



*protect your
home field*

Join Your Fellow VNY Pilots
and Airport Users to
Safeguard America's Busiest General
Aviation Airport

See Suspicious Activity? Call . . .

1 - 8 6 6 - 4 V N Y - W A T C H

Make Airport Watch a Safety Priority

Van Nuys Airport (VNY) takes security very seriously — always has and always will. With Airport Police and Airfield Operations personnel on site around the clock, a comprehensive security program and complete perimeter fencing, VNY works hard to ensure the protection of our airport community and surrounding neighborhoods.

However, in today's changed world, it is incumbent on us — the people who depend on general aviation aircraft for our livelihood, our recreation, our personal transportation — to go "above and beyond" and do even more wherever possible to make sure that our airports remain safe. That's where Airport Watch comes in.

Every pilot who uses VNY, plus every fixed-base operator, on-site business and aviation service company, is part of the larger aviation community. Our airports are our communities and we need to protect them just like we do our own homes and neighborhoods. You're the first to know when someone doesn't belong at VNY or that some activity at the airport is outside normal routines. The Airport Watch program makes it simple to get this information to the right people without delay.

Be a Part of VNY's Airport Watch: It's Easy!

Show our community that pilots and other airport users at VNY are keeping watch.

*Call 1-866-4VNY-WATCH
(1-866-486-9928)*

when you see something suspicious at the airport.

*Your call will be answered by Airport Police
24 hours a day,
seven days a week.*

You probably know that the best protection your home can have is an alert neighbor. Well, Airport Watch operates like a Neighborhood Watch program, where people know their neighbors' habits, who is on vacation, whose car belongs where, and how to spot trouble. With Airport Watch, we just want you to heighten your attention at the airport — get to know (if you don't already) your fellow tenants, pilots and aircraft owners.

BEING PART OF VNY'S

AIRPORT WATCH DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TIME. All you have to do is go about your business at the airport. You don't have to write reports or attend lengthy meetings. Simply follow these guidelines and be prepared to call **1-866-4VNY-WATCH (1-866-486-9928)** if you see any activity that doesn't seem right to you.

Just Use Your Eyes and Ears!

Here are some ways pilots can show our community that you are responsible citizens who are concerned about security at VNY. Remember, these tips work best with frequent visits to the airport.

HAVE YOUR ID READY. Always carry your government-issued photo ID. Even though you know your passengers, insist they also arrive with government-issued picture identification in case of challenge by security or airport personnel. It also makes sense to carry your pilot certificate with you, even if you're not flying that day. The combination of a photo ID and a pilot certificate is now required by the Federal Aviation Administration.



BE COOPERATIVE. Show the community you are willing to comply with added security measures. You may have flown out of the same airport for 20 years and think "everybody knows me," but those brand-new police officers don't. Make it easy for them to do their job, and be thankful they're doing it well.

SHARE INFORMATION. Supply your airport operator or FBO with photos of pilots authorized to use your aircraft so that new or infrequent users won't be mistaken for unauthorized lawbreakers. If someone else is going to fly your aircraft, inform your FBO by telephone. Let ramp staff know anytime your aircraft is to remain overnight (RON) for next-day departure; also inform them when it is going to be down and shouldn't be going anywhere, so they can challenge any unexpected activity.

GET TO KNOW YOUR AIRPORT COMMUNITY. Introduce yourself to airport neighbors and become familiar with the aircraft these neighbors fly. Not only will you meet and interact with new people and new aircraft, but you'll also be better prepared to notice new aircraft and new faces at VNY.

GREET STRANGERS. Introduce yourself to those new faces — particularly new flight students, visitors to your home field and transient pilots you meet. This way you can easily resolve many questions about these folks and help reinforce VNY's reputation as a friendly place to fly.

STAND UNITED. Help organize Airport Watch meetings at VNY to discuss security issues and any program changes, and to continue to get to know your airport neighbors while sharing in the effort to protect your community.

HAVE YOUR TOOLS HANDY. Bring your cell phone to the airport — and make sure it's charged. Have a pen and paper close by in case you have to write down N numbers or descriptions. Consider having an inexpensive camera, even a disposable one, at the ready to photograph anything you see that is suspicious.

SPREAD THE WORD. Talk about VNY's Airport Watch program. Let people know that general aviation pilots take security at VNY seriously, that we remain on the alert for what is happening here.

BE PREPARED FOR THE LONG HAUL. Keep the effort going. Help sustain these and other security efforts once they're started. The new reality of operating aircraft is not a drill and it's not a flash in the pan.



Report What You Find Unusual!

CALL 1-866-4VNY-WATCH (1-866-486-9928) in an emergency, and follow these other tips.

NEVER approach someone you fear may be about to commit an illegal act or crime with an aircraft. Make some notes, such as the person's appearance, clothing, car license plate, type of aircraft and N number. Take a picture if possible, but keep your distance if the situation seems hostile. If you can't safely contact airport law enforcement without exposing yourself to risk, leave the field or go to your car and talk on your cell phone. It could be your best weapon in fighting airport crime.

PROVIDE DETAILS. Be specific whenever you report something amiss to authorities. Generalized concerns (e.g., "That guy looked shifty to me...") may not carry the appropriate sense of urgency. Details about the aircraft and individual(s) in question help a great deal.

