

Rural Security



Fuel security

Fuel can be taken from both storage and machinery tanks. With the increasing price of fuel, these thefts are no longer just an inconvenience but a substantial financial loss. Report all theft and trespass to police. Every bit of information helps.

Lock it

If it can be locked, lock it! If not, consider installing anti-theft fuel caps on machinery and locks on pumps.

Monitor

Keep track of your fuel levels and deliveries. Only fill mobile tanks when in use.

Thoughtful fuel storage

Position within sight of the main residence. Install fencing. Consider cameras/security lighting.

Park smart

Park fuel trailers within sight of the residence and out of view from roads. Secure them if they must be left in paddocks overnight.

Go to our website for the full suite of Rural Security fact sheets, including *Preventing livestock theft*.

Need help?

Call **Triple Zero (000)** for police, fire, ambulance in an emergency.

Call **131 444** for non-urgent police attendance.

Report crime anonymously at crimestopperssa.com.au or by calling Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.

Need more information?

Turn this page over for more on this topic, or see how you can *protect what matters* by scanning the code or visiting www.police.sa.gov.au



Disclaimer: This publication contains only general guidelines and strategies for dealing with safety and security, and no guarantees or representations are made concerning their effectiveness. SA Police accept no responsibility for any injury or loss resulting from the application of these strategies.



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WHAT MATTERS**

Fuel security

Lock it

- If it can be locked, lock it! If it can't be locked, manage risks like isolated locations or easy access. If thinking about locking options, consider whether a \$20 lock is adequate to protect \$1,000 worth of fuel.
- Tanks, vehicles, and machinery should be fitted with lockable fuel caps to deter access. Fit anti-theft fuel caps where possible (see fuel or farm equipment specialists for options best suited to heavy machinery that may be left overnight in isolated locations).
- The dispensing system, including the pump outlets, nozzle, hose and valves should be locked when not in use. For above-ground tanks, shield the hose and secure with a hardened cable lock to reduce siphoning or vandalism.
- The control switch for electronically controlled pumps should be located in a secure building, with the electricity turned off when not in use.
- Consider installing an isolation switch in a hidden spot to immobilise the circuit.

Thoughtful fuel storage

If you are installing, upgrading, or changing fuel storage tanks, consider these points:

- Install underground tanks - they're better concealed and harder to steal fuel from.
- Above-ground fuel storage tanks should be positioned in sight of the main residence and other storage sheds and, if possible, concealed from view from the road.
- Install motion sensor lighting that illuminates the tank(s) and surrounding areas at night.
- Enclose the site with a lockable security fence/gate.
- Consider using battery/solar powered portable alarms or cameras controlled by your mobile on gates, tanks or machinery. Many can be fixed or mounted in various ways - permanently or temporarily - using bolts, magnetic mounts or even cable ties.
- Dogs are aware, often before their owners, of the presence of strangers. Whether pets or working animals, dogs can be a good deterrent to intruders.

Monitor

- Fuel tanks should be dipped daily, and flow meters installed to monitor fuel use.
- Mobile fuel tanks should only be filled when they are in use.
- Use a reputable fuel supplier and be present when deliveries are made.
- Maintain accurate records of fuel use and purchases, including quantities and delivery dates and times.

Park smart

- If possible, park fuel trailers within sight of the main residence. If they must be left in a paddock, then park as far away as possible from the road.
- Trailer wheels should be clamped, and the body chained and padlocked to a large tree or other firmly anchored object.
- Consider using battery-operated portable alarms or GPS tracking that can be monitored via your phone when fuel trailers have to be left in isolated locations.



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