

*Try to get a description of the suspects
and their vehicle from inside your
house.*

*Call 9 1 1 immediately and stay on the
line -*

If you hear glass breaking (a popping sound)

You see someone looking into cars or
ducking around them

Someone tampering with a car

A person carrying tools or property that
doesn't fit the setting in your neighborhood

Activity that "just doesn't look or feel right"

Don't even think you are "bothering" the
police by calling them to report suspicious
activity. It's their job to detect and apprehend
criminals - but they need your help because
they can't be in everyone's neighborhood 24
hours a day. If your suspicions prove to be
unfounded, you shouldn't feel embarrassed.
The police prefer that you call them so they
can investigate the suspicious activity.

Remember,

*It's more desirable to be mistaken,
than to
be a victim!*

If you locate property that may have been
stolen or discover that you have been the
victim of a theft from your vehicle, call your
local law enforcement agency immediately.

**WHAT ADDITIONAL SECURITY
MEASURES CAN I TAKE?**

Outdoor security lighting left on from dusk
to dawn is inexpensive and also helps to
displace such crimes as theft, vandalism
and burglary. In addition, many citizens are
now equipping their cars with alarm
systems. In some cases, the value of the
vehicles and/or it's contents are worth the
cost of installation.

You can increase the chances of your
property being recovered if it is stolen by
recording the serial number and marking
the item with an Operation Identification
number available at no charge from the
police or sheriff's department in the city you
reside in. To obtain additional crime
prevention information and literature at no
cost - call your local Crime Prevention
Specialist, Kentucky Crime Prevention
Coalition, or your insurance agent.

To organize a neighborhood watch, call the
Mt. Washington Police Department.
(502)538-8143



Mt. Washington Police Dept.
(502) 538-8143
Non-Emergency Dispatch
(502)543-7074
Emergency call 911

THEFT FROM VEHICLES



**An Auto Owners
Guide to
Prevention**

Thefts from vehicles have dramatically increased over the past several years. Many of the thefts occur in our own driveways. The popularity of radar detectors and expensive sound systems, which are quickly and easily stolen, has seemed to encourage car prowlers. Your insurance company and your local police and sheriff departments would like to help you avoid the frustration and inconvenience of being the victim of this type of crime. Please take a few minutes to read this information and pass it along to others.

Common Methods of Entry Into Vehicles

- Enter vehicle in unsecured garage
- No force necessary, door **unlocked**

The Most Likely Targets For Theft

- Any vehicle with a visible radar detector, visible power cord, or mount
- Vehicles containing a brief case, purse, gym bag or other valuables left in sight
- Vehicles equipped with a mobile phone
- Vehicles left running unattended at convenience stores and other public places

Property Most Often Stolen From Vehicles

- Guns/weapons
- Laptop/Electronics
- Gym bags
- Brief Cases
- Purses
- Sunglasses
- Check books
- Auto Parts
- Rings/Watches
- Camera Gear
- Radar Detector and power cords
- Speakers
- Car Batteries
- Handtools, toolboxes, power tools
- Spare change

What Do Thieves Do With The Property They Steal?

Many things can be sold to other thieves or to someone who is "looking for a deal". Other items can be sold for cash at pawn shops. Some thieves look for purses to steal. They will immediately make large purchases on the credit cards and alter the victim's ID so they or an accomplice can forge the checks. This can cause an incredible amount of worry, hassle and inconvenience for a victim. The thief doesn't care about you, your feelings or the hardship the theft will put you through. His or her point of view is, "Why should I pay for something when I can steal it?"

How Can I Prevent A Theft From My Vehicle?

To deter a criminal from breaking into your car, **lock your vehicle and put valuables out of**

sight, preferably in the trunk or bring them into the house at night.

Thieves will break into any vehicle if they think there is something of value to be stolen from it. Thieves know that guns, checkbooks, wallets, watches, calculators, and other small electronics may be contained in a brief case. Similarly, they are aware that many gym bags contain valuable jewelry, keys, cash, electronics, etc.

After removing valuables from view, lock your car doors. This will discourage some of the more casual thieves, the ones looking for the opportunity to steal. It will also deter those who would go into an unlocked car to look for a trunk or hood release button in order to steal auto parts or the contents of the trunk.

A theft from your vehicle can happen any hour of the day or night. By reporting suspicious activity, while it is occurring, you could save yourself or your neighbor from being victimized. If you see or hear something that seems unusual or suspicious;