

Prevent fuel theft

**Theft of fuel is a concern for
police and the community.**

Fuel is being stolen from vehicles and storage tanks by the use of siphoning equipment that can vary from the basic tube to more sophisticated arrangements involving pumps.



Top tips for vehicles outside homes and on the street

- Secure vehicles in a garage where possible and alarm garages.
- Consider the use of locking fuel caps if you don't have one.
- Re-fuel vehicles just before the planned journey rather than leaving a vehicle fully fuelled from the night before.
- Park vehicles in areas that are well lit so they can be observed easily.
- When parking, block vehicles in to prevent vehicles being lifted to gain access to petrol tanks.
- Install a driveway alarm to notify occupants of movement near parked vehicles.
- Fit an anti-siphoning device (some link with an alarm when levels drop quickly).
- Improve and focus lighting on vulnerable areas.
- Consider forming a Neighbourhood Watch in your area and sign up to Police Community Messaging System to receive information about localised problems.
- Talk to your local Neighbourhood Policing staff.
How can they help if you don't tell them about your concerns?

Your local Crime Prevention Officers (CPO) are briefed and continue to provide support, advice and responses to the problem of fuel theft at a localised level.

Top tips for bulk storage tanks (diesel fuel)

- Place new tanks as close to occupied property as is safe or underground. Check OFTEC oil tank regulations.
- Install cages and/or improve security that surrounds fuel storage tanks.
- Consider the use of 'bunded' fuel tanks if the existing storage facility is not of that type. A 'bunded' tank is contained within a surround that is capable of holding 110% of the storage capacity of the tank.
- Install a driveway alarm or wireless gateway alarm to notify occupants of movement near parked vehicles.
- Install fuel cap alarms - wireless transmitters can be placed inside the screw cap of the fuel tank. A magnetic switch on the device sets off an alarm if the cap is opened or tampered with. More advanced systems can be linked to security lighting or send a text message to the farmer, landowner, householder or their security provider. An isolation switch allows authorised access to the tank for refuelling.
- Fit anti-siphoning devices.
- Remove portable storage from site (barrels & drums etc).
- If you become a repeat victim, discuss with your local crime prevention officer, the use of fuel dyes and DNA unique products such as DNA grease (please note there are Customs and forensic issues and this should not be done without advice).
- Install or confirm existing CCTV is fit for purpose.



General enquiries 08452 777444

- To report a crime
- For information and advice

Emergency 999 (*Listen carefully to the operator who will connect you to the police*)

- If life is threatened
- If people are injured
- If offenders are nearby
- If immediate action is required

Minicom 01392 452935 Textphone for use by the hard of hearing and speech impaired

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

If you suspect it report it Confidential Anti-terrorist hotline **0800 789 321**

If English is not your first language and you contact us, we have immediate access to interpreters who can speak 150 languages.

General enquiry and emergency calls are recorded for public safety and monitoring purposes. Any information you provide may be used for police research purposes.

Devon and Cornwall
Community Watch Association



Building safer communities together

**DEVON & CORNWALL
CONSTABULARY**