



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

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News Release

For Immediate Release
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Residents Urged to Take Steps to Prevent Heavy Equipment Thefts

Pueblo, CO: With a growing trend in heavy equipment and semi-truck thefts, the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office is warning residents to take precautions to prevent their equipment from becoming a target for thieves.

The rash of thefts locally mirrors a trend nationwide as thieves are targeting high-dollar heavy equipment such as excavators, loaders, mowers, backhoes, forklifts, chippers, skid loaders, tractors and semi-trucks. Thefts are occurring at businesses, job sites, farms, ranches and residences. Many of the thefts are occurring in isolated locations such as construction sites or in rural areas. Often times, the thefts occur at night.

While the Sheriff's Office is working diligently to combat this problem, we are asking residents and business owners to take proactive measures to protect their equipment and vehicles from thieves.

Tips to prevent theft of heavy equipment and to help you should your equipment be stolen:

- Never leave a key, including a spare key, in the vehicle/equipment
- Never leave the vehicle/equipment running unattended
- Try to park in well-lit or fenced and locked yards at night
- Install security lights, cameras and alarms at your home or place of business
- If the vehicle/equipment has an alarm, use it
- Render equipment immobile or difficult to move after hours and on weekends, such as parking them in clusters.
- Install a GPS tracking device to your equipment which will give alerts and positions if the property is stolen
- Document all serial, VIN and/or manufacture numbers from your equipment
- Take photos of all your equipment

The Sheriff's Office also reminds residents that if you see something that looks suspicious, including vehicles parked at a job site after hours, vehicles parked in vacant lots near job sites, gates that are open or activity in a business lot or work site after hours, call and report it. If it is an emergency call 9-1-1. For non-emergent calls or other concerns call (719) 583-6250. You can also call Crime Stoppers at (719) 542-STOP (7867) if you have any information on stolen property.

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