

Construction site security



Construction sites are attractive to arsonists, thieves and mischief makers. Project owners and managers should use effective prevention measures to curb the adverse and costly consequences of arson, theft of building materials, equipment and tools, and mischief including trespassing, fire and vandalism.

Effective prevention measures include but are not limited to:

- Establish a security and hazard mitigation and prevention policy as an element of your construction site safety plan.
- Meet with local law enforcement and familiarize them with your construction site and how to contact you.
- Continuous rigid fencing at least 6 feet high surrounding the construction project and securely padlocked after hours.
- Prominently place safety and warning signs on fencing including NO TRESSPASSING and the responsible party's name and contact information.
- Install lighting capable of illuminating the entire construction site after hours or in low-light conditions and where high-value items are stored.
- Install security cameras equipped with motion detection, offsite notification and lighting capable of viewing all areas of the construction site with special focus where materials, equipment and flammable liquids are stored.

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- Employ security guards who perform roving patrols of the construction site at least once an hour.
- Maintain a list of all contractors and workers authorized to be on the site and at what time.
- Require all visitors to sign in to access the construction site.
- Secure the construction area, materials, tools and equipment throughout the duration of existing structure renovation.
- Secure off-site storage of materials, tools and equipment.
- Secure on-site storage of materials, tools and equipment in locked storage containers or in locked and secured areas of the construction site.
- Do not store pre-purchased materials on the construction site until they are secured by at least one method.
- Do not store more materials on site than can be used in a couple days.
- Secure bulk materials where they are not visible to effectively remove temptation of theft.
- Secure loose materials, tools and equipment at the conclusion of the workday.
- Do not keep equipment on site after it's no longer needed.

Construction site security is a large part of insuring that your project does not fall victim to construction shutdowns, delays and financial consequences because of arson, theft or mischief. It's best practice to use several (if not all) of these prevention and mitigation measures concurrently to lower exposure to arson, theft and mischief events.

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