



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Richard Pierce, Sheriff
News Release

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Agricultural Metal Thefts are on the Rise; The Sheriff's Department needs your help.

The members of the Fresno County Sheriff Department Ag Task Force are asking for assistance from the public in combating metal theft in Fresno County. The theft of copper wire from irrigation pumps, irrigation pipe, and various other pieces of metal agricultural equipment are on the rise in rural Fresno County. It is believed these crimes are being committed during the nighttime hours and are occurring throughout the county as well as the entire Central Valley.

Metal theft losses in Fresno County alone are reaching numbers in the hundreds of thousands of dollars and that does not take into consideration the loss of productivity to the farmers, companies, and other citizens of Fresno County.

While traveling in the rural agricultural areas of Fresno, please take the time to be observant of suspicious activities, subjects and vehicles.

Suspicious activity, such as; vehicles off the roadway near irrigation areas at night, persons carrying large gauge copper wiring, or the movement of irrigation pipe at night is potentially a theft in progress. It is requested that any suspicious activity or possible suspect information be reported to the Fresno County Sheriff's Department Ag Task Force at (559) 898-0667.

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