

Bi-Weekly Safety Tool Box Talks
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Jobsite Security After Hours

No jobsite crime prevention program is 100% effective. But establishing and following a jobsite security plan can significantly reduce expensive and time-consuming losses caused by vandalism or theft. Keep up with the security plans for your jobsite and be sure to follow all the specific requirements to maintain the security of machinery, equipment, tools, and materials.

A jobsite with guards, fencing, adequate lighting, and controlled exits stands a better chance of remaining intact than those jobsites without them. Of course, the layout and location of a jobsite will determine the protective procedures and devices that can be put into place. But what is essential to jobsite security is the support of all construction workers in helping minimize break-ins, theft, and vandalism.

Lighting is often an effective deterrent for vandals, thieves, and wandering kids with nothing better to do. It also provides neighbors or security guards with a better view of items that might be targeted for theft or vandalism. You should store equipment and place tool trailers in areas that are well lit and visible from the street. Illuminating the jobsite can deter possible intruders.

Fencing serves as a physical barrier to prevent children or others from gaining access to the jobsite after hours. Be sure to close and lock all gates or access points at the end of the day. Never pile debris or materials near a fence where they might provide easy access for someone to climb in or out. Remove materials or tools that are small enough to be stolen from outside the fence.

Disabling heavy equipment at the end of each day can make it much harder for anyone to steal it or take it for a dangerous and destructive joyride. Remove the ignition key and lock the cab. Lock oil and fuel tank caps to prevent sabotage and siphoning. Drop blades, teeth, and buckets into the ground whenever possible. Depending on the location and the equipment, it may be advisable to remove spark plugs or batteries to ensure the equipment can't be started.

Securing tools, equipment, and materials when they are not in use is always a good idea. Store tools and small equipment in locked gang boxes or storage sheds. If your employer has a loan system in place, be sure to properly check out and turn in tools issued to you. Keep track of tools and equipment when you're using them on site. Theft of metals for profit is on the rise. Lock up or chain down wire, cable, aluminum door frames, and other valuable building materials. You might also want to keep records and inventory of your own tools (including serial numbers) so you can more easily report a loss.

Report any theft or vandalism to your supervisor as well as to the appropriate law enforcement agency immediately.

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SAFETY REMINDER
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Construction sites can be magnets for curious children. Take steps to "child-proof" and "teen-proof" the site and to limit access. Ensure that NO TRESPASSING and DANGER signs are visible.

Safety Manual Reference: *Appendix E Vehicle/Equipment Key Removal Policy*

I have read the above safety topic.

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____

Employee Signature: _____

"Return after reading and signing to the office with your time card"