Rural East Devon Police Newsletter

PCSO 30017 England

For more advice on preventing rural theft please contact your local rural crime PCSO:

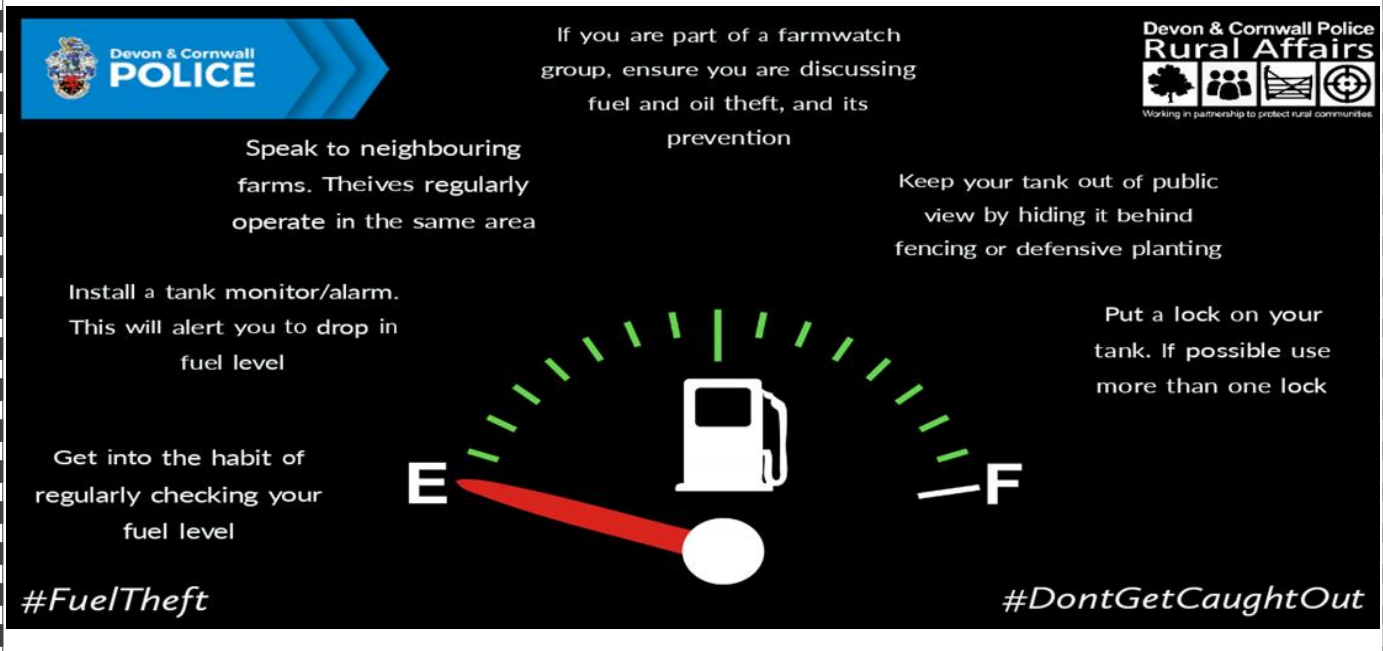
darren.england@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Follow on TWITTER: @DCPoliceRural_D (Devon)
@EastDevonPolice

Like us on our Facebook page **Rural East Devon Police** to receive regular updates.

Fuel & Battery Theft

Theft of fuel is a concern for the police and rural communities. Fuel is stolen from vehicles and storage tanks using siphoning equipment that can vary from basic tubes to more sophisticated arrangements involving pumps and the cutting of fuel lines.
Batteries are also stolen from farm machinery and electric fences.



Things to consider:

- Wherever possible, keep vehicles and machinery in a secure area
- Consider the use of locking fuel caps
- Re-fuel vehicles just before the planned journey rather than leaving a vehicle fully fuelled overnight
- Park vehicles in areas that are well lit so they can be observed easily
- Improve lighting and focus on vulnerable areas
- Fit anti-siphoning devices
- Install or confirm that existing CCTV is fit for purpose, and that it covers tanks and vulnerable vehicles
- Consider using fuel dyes, or PAINT IT PINK for batteries
- Install cages and/or improve security that surrounds fuel storage tanks
- Consider using 'bunded' fuel tanks if your existing storage facility is not of that type
- Consider installing fuel cap alarms. More advanced systems can be linked to security lighting or can send a text message to the owners or security provider. An isolation switch allows authorised access to the tank for refuelling
- Make sure gates and compounds are locked and secure; consider fitting an anti-attack cover for the lock
- Arrange to check vehicles and premises outside of normal working hours
- Agricultural sites should consider portable refuelling systems that can be locked in secure storage areas and not left in fields or stock yards
- Use appropriate signage at the entrance where security devices are being used. This will act as a deterrent
- Consider signing up to your local Farm Watch scheme

Farm machinery, plant & vehicle theft

Theft of agricultural machinery and vehicles is a concern for the police and rural communities. Plant and vehicle theft cost businesses in the UK in excess of £30 million a year and that issue is growing all the time and in some cases the stolen vehicles are used to commit further offences.

Devon alert

Want to hear about what's happening in your area and receive the latest news?

http://alerts.dc.police.uk

Devon & Cornwall Alert continues to play a significant part in our rural crime prevention activity. A two way messaging System that allows us to connect with our communities and we utilise the platform to circulate key prevention messages and crime appeals.

Messages will be tailored to your specific business location and interests, so the information received is always relevant.

The rural areas we cover include:- Sidmouth, Axminster, Seaton and Honiton.

The team's primary aim is to increase our rural communities confidence in policing, public engagement and crime prevention advice.

Priorities

Farm Machinery, Plant and Vehicle Theft (FMPV); including Quad bikes and all-terrain vehicles, modern and vintage tractors and tools & equipment from outbuildings.

Livestock offences; including livestock theft, worrying and attacks.

Fuel theft; including heating oil, theft and diesel.

Equine crime; including horse trailer and horse box theft, horse theft and tack theft.

Fly tipping; Note this is for collaboration with stakeholders to tackle a public priority as members of the National Action Group.

Poaching; Note cross over with Wildlife, this is specifically looking at the OCG aspect of this activity.

Devon & Cornwall Police
Rural Affairs
Working in partnership to protect rural communities