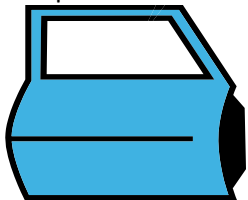


## Theft from Vehicles.....

The recent increase in popularity of expensive electronic accessories has given rise to the theft of these items from vehicles: cellular phones, GPS units, DVD players, CD players and other such devices are now being stolen at an alarming rate. Once a thief breaks into your vehicle to steal it, they will also steal your personal items such as checkbooks, credit cards, and other personal values.

### IF YOU ARE A VICTIM

1. Remain calm. If the theft occurs on campus call the University police at 423-439-4480.
2. If your car and accessories are stolen, the police officer will need specific information to identify the car, parts or accessories. Using the card in this brochure, take the time to record the following detailed information:
  - Year, Make, Model, & Color
  - State License plate number
  - Tires-size brand & serial number
  - cellular phone, stereo, CD player, GPS units, & other equipment (description, make, and serial number)
  - Dents, scratches, or other accidental damage that make your car different from others of same make and model.
  - Secret identificationExamples: scratch your initials inside the trunk or under the hood; slide a small card with your name alongside a window so that it will drop inside the door panel.



## CRIME PREVENTION

Crime prevention has been defined as the anticipation, the recognition and the appraisal of a crime risk and the intention of some action to remove or reduce it.



DETACH AND KEEP IN WALLET

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION	
Year _____	Make _____
Model _____	
License Plate _____	State _____
Color _____	
Vehicle ID No. _____	
Additional Info. _____	
_____	
Insurance Agent _____	
Policy# _____	
Agent Name _____	



# Preventing



# Auto Theft

**Campus Police**  
**423-439-4480 or 911**  
**Email: [bucprevention@etsu.edu](mailto:bucprevention@etsu.edu)**

**The University Police** is responsible for the safety and security of the university community, State property, and personal property. This task, however, is one that we cannot accomplish alone. We need the help and support of every student, faculty/staff, and community guest. I hope you will join us in our efforts to provide for a safe and secure academic environment.

### **Vehicle Theft Facts...**

Nationwide, motor vehicles are stolen at a rate of one every minute, meaning over a million vehicles will be stolen a year. Prime targets are late model cars or the sporty high-powered models. Of the automobiles stolen, 80% had been left unlocked and 40% of those had the keys left in the ignition.



### **Protect Your Car...**

The following suggestions are made to help YOU protect your car:

1. Lock all of your car doors. Double check to make sure all windows and sunroofs have either been rolled up or closed

2. Activate any car alarm system and utilize other anti-theft devices such as the steering club, gearshift locks, and brake pedal locks.

3. Take the car keys with you. Consider separating your car keys from your house or apartment keys.

4. If you park in a lot or restaurant with an attendant and must leave your keys, leave only the ignition key. Thieves can make a key impression in seconds and later duplicate your key.

5. When you park your car, check the odometer and gas gauge. They will subsequently let you know if someone has driven it while you were away.

6. Avoid placing any type of identification on your key ring. If the keys are stolen, identification will serve as a guide for the thief.

7. Avoid "hidden keys," A magnetic key holder device that allows someone to conceal their vehicle key under the car. The experienced or determined thief will find them.

8. At night, try to park in well-lit and well traveled areas.

9. Report suspicious cars, persons lingering around cars or abandoned cars to the police.

10. Never leave your car unattended with the keys in the car or the engine running.

11. Consider purchasing Lo-Jack or other vehicle tracking system.



### **Secure Your Possessions...**

The following suggestions are for your consideration:

1. Keep all personal property out of sight, preferably locked in the trunk. This is a good tip to remember when shopping, especially during the holiday season.

2. Avoid leaving checkbooks and credit cards in your car.

3. Remove pull-out stereos, cellular phones and antennas, if possible. Avoid depending upon locking devices which leave the units exposed in your car.

4. Participate in Operation Identification. Mark your valuables and record the serial numbers.

5. If your car is not so equipped, consider the installation of an interior hood release.

6. You may want to have a burglar alarm system installed in your car.

7. Purchase smooth, non-flared door locking buttons to discourage the thief with a coat hanger.