

AURORA POLICE

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT AND CAR BREAK-INS CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

- Always remove your keys, roll up windows, and lock your car. Never leave your keys in the car (even when parked in your garage) while you are away. Take them with you.
- Never leave your car running and unattended with the keys in the ignition. (Examples: cold weather start warm ups, gas station visits, running into a store, etc.). It is LEGAL in Aurora for you to have a remote starter which allows you to start your car without the key being in the ignition. The car will stop running when the brake pedal is pressed.
- Park your car in garage, if available.
- Install an anti-theft device that is highly visible, hard to defeat, or renders the car inoperable. Steering wheel locking devices are the most popular. Car alarms are also an effective deterrent.
- Park your car in secured lots when possible, or lots that are well-lit and located in heavily traveled areas.
- Park your car as close to the building or your destination as possible. Be aware of your surroundings when parking and exiting your car and walking back to your car. Take a quick peek inside your vehicle prior to entering it.
- Keep car registrations, insurance papers, and other identifiable personal information on your person. Do not store these documents in your vehicle unless secured. The law requires that the vehicle operator have these documents in their possession when operating the motor vehicle. DMV now gives you one (out of the two) vehicle registrations that does not have your address on it. Keep that one in your car if you need to. Do not leave your title in the car.
- Never leave any valuables in your car. The most common items stolen from vehicles are GPS devices, DVD players, stereos, iPods, purses, laptops, briefcases, tools, and money. Remove all property regardless of value from your car, or store items in the trunk out of view. Any property left in your car becomes a potential target and is what criminals look for.
- Valet parking attendants, car wash attendants, automotive repairs attendants, etc. should only be given the ignition key to park your car, and do not leave anything of value in your car.
- If a criminal sees items of value in a car, they are more likely to break into that car knowing they will get something. Make it harder for them by locking your doors, taking your valuables with you or concealing them in the trunk. Do not leave your car running unattended (unless you have a remote starter) it only takes a second for someone to steal your car.

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY CALL 911 • NON-EMERGENCY 303.627.3100

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