your neighbourhood.

### Social media

Setting up a community Facebook page may create another opportunity to connect with your neighbours. A closed community Facebook page is easy to set-up and creates a safe place for you and your neighbours to discuss neighbourhood matters and support and

provide positive encouragement to one another.

This page could also be used to promote upcoming activities in the neighbourhood as well as alerting the community to approaching storms, any observed suspicious behaviour or missing pets.

### Neighbourhood watch

Neighbourhood Watch Queensland encourages communities to work together to improve the safety of their families and other people, who live, visit and do business in their neighbourhood. It also encourages interaction and a shared sense of responsibility between individuals, neighbours and communities for preventing and reducing crime.

If you would like more information about your local Neighbourhood Watch Group, please contact [dcpc.logan@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:dcpc.logan@police.qld.gov.au) or visit the Neighbourhood Watch Queensland website: [nhwq.org](http://nhwq.org)

### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Parks

Like most places work worldwide, crime and the fear of crime have a significant impact within the community, this is much the same for the City of Logan.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behaviour through environmental design. CPTED strategies rely upon the ability to influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts by affecting the built, social and administrative environment.

To request a CPTED audit of a local park in the City of Logan, contact Council's Community Safety Program - telephone 3412 3412 or email [safecity@logan.qld.gov.au](mailto:safecity@logan.qld.gov.au)



## Secure your property

### Your home

If your property backs onto open space (parks or bushland) consider the following:

- Ensure the boundary between your property and public area is obvious by having garden edging or fencing to make the boundary clear.
- Keep gates to your property locked.
- Install sensor lighting to create the illusion that someone is home.

- Use CCTV cameras to monitor your property and deter trespassers.

### Vehicles, machinery and tools

Where possible, store farm machinery in a secure shed or enclosure.

Alternatively, store it behind a secure fence on your property, where it can be easily observed from your residence.

Secure equipment with heavy chains and quality locks. Either chain and lock pieces of equipment together or to other stationary, secure objects.

- Always lock vehicles and machinery.
- Always secure keys to vehicles and machinery.
- Always take your valuables with you or store them out of sight and securely, including items that may be in your vehicle tray.
- Always lock your tray toolboxes and/or box trailers when leaving your vehicle unattended for any length of time.
- Always secure motorbikes in a garage or shed. If you have to store them outside, consider removing one of the wheels or locking the bike up with a heavy chain and padlock to deter opportunistic thieves.

### Livestock

- Keep all paddocks, shed and stockyard gates closed and locked.
- Use removable bollards to obstruct large openings to yards.
- If possible, locate stockyards/loading ramps away from a public road or any entrance to your property.

- Ensure loading ramps are stored securely when not in use.

### **Firearm safety**

Safeguard your firearms - a person who possesses a firearm must take all reasonable precautions to ensure:

- They are securely stored - by complying with the safe storage requirements prescribed by the Queensland firearms legislation.
- That they are not stolen or lost - by locating the safe out of sight and ensuring that the keys are kept in a safe place and not accessible to unlicensed persons.
- That they do not come into the possession of a person who is not authorised to possess the firearm.

For more information visit:

[police.qld.gov.au/units/weapons-licensing](http://police.qld.gov.au/units/weapons-licensing)

Telephone: 3015 7777

### **Useful safety contacts**

Policelink: 131 444

Emergencies (Triple zero): 000

Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000

Hoon hotline: 134 666

Sick or Injured Wildlife: 1300 264 625

### **More Information:**

3412 3412

[council@logan.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@logan.qld.gov.au)

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