

# FOUR SIMPLE STEPS TO PREVENT LAWN EQUIPMENT THEFT

Warmer weather typically means an increase in lawn equipment larceny. The City of Falls Church Police Department has some tips for reducing the likelihood of lawn equipment theft.

## 1 PUT IT AWAY

Don't leave lawn equipment unattended in your yard, even for a few minutes. It only takes a few seconds for a thief to exit a passing vehicle and steal your equipment. Store your tools in a lockable shed, garage, or storage unit.



## 2 LOCK IT UP 2

If you can't put your equipment away indoors, or if you're stepping away from your equipment for a few moments, lock your equipment using chains and padlocks around a post or permanent structure. Pro tip: use a basic bike lock!

## 3 PERSONALIZE IT

Make your equipment stand out. Stickers, decals, unique paint colors, and other permanent markings can make your equipment easy to track, and also make it hard for a thief to resell.



## 4 DOCUMENT EVERYTHING 4

Keep an external record of equipment serial numbers. Photograph your equipment. Keep purchase receipts. Anything that can help you reclaim any stolen items.

