

# Some Basic uses of tracking for Law Enforcement

Crime Scene Investigations

Extending Crime Scenes

Elimination of other people's presence

Determine / Eliminate Suspects on the scene

Finding evidence away from the scene

Determining egress and ingress locations

Perimeter security

Intelligence gathering

Search and Rescue

Recovering armed and dangerous fugitives in remote areas

Tracking compliments and enhances a canine handler's mission.

We can all be taught to track to some extent. To become a "Tracker" takes time and commitment the same as any other specialized skill.

To acquire a working knowledge of tracking, foot impression evidence and its value may be accomplished in a much shorter time. This would allow the patrol officer, investigator and agency decision makers to properly asses the situation and potential value of the tracking evidence present by learning how to find, properly document and preserve it.

Most tracks can be assessed at the scene by a trained officer and used to determine or eliminate suspects, unlike DNA and fingerprints that has to be sent to the lab.

This basic knowledge of tracking and foot impression

evidence aids in prompting confessions, convictions and enhances Officer Safety.

The scientific art of tracking took a back seat to the age of technology due to the lack of proper articulation and the false belief that it was an inherited skill. It has been referred to as "the missed evidence" in crime scene investigations. Simply because it has not been taught and its value has not been promoted.

The use of foot impression evidence, tracking and track interpretation is just as relevant as any other forensic evidence.

We all watch the news on TV and read the paper to update ourselves on current events but how many read the ground, the oldest document in print that is constantly being updated with the most recent news?



**Like all other sciences and  
specialized skills, the  
preservation and  
interpretation of tracking  
evidence starts with  
training or its value will be  
considered insignificant,  
overlooked and  
destroyed!!!!**