

## Where Do I Find An Engraver?

Shawano P.D. will loan you an electric engraver that is easy and safe to operate for marking your valuables.

### Here are some helpful tips:

Before marking valuables, get the “feel” of the engraver by writing your name a few times on a piece of scrap material. Hold the engraver as you would a pencil, with your fingertips touching the plastic above the point. There is no need to press down on the engraver. Just move your hand slowly and evenly, allowing the vibrating point to do the work.

When engraving on glass, ceramic and wood, hold the point vertical to the material to prevent chipping and splintering.

### REMEMBER - BE CONSIDERATE:

There are only a limited number of these engravers, please return it as soon as you are finished marking items. If you're lending agency has a loan agreement time, return the engraver within that time frame, or check to see if it is okay to keep it for an extended time period before doing so.

**TAKE THE OFFENSIVE:** A burglary occurs every 12 minutes! A theft occurs every 7 minutes! Operation Identification is one basic step you can take to prevent larcenies. Good lighting, good locks, and other security measures can be taken to prevent crime in your community. For further information, contact the Shawano police department.



Shawano Police  
125 S. Sawyer Street  
Shawano, WI 54166  
715.524.4545



## Shawano Police Department

# Operation Identification (I.D.)



## HELPING YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST CRIME



## ***WHAT IS OPERATION ID?***

Operation ID is a very important deterrent in the prevention of burglary and theft. Here's how it works.

Mark your valuables with one set of numbers:

1) The first four numbers of your driver's license, plus a unique number or series of letters that you keep for safe keeping.

Everyone is urged to participate. The program is designed to protect your business as well as your home, and help you recover your property in the event it is lost or stolen.

### ***How does the program prevent burglaries?***

Law enforcement officers know that the average burglar is an opportunist. In most cases, he doesn't care whether he breaks into your house or your neighbors'. He just wants to get in and out quickly and steal those items that can easily be sold for cash.

Burglars know that if they are caught with marked merchandise it's solid evidence against them. Fences don't like to handle marked items, so chances are better that the burglar will leave your home alone and head for easier choices.

## ***How do you join Operation ID?***

Contact the Shawano P.D. and we will loan you, free of charge, an electric engraving device.

Engrave your valuables with the letters "WI" followed by either your first four numbers of your driver's license or a unique number known to you. Each item should have a distinct and different number/letters engraved.

## **Working Together to Prevent Crime**



## ***Which items should you engrave?***

The best rule of thumb is: Mark anything of value that a burglar (or two) could remove from your premises. Use the checklist as a starting guideline.

- ✓ **Electronics**
- ✓ **Power Tools**
- ✓ **Computers**
- ✓ **Stereos/Radios**
- ✓ **Bicycles**

## ***Where items should be engraved?***

Part of Operation ID's objectives are to warn burglars away, so don't try to hide the fact that an item has been engraved. Mark items as conspicuously as possible without defacing them.

Obviously, some valuables such as jewelry, antiques and silverware cannot be marked without reducing their value. Photograph items in your residence and work areas for identification, using either a standard camera or your phone camera. Use of a digital recorder allows you to not only show a photo of the item but also record audio to describe the items. Although it does not guarantee police will be able to trace your items, it is just another tool you have in helping to identify your lost or stolen property.