

PREVENTION TIPS

- **Always keep your garage door shut and locked.** Even if you're nearby, an overhead garage door is an open invitation to thieves. If you find yourself forgetting to close your garage door, consider installing a garage door sensor or an automatic garage door closer – which will shut it after a certain amount of time.
- **Use light.** Prevent thieves by keeping the area around your garage and home well-lit. Consider investing in motion-activated flood lights and install them near garage windows and doors.
- **Don't leave your garage door opener in your vehicle.** Instead of leaving your garage door opener clipped to the visor in your vehicle, consider replacing it with a keychain remote that you can keep with you at all times. Another option is a smart garage door opener, which allows you to open and close your garage from anywhere via your smartphone.
- **Add an additional lock to your service door.** Most exterior garage service doors with standard locks can be easily compromised. Add on a deadbolt and replace the strike plate with a reinforced one – using a minimum of 3-inch screws to secure it. Also consider adding a lock to your fence side gate if you have one.

GARAGE THEFT

Prevention Strategies and Resources



REPORT A THEFT



Call **911** when a crime is in progress or you need an immediate officer response.



Call **651-291-1111** to request an SPPD response in a non-emergency situation.



File an **online police report** by scanning the **QR code** or visiting **stpaul.gov/police**.

- **Zip tie or shield the emergency release cord.** Use a zip tie or garage shield to secure or cover your garage door's emergency release cord. These are inexpensive and easy additions to increase your garage security, while still keeping the release cord accessible in case of an emergency.
- **Watch for suspicious activity.** Keep an eye out for vehicles that don't belong to your neighbors driving through repeatedly or parked in alleyways or consider investing in an outdoor security camera. If you see suspicious activity, witness a crime, or feel unsafe, call 911.

