

## Help Prevent Auto Theft

Don't make it easy for professional thieves or joy riders to steal your car.

- Lock your car and pocket the key when you leave - even if just for a minute. Close windows all the way and make sure the trunk is locked.
- Control your keys. Never leave an identification tag on your key ring. If your keys are lost or stolen it could help a thief locate your car and burglarize your home.
- Park in well-lit, busy areas. Avoid leaving your vehicle in unattended parking lots for long periods of time when possible. If you park in a lot where you must leave a key, leave the ignition key only to protect items in trunk or glove box. Never leave a key ring with your home keys attached.
- When buying a car ask about anti-theft options such as steering column locks, alarms, and switches that interrupt the fuel or electronic systems, and locks for tape decks, batteries, and gas tanks. Many insurance companies offer reduce rates to owners who install security devices.
- Keep your car's Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and a complete description in a safe place at home.
- Do **not** leave the title of your vehicle in your car. Keep it a secure place outside of the vehicle such as your house or safe deposit box.

If your vehicle is broken into or stolen, inform the police immediately. Stolen vehicles may be used in the commission of other crimes. Your quick action may aide in recovering your vehicle and preventing its use for illegal purposes.