*Never hesitate to call 1-866-4VNY-WATCH.
We can never be too sure of our safety!*

Cover Your Entire Neighborhood: It's Your Home Field

Some situations require special attention. Not every one of your home neighbors is the same, so here are tips for handling special situations:

FOR CFIs WITH PRIMARY STUDENT PILOTS: Control non-solo students' access to the ignition key until dual is to begin. The CFI might unlock the aircraft for preflight and keep the ignition key; install an ignition switch keyed differently than airframe keys, or allow access to the ignition key but install a throttle lock for which the CFI retains the key. Depending on the environment, it might be valuable to use special check-in procedures for students (soloed and pre-solo) — particularly younger students.

FOR FBO RENTAL DESKS: Create a check-in desk and procedure where keys to based and transient aircraft (or hangar keys) are kept for checkout to pilots and owners with preauthorization on file. Encourage owners of rental or loaned aircraft to provide advance photo records of those authorized to rent or use their aircraft. Insist on photo ID for pilots not personally known to the staff. It's for their good as well as the public's. Establish uniform "duress procedures."



Remember: Crime happens because of opportunity. To protect yourself and your airport, make access difficult. Keep access gates locked. Criminals won't want to hang around an airport full of people who are alert and aware of their activities. Exposure is not within the comfort zone of a criminal.

It's up to all of us who fly to keep flying safe, to keep VNY free from individuals who would do us harm, and to welcome those who truly want to share our freedom to fly.

**PROTECT YOUR FREEDOM TO FLY —
JOIN VNY'S AIRPORT WATCH PROGRAM TODAY!**

Remember: Security Begins With Your Own Aircraft

People seldom forget to lock their homes and even cars, but too often pilots neglect to lock the doors of their aircraft. "It's always hangared," "It's too easy to break into," and "I'm just running out to get a sandwich" are all excuses for poor security.

Crime happens because of opportunity. Don't ever make it easy for anyone! Lock your airplane's doors, regardless of whether it is hangared or tied outside — always! And, of course, lock the access gates too.



For added security, consider using an auxiliary lock to further protect your aircraft from unauthorized use. Options available include several fine locks for propellers, throttle and prop controls. Pilot supply catalogs include a wide range of products to deter tampering and theft of your aircraft.

Then take home all of your keys — to the aircraft, hangar and auxiliary locks. You might want to consider whether you keep your aircraft key on the same keychain as your hangar key. Make it as difficult as possible for someone to gain access to your aircraft.

Help VNY Help You — and the Community



Even with VNY's already top-notch security program in place, VNY's pilots and other airport users should be on the front lines of monitoring what goes on here. When we band together, we become a

powerful network of watchdogs for what is happening at our airport. It's just common sense: We spend time at VNY, we know the people, we know the aircraft.

Your participation in VNY's Airport Watch (modeled after the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association's national Airport Watch) will make this program a success. Without your help, others could impose their own security program on our community. Now you don't have to wonder what you can do to ensure you'll be able to continue enjoying the freedom of flight.

So remember, call **1-866-4VNY-WATCH (1-866-486-9928)** to report suspicious activity at VNY. We're counting on you to help safeguard your home field!



America's Pilots Banding Together
Will Make a Difference

1 - 8 6 6 - 4 V N Y - W A T C H

Keep VNY Safe

Here's what to look for:

- ◆ Pilots who appear under the control of someone else.
- ◆ Anyone trying to access aircraft through force — without keys, using a crowbar or screwdriver.
- ◆ Anyone who seems unfamiliar with aviation procedures trying to check out aircraft.
- ◆ Anyone who misuses aviation lingo — or seems too eager to use all of the lingo.
- ◆ People or groups who seem determined to keep to themselves.
- ◆ Any members of your airport neighborhood who work to avoid contact with you or other airport tenants.
- ◆ Anyone who appears to be just loitering, with no specific reason for being there.
- ◆ Any out-of-the-ordinary videotaping or photographing of aircraft or hangars.
- ◆ Aircraft with unusual or obviously unauthorized modifications.
- ◆ Dangerous cargo or loads — explosives, chemicals, openly displayed weapons — being loaded into an aircraft.
- ◆ Vehicles on the service roads that do not display a VNY Motor Vehicle Operating Permit (MVOP) or business decals on the sides.
- ◆ Anything that strikes you as wrong — listen to your gut instinct, and then follow through, and remember to pay special attention to height, weight and the individual's clothing or other identifiable traits.

Use your common sense.

Not all of these items indicate criminal or terrorist activity.

When in doubt, check it out!

CALL 1-866-4VNY-WATCH (1-866-486-9928)

to report your concerns.

For non-urgent VNY Airport Watch program questions or suggestions, you can also e-mail us at vnyairportwatch@lawa.org.

Participate in VNY's
Airport Watch Program:

Call 1-866-4VNY-WATCH
to Report Suspicious Activity



Just Use Your Eyes and Ears to Keep
Your Home Field Safe and
Preserve Your Freedom to Fly

Van Nuys Airport
Airport Watch Program
16461 Sherman Way, Suite 130
Van Nuys, CA 91406
vnyairportwatch@lawa.org
www.lawa.org



Van Nuys
Los Angeles
World Airports

Thanks to the brochure material provided by the
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)
from the national Airport Watch program.
For more information, visit www.aopa.org/airportwatch.

Thanks also to Clay Lacy Aviation
for its assistance with this brochure.



1 - 8 6 6 - 4 V N Y - W A T C H