An Enhanced Online Tool to Help Law Enforcement Fight the Theft of Metals and Other Materials

Sign Up for ScrapTheftAlert.com

How To Register
Go to ScrapTheftAlert.com. Click on the “Register” button and complete the registration form. Make sure the box is checked to allow you to receive reports and select if you wish to receive alerts from up to five states or within a range of zip code areas.

Authentication of law enforcement credentials is required for registration and access to the enhanced law enforcement functions of the system. If you are registering as law enforcement, you will be required to provide proof of agency affiliation as well as your department supervisor’s name and contact information for verification. You may also select to share your contact information with other law enforcement officers by clicking “Yes” on this registration screen.

Submitting A Report
Should you need to submit a theft report or a report of suspicious material received, log in to ScrapTheftAlert.com using your email address and the password you selected when you registered. Click on “Report a Theft.” The system will guide you for the information needed to complete the reports.

Once the report is submitted, the system searches for zip codes within 100 miles of the theft location and sends an email to all subscribers in that radius. Alerts posted to the website remain active for 30 days. After 14 days, the sender receives a request for feedback on the alert. Law enforcement officers may search and view all alerts in the system regardless of whether they are “active” or archived.

How You Can Help
You can help make ScrapTheftAlert.com an even better tool by informing other recyclers and law enforcement personnel about the system and asking them to subscribe to alerts. The alert system is free, and recyclers do not need to be ISRI members to participate.
ISRI — Part of the Solution
As the Voice of the Recycling Industry™, the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. is leading the way in advocating the vital role scrap recycling plays in the U.S. economy, global trade, the environment, and sustainable development. A Washington, DC-based trade association, ISRI represents more than 1,600 private, for-profit companies operating at more than 3,500 facilities in the United States and 34 countries worldwide. ISRI members process, broker, and industrially consume scrap commodities, including ferrous and nonferrous metals, paper, electronics, rubber, plastics, glass, and textiles. In addition, ISRI’s associate members include equipment and service providers to the scrap recycling industry.

ISRI members employ tens of thousands of people, and their companies range in size from small, one-location operations to large, publicly-held corporations with multiple facilities worldwide. Other ISRI members focus on the business of brokering and trading recyclable materials, consolidating materials from a variety of businesses to expedite the fulfillment of consumer needs.

ISRI is actively working to be part of the solution to the metals and materials theft issue. To provide additional tools and information, ISRI also created StopMetalsTheft.org, a website that serves as a service and one-stop resource to law enforcement, prosecutors, recyclers, and other interested parties on the issue of metals theft.

What is ScrapTheftAlert.com?
For years, the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI) has worked to be a part of the solution to the problem of metals theft. To combat this crime, ISRI has developed ScrapTheftAlert.com, an online theft alert system that is available to law enforcement, recyclers, and property owners — free of charge. The system allows law enforcement, corporate security, and victims of metals theft to post alerts that are then sent to system users within a 100-mile radius of the theft location. When warranted, the alert radius can be expanded to larger areas.

The ScrapTheftAlert.com system helps police, it helps our communities, and it helps the scrap recycling industry (more than two-thirds of recyclers report being a victim of metals theft in the past year). It contains enhanced features based on user feedback including:

- Easy user interface for registering and submitting alerts;
- Ability to select multiple locations to receive alerts;
- Alerts can handle up to 8 attachments at up to 8 MB each in ANY format;
- A private portal for vetted LEOs;
- Search capabilities with unlimited time frame;
- Customizable search parameters by material, region, date, and key word;
- Ability to extract search results to Excel; and
- Testimonials/success stories.

New Mobile Site
Users visiting ScrapTheftAlert.com on mobile devices will automatically be routed to the new mobile site. Mobile users can switch over to the desktop site at any time by simply tapping the View Desktop Site option located on the footer.

STA has partnered with the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS). Access to ISRI’s Scrap Theft Alert website is now open to all RISS users, including RISS partners.

STA is available as a service provider through the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP).

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Success Stories …

Industrial / Commercial Copper Wire
An Ontario, Canada based Investigative Service broadcast an alert for the theft of 54,000 lbs. of industrial/commercial copper wire valued at $175,000. As a result of the alert and the assistance of an area business, all the wire was recovered and a suspect identified.

Copper Wire
The Pike County (MO) Sheriff’s Office broadcast an alert for the theft of approximately 1,800 pounds of copper wire valued at $5,100. From the photo of the stolen material included in the alert, an area police department contacted the sheriff’s office advising the arrest of a suspect, on charges unrelated to the copper theft. The suspect had the wire in his possession but not until the alert was broadcast did the police department learn of the theft of the copper wire.

Romex Wire & Copper Tubing
An alert was broadcast by the Cleveland (OH) Police Department reporting the theft of multiple spools of Romex wire and multiple coils of copper tubing from several local locations of a national hardware chain. The material was valued at $7,500. Investigators were notified of a suspect by a local recycler prior to the broadcast; however, following the alert broadcast two additional recyclers contacted police with information which assisted in the investigation and the arrest of the suspect.

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