

# PREVENTING CAR BREAK-INS



## **LOCK YOUR DOORS, WINDOWS, AND SUNROOFS**

The majority of car break-ins reported involve unlocked cars parked in the **owner's driveway**. No matter where you park (i.e., home, gym, coffee shop, store or gas station). **ALWAYS LOCK YOUR DOORS**. This type of theft is usually a crime of opportunity.

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU NOTICE A CAR BREAK-IN HAS OCCURRED**

**DIAL 911** and **DON'T TOUCH** the car or the contents. An Officer will respond to the scene. Inform the Officer of the last time the car was secured or viewed and if you notice any items are out-of-place (i.e., items on the floor or glove box contents on the seat). Provide serial numbers, descriptions, or photos for any electronics or high-valued items missing.

## **PARKING YOUR VEHICLE**

When parked at home, it is a good idea to **REMOVE** all keys and garage door openers from the vehicle to prevent access to your home. When parking in public, if possible, park in well-lit, highly visible areas. During holidays or retail shopping days, lock packages and purchased items in the trunk, out of plain view.

## **REMOVE ALL VALUABLES FROM SIGHT**

GPS units, phones, laptops, and cash are tempting invitations for your car to be broken into. Secure all valuables in the trunk or take them with you. Do this prior to reaching your destination in case a thief is watching as you leave your vehicle. Visible loose change and gift cards are some of the most common items taken.

## **Avon Police Department**

Emergency: 911  
Routine: 860-409-4200