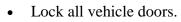
West Springfield District Station - Crime Prevention Unit 703-644-5026 <u>michael.stewart@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>

Vehicle Security:



- Remove valuables from vehicle.
- Absolutely never leave a GPS device affixed to the windshield when not in use, remove and store in console, glove box, or better yet, inside a home.
- Lock your vehicle even when parked in a garage.
- If your vehicle has an alarm, please activate when vehicle not in use.
- If you have an alarm service, i.e., On-Star, Lojack, please keep current on monthly fees (in-service).
- Be familiar with your vehicle information (VIN, Registration number, Insurance carrier) should an incident occur.
- Never leave your vehicle idling without someone in the vehicle.
- Never leave a spare key hidden within the vehicle.
- Never leave a key in the ignition (unattended).

Home Security:

- Lock all doors and windows to the home when away (vacation, running errands, etc). This holds true at night when you are sleeping.
- If the home has an alarm system, please use it. Ensure it's registered with the county.
- If you have an attached garage, please close the door. If on vacation, deactivate the automatic garage door opener.
- Change your alarm code every once in a while.
- Lock all interior doors leading to the main house. This includes basement and garage doors.
- Use exterior lighting. Flood lights, motion detectors, lamp posts are essential to deterrence.
- Trim bushes around windows.
- Do not leave valuables in plain view of a window, i.e. a purse sitting on a table next to a door or window.
- If you "hide" a door key on the exterior of the home, be sure it's well hidden. It's better to give the key to a neighbor.
- If you have extension ladders in the tool shed, under a deck, etc., it's worth securing with a lock.
- Secure all tool sheds (easy source of tools to gain entry to your home).
- Be conscientious of open second story windows, decks, or other means criminals may use to climb to a second story window.
- Make sure deadbolts are installed on exterior doors (single key, double key).
- Consider enhanced locking devices for sliding windows (pins).
- Get to know your neighbors, your neighborhood, watch out for each other.
- If you notice suspicious persons or activity, call the non-emergency police number (703-691-2131) and report it.

