

**Complete this Security Checklist to see if your work site is optimally secured:**

- A site security plan is in place.
- Residential and business neighbors have been asked to assist with crime prevention efforts.
- The entire site perimeter is fenced.
- Perimeter fencing is 8' tall and free from obstructions.
- Fence posts are set in concrete.
- There is only one entrance/exit to the site.
- The site entrance and perimeter is monitored by security personnel.
- There is video surveillance in critical areas of the job site.
- Special consideration has been given to securing areas that contain explosives, poisons or hazardous materials.
- Company equipment and tools are clearly marked with identifying characteristics.
- All company equipment has been inventoried.
- Company vehicles and equipment are locked and disabled overnight and on the weekends.
- There is sufficient lighting to illuminate critical areas of the site, including office trailers and storage facilities.
- Light power sources are well protected.
- Employee parking is located outside of the job site.
- Employees understand company policies regarding criminal activity and have been asked to assist with crime prevention efforts.

**To Report  
Crime or Suspicious Activity,  
Please Call:**

**Emergency: 9-1-1**

**Non-emergency: (530) 749-7777**



STEVEN L. DURFOR  
SHERIFF-CORONER  
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT  
215 5TH STREET  
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901  
(530) 749-7777  
[HTTP://SHERIFF.CO.YUBA.CA.US](http://SHERIFF.CO.YUBA.CA.US)

# Construction Site Security



## How to Keep Your Site and Materials Safe

# 8 Tips to Help Prevent Theft at Your Construction Site

## Why Construction Sites?

- Unprotected Materials - Construction sites are often targeted in early phases because much of the material is left unprotected.
- Unattended Work Sites - For the most part, construction sites are completely unattended during the night, leaving thieves hours to find ways to steal materials and be long gone before anyone knows what has happened.
- Lighting - If lighting is insufficient, a thief can work as long as they need and not be detected by vehicles driving by, or even by security guards in other areas of the site.
- Lack of Surveillance - whether natural or video, a lack of surveillance gives thieves a feeling of security within your site.
- Inefficient Inventory and Access Tracking - Construction sites generally have a lot of different machines and materials and without proper inventory and tracking of who has access to them, it can take a while to notice them missing.



## What is being stolen?

Metals are being targeted from Construction sites, specifically copper and aluminum.

- Copper can be found in a variety of objects such as air-conditioners, wiring and tubing to name a few. Air-conditioners contain a condenser that can be removed and salvaged. Wiring is usually stripped to show bare copper or is brought into scrap yards as is. Tubing is usually taken or cut off of air-conditioning units or from plumbing.
- Aluminum is another popular metal that is stolen. Aluminum does not have the same value of copper, but it is still recyclable and many times is mixed with copper or other metals.

Anything and everything that is left unattended, unlocked or easily accessible can be taken, so make sure you secure everything if you must leave unattended items at your work site.



## 1 Secure Your Perimeter

- Proper fencing around your perimeter is the first line of defense against criminals. Fencing should be at least 8' height, set in concrete and secured with a hardened steel chain and lock. Chain link fencing is preferred because it allows for natural surveillance of your site. If possible, the entire site should be fenced; if this is not possible, make sure the construction trailer and any equipment storage areas are protected.
- Consider the use of video cameras at critical and isolated areas of the job site.

## 2 Properly Identify Construction Equipment

Record every number seen on the machine, if found on a plate or stamped into the machine - note the location where each was found. Raised numbers cast onto metal are usually part numbers, they won't ID a machine.



- Product Identification Number (PIN) or Serial Number (SN) - Both terms are used, so record as main machine number.
- Manufacturers are not uniform or consistent in their numbering systems, often abbreviate SN information, and use various combinations of alpha and numeric characters. Record all of the numbers you see and their location.
- Prominently display your company logo and contact information on all equipment. Make your equipment easily identifiable and unique. This can help in recovering any stolen pieces.

## 3 Secure all Construction Equipment and Material

- Do not leave keys in portable machines/equipment.
- Install Ignition locks on all motorized equipment.
- Secure all material in an enclosed space.
- Lock all gates, fences, doors and storage areas.
- Use Anchoring and Immobilization devices to secure equipment in place.

## 4 Lock It Up

- Provide storage sheds or fenced areas for the secure storage of equipment and materials. Special consideration needs to be given to any area that houses hazardous materials, explosives, solvents or poisons.
- Keep construction vehicles locked and their keys secured (not in the vehicle) when not in use.
- Gas and oil caps should be locked and machinery should be disabled with a hidden ignition cutoff switch.

## 5 Light It Up

- A properly lighted job site can act as an effective deterrent to criminal activity. Well-lit areas should include any office trailers, equipment storage trailers and vehicle parking areas.
- Motion sensitive lighting should be used throughout the job site, especially in isolated areas away from public view.

## 6 Control Site Access

- Ideally your job site should have only one access point, allowing for close monitoring of comings and goings from the site.
- Employee parking areas should be outside the construction fence or in a clearly designated area within the fence line; workers should be easily identified and have credentials that indicate site access.
- Know who works on your job sites. This way you can recognize who DOESN'T work there, but also monitor the legitimate employees.
- "No Trespassing" signs should be posted in conspicuous areas throughout the job site and a list of employees who have after hour access to the property should be available to the police.



## 7 Get Help

- Ask neighbors - Whether building in a residential community or a commercial development, it is important to solicit help from nearby residents or businesses. Share your building schedule with them and ask them to notify you and the police if they observe anything suspicious on your property.
- Ask employees - Unfortunately employees or subcontractors are responsible for some of the crime that occurs at construction sites. Encourage employees to report criminal behavior or suspicious activities. Have clearly stated policies regarding the prosecution on individuals who commit crimes and immediately report any criminal activity to the police.

## 8 Report and Prosecute EVERY TIME:

- Report every theft to law enforcement immediately, no matter how small.
- Prosecute thieves, especially former employees, otherwise they may still have a clean record and will possibly victimize another contractor.

