PREVENTING VEHICLE THEFT

One vehicle is stolen every 20 seconds in the United States. Stolen cars and other vehicles cost victims time and money. Stolen vehicles increase everyone’s insurance costs. Don’t make it easy for a thief to steal your wheels!

- Always lock your vehicle doors and windows.
- Never leave your car running unattended. Vehicles are commonly stolen at ATM’s, convenience stores, warming up at home, etc.
- Car keys left at home (or work) should always be hidden or locked up.
- Take care when parking your car.
- Don’t pick up hitchhikers.
- Never loan your car, or your car keys, to someone you don’t know well.
- Use care when selling a vehicle. Don’t let a stranger take it for a test drive alone. Don’t accept a personal check for payment.

Your Neighborhood Policing Teams:

District 1:
NPO Paul Osness 830-5000
CSO Mike Miller 983-7856
CEO Randy Richards 983-7803

District 2:
NPO Mike Wiley 830-5032
CSO Gail Conelly 983-7855
CEO Randy Richards 983-7803

District 3:
NPO Paul Osness 830-5000
NPO Mike Wiley 830-5032
CSO Dawn McGinnis 983-7854
CEO Sandra Stauffer 983-7857

District 4:
NPO Brian Markert 830-5077
CSO Mike Miller 983-7856
CEO Randy Richards 983-7803

District 5:
NPO Brian Markert 830-5077
NPO Ken Devaney 830-5031
CSO Dawn McGinnis 983-7854
CEO Sandra Stauffer 983-7857

District 6:
NPO Ken Devaney 830-5031
CSO Gail Conelly 983-7855
CEO Sandra Stauffer 983-7857
PREVENTING THEFT FROM VEHICLES

The property inside your vehicle can be an easy target to thieves. Thefts from vehicles, called “vehicle prowls”, can be easily prevented with a little time and effort.

- Always lock your car and close the windows. Even for a short stop, or in front of your home. This is the best preventative measure you can take.
- Don’t leave valuables in your car. If you must have items of value in your car, make sure you lock them in your trunk, or keep them out of sight.
- CD and tape cases are an attractive target. When removing valuables, many times people forget the music they are used to listening to in the car. Remove CD and tape cases; carry only a few at a time in your vehicle.
- Keep your trunk release lever in the locked position.
- Take extra precautions with stereo equipment. Thieves are attracted to stereo equipment. It is often easy to sell. Purchase stereos with removable face plates, or removable stereos, and CD changers in the trunk. Be sure to take them with you every time you leave your car. Copy down the brand, model and serial number information on all your equipment.
- Be cautious when placing property in your trunk. Lock purchases and other property in the trunk before you arrive at your parking places. A thief may be watching you. Be especially alert during the holiday shopping season.
- Park in a highly visible, well lit area. Keeping your vehicle readily visible helps keep your property safe.
- If you have a garage, use it. Keeping your vehicle locked and in your garage keeps both your vehicle and the property inside safer.
- Consider purchasing an alarm system. An alarm system is an excellent deterrent to theft from your vehicle. A thief will see a flashing light and stickers announcing your use of an alarm system, then look for an easier target.
- If you often drive at night, or alone, consider a cell phone to make it easier to summon help in an emergency.
- Never put your full name, address, home phone, or license plate on your key chain. If a thief finds your key chain, he will have access to and know where to steal your vehicle or burglarize your home.
- Take your garage door opener with you when you leave your car. Your garage door opener is like a key to your house. All a thief would need besides your door opener is your address, which he may easily find in your car, especially if you keep your registration inside.