



THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Crime Alert

Over recent months Thames Valley Police has seen an increase in domestic heating oil thefts and would like to offer consumers the following advice:

- Position your oil tank to allow minimum view from your property – this may discourage passing thieves.
- Use control switches to stop the flow of oil when the tank is not in use.
- Use good quality padlocks, close shackle are often best, to secure your tank.
- Buy an oil level gauge which will sound an alarm if the oil level in your tank suddenly drops or falls below a quarter full.
- Use security lights to make the property a less attractive target for thieves.
- Defensive planting helps reduce crime – thieves don't want to force their way through or over a prickly hedge.
- Additional security; a wooden or metal fence, trellis or wall can all offer additional protection, although the tank must be accessible for the oil tanker driver.

If anyone is seen acting suspiciously around your property or those with heating oil tanks please call Thames Valley Police on 999 or via the NEW non emergency number 101.

Alternatively, you can contact your local Neighborhood Team via the Thames Valley Police Website www.thamesvalley.police.uk