Tips to Remember

When reporting an incident:

- State the nature of the incident

- Identify yourself and your location

- Identify location of activity

- Describe any vehicle involved.
  (color, make model, plate #)

- Describe the participants
  (how many, sex, race, color of hair, height, weight, clothing)

For Emergencies dial 911 or other local emergency response numbers:

- State your business immediately
  (Police-Fire-Ambulance)

- Give as accurate a description as possible

- Stay on the line until the 911 operator disconnects you

After calling the local emergency number, call the appropriate local water system contact.

Contacts

Name & Telephone

Local Emergency Response   911 or others

Police: (713) 461-4797

Fire: (713) 468-7941

State Drinking Water Program Contact:

Drinking Water Utility: (713) 465-8318

Wastewater Utility: (713) 465-8318

Citizens Watch Contacts:

Others: (713) 465-6009 (City of Hedwig Village)

Tampering with public water supplies is a serious offense and violators will be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

For more information about water security, visit EPA's website:
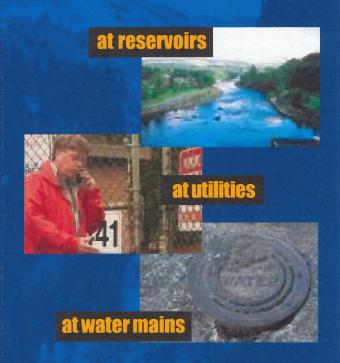
www.epa.gov/safewater/security

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

WATER WATCHERS
Helping to Protect Your Local Water System

at reservoirs

at utilities

at water mains

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

Water security:

Water Security is a shared responsibility involving water suppliers, wastewater utilities, government, law enforcement and citizens. We can all be involved in homeland security by playing an important role in protecting our critical water resources.

Problem:

Local drinking water and wastewater systems may be targets for terrorist and other would-be criminals wishing to disrupt and cause harm to your community water supplies or wastewater facilities.

Challenge:

Water utilities are often located in isolated areas. Drinking water sources and wastewater collection systems may cover large areas that are difficult to secure and patrol.

Solution:

Residents can be educated to notice and report any suspicious activity, in and around local water utilities. Interested and dedicated citizens are essential to increase the security eyes and ears in your community.

Who Should get Involved?

Any resident interested in protecting their water resources and community as a whole can join together with law enforcement, neighborhood watch groups, water suppliers, wastewater operators, and other local public health officials.

As a first step, you should consider introducing yourself to the local drinking water supplier or wastewater operator. You can provide them with your phone number and address, and find out how you can get involved.

What Can You Do?

Form and operate a citizens watch network within your community to communicate regularly with law enforcement, your public water supplier and wastewater operator. Communication is key to a safer community!

• Be alert.

Get to know your water/wastewater utilities, their vehicles, routines and their personnel.

• Become aware of your surroundings.

This will help you to recognize suspicious activity as opposed to normal daily activities.

Examples of suspicious activity might include:

- People dumping or discharging material to a water reservoir

- People climbing or cutting a utility fence

- Unidentified truck or car parked or loitering near waterways or facilities for no apparent reason

- Suspicious opening or tampering of manhole covers, building, or equipment

- People on top of water tanks

- People photographing or videotaping utility facilities, structures or equipment

- Strangers hanging around locks or gates

Do not confront strangers. Instead, report suspicious activities to local authorities.