



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy No. DOC 3.1.4	Subject: PERIMETER SECURITY
Chapter 3: FACILITY/PROGRAM OPERATIONS	Page 1 of 3
Section 1: Security Operations	Effective Date: Feb.1, 1997
Signature: /s/ Mike Ferriter, Director	Revised: 09/19/11

I. POLICY

The Department of Corrections secure facilities will maintain secure perimeters that are consistent with the security and control needs of the offender population and necessary to prevent offender escapes and unauthorized public access.

II. APPLICABILITY

The secure facilities that include Riverside and Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facilities, Montana State Prison, Montana Women's Prison, Montana Correctional Enterprises, Treasure State Correctional Training Center, and secure facilities contracted to the Department of Corrections, as specified in contract.

III. DEFINITIONS

Administrator – The official, regardless of local title (division or facility administrator, bureau chief, warden, superintendent), ultimately responsible for the division, facility or program operation and management.

Chief of Security – The staff person, regardless of local title (security major, director of operations), designated by the facility administrator to manage the facility security program.

IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

A. Security System

1. Each facility administrator will develop specific procedures to ensure adequate perimeter security consistent with the facility's physical plant design and the multi-level custody of the confined offenders.
2. The chief of security and the maintenance supervisor are jointly responsible for the maintenance and support of the perimeter security system described in this policy.
3. The security system will utilize barriers, detection systems, lighting, patrols, and surveillance, or their functional equivalents.

B. Barriers

1. There will be a minimum of a 20-foot separation between fences and sufficient rolled and tape-type razor ribbon in place on all perimeter fences to deter penetration or scaling.
2. Weeds, and other vegetation, will be suppressed through mowing, trimming, and the use of sterilized, graveled areas between the fences, with dark plastic under the gravel to

prevent weed infestation.

3. To deter aircraft landings, the facility administrator may authorize, with the approval of the Department director, the installation of “ground clutter” in the form of trees, light standards, or cables strung between high mast poles and interior compound buildings.
4. Front and rear entrances will incorporate sally port or vestibule-type doors or gates that are interlocked or operated in such a way that only one of the two doors or gates is opened at any one time.
5. In facilities with less secure or unfenced perimeter, the facility administrator will ensure that adequate measures are in place to prevent unauthorized offender exit or public entry.

C. Detection Systems

1. An electronic intrusion detection system may be employed to further strengthen the perimeter. These systems will be designed to meet the security needs of each individual facility and may incorporate a combination of closed-circuit television, or other technology-based systems.
2. These systems will be monitored in the control center or other continuously manned post.
3. In the event a correctional facility does not have the staff or expertise to maintain these sophisticated electronic systems, the facility administrator may establish a maintenance contract to provide 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year repair services.

D. Lighting

1. There will be adequate lighting of the perimeter and all adjacent areas. This may be through the use of high-intensity, high-mast lighting, or the equivalent, and sufficient to provide visibility on the perimeter and in the facility’s compound under all reasonably foreseeable weather conditions.
2. The perimeter lighting will be connected to the generator backup system unless the lighting is generated by the city power system.
3. In the event the facility maintenance staff is unable to maintain these lighting systems, the facility administrator may establish a contract to provide 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year repair services.

E. Patrols and Surveillance

1. Direct perimeter surveillance will be accomplished through daily, physical perimeter checks, or the use of vehicular patrols and manned towers.
2. Armed staff may be used to provide perimeter security in adult correctional facilities. Armed staff may not be used to provide perimeter security at youth correctional facilities.
3. Additional posts or supplementary lighting may be instituted in the event of fog, smoke, or other limited visibility conditions.

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4. Facility staff will ensure control over pedestrian and vehicular traffic at the front and rear entrances by identification and search procedures outlined in *DOC Policies [3.1.5, Entrance Procedures and Detainment of Non-offenders](#)*; and *[3.1.17, Searches and Contraband Control](#)*.

V. CLOSING

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the facility administrator.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. [2-15-112](#), MCA
- B. 4-4171; *ACA Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 4th Edition*
- C. *DOC Policies [3.1.5, Entrance Procedures and Detainment of Non-Offenders](#)*; and *[3.1.17, Searches and Contraband Control](#)*

VII. ATTACHMENTS

None