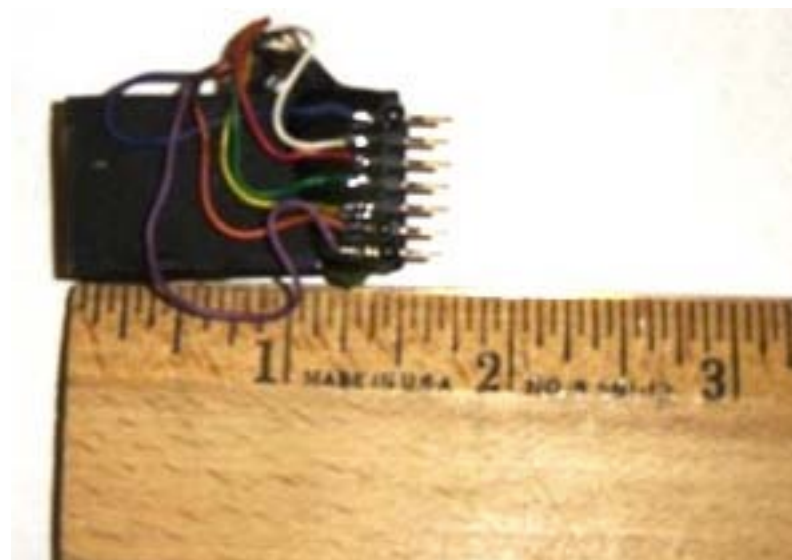


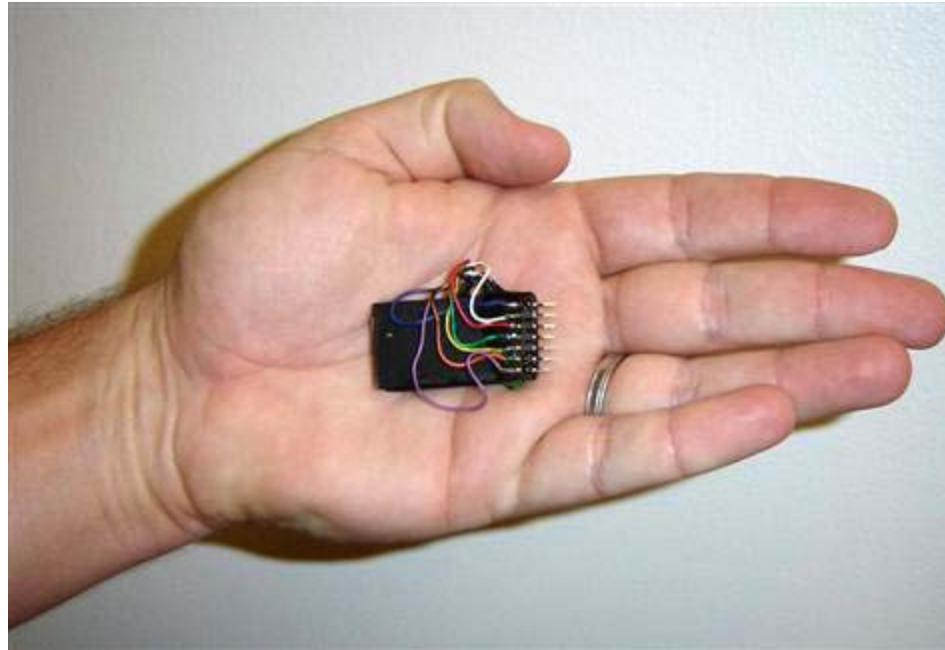
Skimming Devices in Retail Motor Fuel Dispensers



**Best Practices, Identification and
Inspections for the Communities of
Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Littleton,
Lowell and Tewksbury**

David Tilton, Sealer of Weights and Measures. March 16, 2016

What is a Skimmer?



An electronic, magnetic or hard wired device, covertly placed, that is capable of stealing banking information encoded on credit/ debit cards.

Types of Skimming Devices

- Internal pig tailed skimmers are placed inside the pump at the card reader and/ or pin pad data cable.
- External skimmers or false card readers are placed over the external portion of the credit card reader on the outside of the pump.
- Bluetooth enabled skimmers allow criminals to download the data from short distances away without having to open the cabinet and retrieve the skimmer.

