FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



FSA - Keeping You Safe

How To Prevent Gas Station Theft

According to the National Crime Prevention Council, there has been an increase in reports of theft at gas stations around the country. While customers are at gas stations, many leave their car unlocked and personal items in plain sight when they go inside to pay or are pumping gas. This catches the eye of thieves who often take advantage by opening the unlocked car and grabbing any valuables within reach. Unfortunately, this happens in the matter of seconds and most of the thieves get away with the crime. With proper safety precautions, these thefts can be prevented. Customers should always pay attention to their surroundings and report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement. We also recommend following the tips below from the National Crime Prevention Council.

- Pick stations that are well-lit and have video surveillance cameras at the pump.
- Keep valuables out of plain view in your vehicle and lock the doors, even if you are going inside for a moment.
- Don't let your cell phone distract you.
- Always remove your keys and lock the doors while you are pumping gas.



For more tips, please visit the <u>Florida Sheriffs Association's Crime Prevention Tips</u>.