

Valuables and Your Vehicle

Leaving items on display; whether in or on a dashboard, a mounted cradle or even sitting on the passenger seat is an open invitation for opportunist criminals.

In West Linn a majority of vehicles broken into occur outside private homes, driveways or on the street in front of the victim's home. Thefts from vehicles would be drastically reduced if you lock your car doors and avoid leaving valuables inside in sight of a passerby.

Tips for protecting your valuables:

- Have a garage? Use it! Rather than parking outside where your vehicle is more vulnerable, park in your garage as often as possible. Always remember to lock both the garage and your vehicle.
- NEVER leave your garage door opener in an unlocked vehicle (treat them like your keys).
- Use outdoor lighting (porch and motion lights help deter crime).
- Remove ALL items of value such as handbags, wallets, cell phones, MP3 Players, iPods, laptops, GPS, etc...from the car when you are not driving. Take out removable radios and faceplates.
- Engrave expensive accessories with your contact information.
- Do not leave anything in your glove compartment or center console (it is often the first place thieves look). *To include: Registration or Title's.*
- DO NOT cover items in your car with a blanket or jacket. Ideally, you should take them with you, but if unavoidable; place them in your trunk prior to the arrival of your destination.
- Make sure all windows are completely closed.
- Park in a well lit area close to your destination.
- Avoid parking between large vehicles (they provide cover for thieves).
- Record Serial Numbers of your valuables

Get involved!

Be your neighbor's eyes and ears. Talk to neighbors regarding activity in the neighborhood. Becoming familiar with those who belong in your neighborhood can help reduce crime.

CALL 9-1-1

When a crime is in progress OR if you feel a crime could be committed.