



**\*\*\*\*\* Marine Theft Prevention\*\*\*\*\***

Marine theft is on an increase in our area, and is usually done by relatively unskilled, young amateurs who strike where they find an easy opportunity. Help the **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office** defend against this type of crime by becoming security conscious and by practicing the following common sense crime prevention measures, keeping in mind three factors which discourage thieves everywhere:

## **TIME-NOISE-VISIBILITY**

In considering boat security, try to think like a criminal. What factors about your boat or moorage would make it an easy target for a thief?

- Remove equipment and tackle***
- Equipment identification (Mark all equipment with drivers license number)***
- Photograph it***
- Inventory everything on the boat. (Keep that inventory in a safe place)***
- Make sure dock lockers are secure***
- Remove all outboard motors if left unattended for a period of time***
- Secure boat propellers***
- Use heavy vinyl-coated cables and shielded locks to secure personal watercraft***

**Trailerable Boats**

- Store boat and trailer in a locked garage, secure boat-storage facility
- At home – store in back yard out of sight
- Store it with the trailer tongue not easily accessible
- If storing boat in driveway, place a large object or vehicle in front of it
- Remove one tire from the trailer
- Secure boat and trailer to a secure object with a good quality chain and lock

**Securing Boats at local marina's**

- “Caution” Boat thieves try to look like they belong
- Learn to know your dock neighbors
- Start a “dock-watch”
- Never leave keys aboard

**Report it**

- Law enforcement
- Insurance company
- Marina owner
- Boat neighbors

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