

Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Farm Supply Stores

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

Individuals or groups who

- Refuse to provide an address where fertilizer will be used or delivered or provide a nonrural address or post office box.
- Act nervous or impatient when purchasing fertilizer, fuel, or products containing poison.
- Purchase products but possess little knowledge of crops, soil composition, field size, application methods, or fertilizers.
- Purchase a large quantity of pesticides, combustibles, or fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate (particularly 34-0-0) out of season and, if requested, without a logical explanation.
- Appear to be interested only in ammonium nitrate (particularly 34-0-0); display no interest in alternative fertilizers or fertilizer combinations.
- Seek chemicals with weight in excess of fertilizer distributor capacity.
- Fail to state a legitimate use for the product when required or reasonably requested.
- Store agricultural supplies in unusual or inappropriate containers.
- Use a rental vehicle or a vehicle with out-of-state or temporary license plates to transport large quantities of items such as fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate (particularly 34-0-0) or other combustible materials.
- Attempt to purchase fuel in an unapproved container.

Unusual or atypical inquiries regarding

- Equipment, including tank size or spray range.
- Equipment used for spraying or hauling (e.g., crop dusters, crop sprayers, fuel tankers, portable fertilizer tanks).
- Area fur farms without a legitimate explanation.

It is important to remember that just because someone's speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life are different, it does not mean that he or she is suspicious.



What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution

- ✓ Require valid ID from new customers.
- ✓ Keep records of purchases.
- ✓ Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- ✓ Watch for behaviors and activities that are out of place.
- ✓ Make note of suspicious statements, behaviors, activities, and/or vehicles.

Remember...

- ✓ If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.
- ✓ Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.
- ✓ Focus on behaviors and activities that are unusual or out of place for the situation.
- ✓ Individually, these activities could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate.

Preventing terrorism is a community effort. By learning what to look for, **you** can make a positive contribution in the fight against terrorism. The **partnership between the community and law enforcement** is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts.

Some of these activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate. The activities outlined in this handout are by no means all-inclusive but have been compiled from a review of terrorist events over several years.