Internal Skimmer

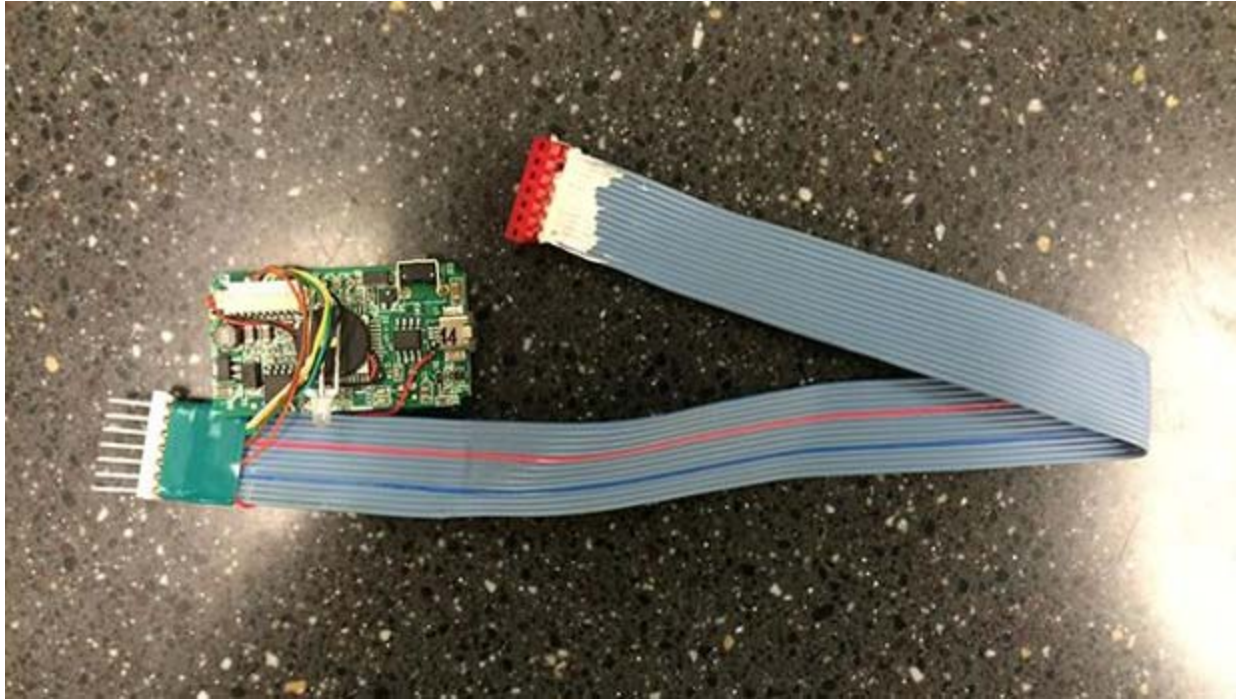


Photo by: WPBF News, Vero Beach FLA.

External Skimmer



Photo by: TXK Today News.

Internal Skimmer with Bluetooth

Clean credit card reader.



Bluetooth enabled skimmer attached to card reader

Photo by: Krebs Security

Tips for Consumers.

- Be aware of your surroundings when conducting transactions. If something doesn't look or feel right, report it and move on.
- Only use a credit card when using a card reader at the pump. This way if your card is compromised only your credit will be affected, not your available cash.
- Only frequent gas stations that employ security measures to protect themselves from skimmers. An example would be the use of tamper evident seals over the cabinet door seam and/ or the keyhole.
- If you suspect you found a skimmer, call the police and alert the station if instructed by the police. Do not touch the device!!!

The Role of Weights and Measures

- The Division of Standards has recently asked us to perform a visual inspection of the pumps for skimmers at every one of our stations.
- As part of that investigation we are also tasked with educating managers/ owners about security measures they can implement in order to combat this problem.
- Older pumps, high volume stations and stations that do not employ security measures are at the highest risk for skimmers.
- Inspections will be conducted regularly during fuel volume inspections throughout the year.