

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR MARINE AREAS

1. Access to boats should be limited only to owners and other authorized persons.
2. The general public should not be allowed unescorted access to marinas.
3. Locked gates and other barriers to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic should be installed at every dock entrance.
4. Signs that clearly state marina regulations and access limits should be posted prominently.
5. Good lighting should be focused upon access points and boat docks.
6. It is recommended that a "Marina Watch" program be developed. Get to know your Dockside Neighbors.

**IN THE EVENT OF AN
EMERGENCY:
CALL 911**



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Preventing Boat Thefts



**ST. LUCIE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Ken J. Mascara

With the continued popularity of recreational boating, the theft of boats and marine related equipment is a crime prevention concern in many areas of the country. Like residential and business crime prevention, marine crime prevention is primarily a matter of identifying potential risks and taking appropriate measures to eliminate or minimize them.

Crime Prevention Tips

Locks

1. Install inside hinges and deadbolt locks on all doors.
2. Secure ports and windows with inside auxiliary locks.
3. Attach inverted strong hasps and padlocks to all hatches.
4. Lockers should be secured with non-removable hasps and hinges, which should be secured with strong padlocks.



Alarm Systems

1. Alarm systems should be specifically designed for marine use. Because of the damp marine environment, alarm sensors and electronics must be properly protected.
2. Boat owners should activate the alarm system every time they leave their boat.

Operation Identification

1. Engrave all valuable (electronic devices, engines, sails, radios, and other loose gear) with the owner 's name, homeport, state driver 's license or identification number and the boat 's hull identification number.
2. Maintain an inventory list ashore of all boat gear. Include name, model, serial number, manufacturer and description.



Do 's and Don 'ts

When Storing Your Boat and Trailer....

1. Keep your boat and trailer covered and secured as best as possible.
2. For long-term storage, keep your boat and trailer locked in a garage or shed.
3. If you store your boat and trailer in a yard, keep them OUT OF SIGHT.
4. Use wheel locks or other methods to disable the trailer from being towed.
5. Park another vehicle or place a large item in front of your boat and trailer to block easy removal.
6. Utilize strong locks and chains to secure your boat and trailer to a fixed object while being stored.

If Mooring a Boat....

1. NEVER leave keys aboard a boat, even in a "hidden place".
2. Always moor a boat to something secure with a chain or cable, running it through or around a stanchion.
3. Remove props, a spark plug, or install a hidden cut off switch. Secure the outboard motor with special transom bolts or clamping screw locks.