



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

**A Practical Guide to Ranch Security
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Ranch Vulnerabilities

- 1. Evaluate items that if in the wrong hands could be used for terrorist/criminal activities.
- 2. Inventory these items and keep accurate records of amounts used/purchased etc.
- 3. Limit access and secure any items of interest.
- 4. Contact law enforcement with any major discrepancies.

Examples of Ranch Products Used For Illegal Activity.

- Anhydrous ammonia, for example, is stolen from nurse tanks located on farms and used to produce methamphetamine. Large quantities of ammonium nitrate fertilizer have been used to make bombs killing hundreds of people and causing catastrophic damage. Fuel storage tanks are often left unsecured and accessible to would-be criminals.

Operating Securely

- 1. Limit the amount of gates used by personnel and visitors entering the ranch.
- 2. Retain visitor logs.
- 3. Private background checks on workers.
(Many companies sub-contract workers/gate guards etc.)
- 4. Restricted areas.

Ranch Perimeters

- Inspect ranch perimeters often especially if your ranch is near the border.
- By clearing brush away from fence lines next to highways you make it easier to see breaches in your perimeter and harder for illegal activity to go un-detected.

Educate Employees

1. Make existing employees aware of the potential for specific criminal activity or terrorist threats at the facility. Maintain an open-door policy for employees to report suspicious activity. Educate employees that work in sensitive areas to restrict access to anyone that cannot show proper identification. Workers should report any and all suspicious activity to a supervisor or security person immediately.

Suspicious Activity

- Employees that stay unusually late or arrive exceptionally early for work.
- Employees that attempt to access files, information, or areas outside of their responsibility.
- Employees that ask questions on sensitive subjects, or about the accessibility to fertilizer, chemical, or fuel storage facilities.
- Employees that ask for maps of the ranch without a need to know.
- Limit keys to gates of have key duplication restricted.

Safety

- Never try to apprehend criminals by yourself.
- Contact law enforcement for illegal activity in progress do not try to handle the situation alone.
- On large ranches GPS Coordinates of incidents allow a more precise response.

Liaison

- Maintain Liaison with local law enforcement officials.
- Report any suspicious activity.
- Have GPS Coordinates available if possible.

Questions/Contact Information

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