

Work– Truck Tips: Guarding Against Tool and Supply Theft

Many independent and professional contractors rely on their tools and equipment for their jobs. Work-truck crimes can not only cause financial hardship but also delay work schedules. Below are some prevention tips to reduce the chance of theft:

- **Secure your vehicle** - Always lock your doors and close your windows.
- Use heavy-duty lockable tool boxes that feature tamper-resistant locks to prevent break-ins.
- Consider installing an alarm system or upgrading your current system.
- Consider installing a custom formed steel plate to the backside of your door handles to keep thieves from prying into the handle seam or lock cylinder. (Tuffy Security Products or Jimmi Jammer make quality products)
- Set up extra lighting and/or motion-censored lights near where you park your vehicle.
- **Always** photograph, document and record the serial numbers for your equipment, tools and material goods . If items are stolen, this information is helpful for insurance purposes and to help locate items if they are attempted to be pawned.
- If possible, engrave your tools with your federal tax I.D number or with other defining information.
- Discuss proper insurance coverage with your insurance agent in the event you do become a victim of theft.

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*Crime prevention starts with you! Learn more at
www.BloomingtonMN.gov*

