



Protect Your Air Conditioning Unit They want to Steal the Coil!



General Air Conditioning Theft Information

Air Conditioning Theft is occurring at an alarming rate. Thieves remove the coil (otherwise known as the core) from ground and roof Air Conditioning (A/C) Units. They target homes, businesses, schools and churches. They often take the A/C coils from vacant homes and businesses. Businesses are also susceptible when they are closed. Schools and Churches are vulnerable when they are out of session. The lack of identification marks on the coils makes it difficult to identify victims and successfully apprehend/ prosecute criminals.

The coils are made of copper and aluminum. The thieves take the stolen A/C coils to metal recyclers. The recyclers pay an average of \$60 per household coil and \$200 per commercial coil.

A new coil cannot be used to repair the damaged unit. The entire A/C unit must be replaced. Home owners pay an average of \$2,000 (or an average of \$500 to \$1,000 insurance deductible) to get the A/C unit replaced. However, it can cost as much as \$8,000. Since businesses and churches often have large A/C units, the replacement cost can be in the tens of thousands. Since schools have multiple large units, the cost can be in the hundreds of thousands.

Tips on How to Prevent your A/C Coil from getting Stolen:

Security Screws

Replace your existing A/C cover screws with Security Screws. It is a simple and inexpensive way to protect the A/C Coil. The cost is often under \$20 for ground units and under \$50 for roof top units). We recommend everyone do it.



Alarm

If you have an existing building alarm, you can add an A/C alarm now. Any loss in pressure in the A/C lines or power and the A/C alarm will trip your building alarm. There is only a one time installation fee to get the A/C alarm.



Cage

An A/C unit cage can be a viable option. It will provide some protect to the unit. The cost will vary greatly depending on if you need to re-pour your concrete pad or not.



GPS

The #1 way to protect your A/C coil is to get a GPS/Motion Detector. It is the most expensive option because there is an annual fee. But for locations that are at high risk and have expensive units, the cost is well worth it.



Other ways to help prevent A/C theft (and any theft for that matter) is to install motion detector lights or continuous lights on the corners, sides, and back of your house (especially where the A/C is). Look for suspicious people and vehicles in your neighborhood. If you see a suspicious person enter a side or backyard, they may be attempting to steal the A/C coil. If the crime is in progress, call 911. If the crime is not in progress, call our SPD non-emergency number 264-5471 with the information.

Please share this information your friends, neighbors, and co-workers so they can be aware too!