

Cell Phone and GPS Security!

You may have a lot more personal information on your cell phone and GPS than you need! Look at what's there the way a thief would do!

Is your full name is anywhere on your cell phone?

From your listings, can anyone tell what relationships exist?

Do you list your wife Janice as "Wife" -- or just "Janice"?

Do you list your son Alfred as "Son" -- or just "Al"?

Are there any last names anywhere on your cell phone? Use first names and initials.

Minimize personal information!

Have no Saved Text Messages on your cell phone.

Put no addresses in your cell phone's Address Book, just phone numbers.

Put no calendar items in your cell phone's Calendar.

Have no tasks in your cell phone's Task program.

Put no pictures in your cell phone's Pictures program.

Now, about Text Messages: You can't HEAR who sends a text message!

If someone text messages you and asks for a PIN Number or other private information, don't text it back. Instead, phone them and hear who answers. If the person answering is who you think it should be, verbally give them the information.

If a friend text messages you about meeting somewhere, phone back and hear who answers. If it's your friend, verbally ask about the meeting place and make arrangements. If you can't reach him, text him back, and ask them to phone you. Use care in going to meetings set up by text messages! Make sure your teenagers understand this!

All right, let's talk about GPS.

Your GPS unit probably has a "Home" function, where you put your home address. Don't do it! If your GPS is stolen, thieves can go right to your home - because you gave them your address AND guided them there!

Your cell phone may also give away your location! If it has a GPS function, you can disable that by removing the battery.

If your cell phone was stolen or lost, you do not want any information on it that a thief could use to identify you, or to steal your identity!

Other Cell Phone Tips:

- For free phone directory information, dial 800-FREE411 or 1-800-373-3411.
- If your battery is very low, get hidden reserve power by pressing *3370#
- If you have no coverage in an emergency, press 112 to reach a nearby network.
- To disable a stolen phone, get its 15-digit serial number by pressing *#06# and tell it to your service provider. They will block ALL calls from your phone.