

Report Suspicious Activity

The Winter Springs Police Department would like your help by following these tips to aid in reducing auto burglaries.

Remember that the best prevention against thefts from vehicles is always to lock your vehicle and not leave valuables visible. Let's get together in moving the thieves out of Winter Springs. Don't be a victim; be safe.

If you do see suspicious activity, it is essential to report it immediately to the Winter Springs Police Department by calling 911. If possible, get a good description of the person(s), his/her clothing, color and make of vehicle and direction of travel. It is not always possible to get a complete vehicle license number. Even a partial License number is helpful. If you are not sure where you are, look for a landmark or a street address on a building.

If you feel uncomfortable about calling the police department, you can report suspicious activity anonymously to CRIMELINE at 800-423-TIPS or visit www.crimeline.org You don't have to give your name.



Winter Springs Police Department

300 North Moss Road
Winter Springs, FL 32708
Emergency: 911
407-327-1000
www.winterspringsfl.org



Lock It or Lose It

Winter Springs
Police Department

Winter Springs Police Department
www.winterspringsfl.org

Deterring Criminals

Follow these suggestions to deter criminals:

- Take your keys out of your vehicle
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only your ignition/door key with a valet lot attendant
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Hide your valuables in your trunk, if you leave them in your vehicle
- Use and lock your garage door with your vehicle inside
- Engrave expensive accessories to mark your possessions
- Use tire or wheel lock
- Install an audible alarm
- Avoid parking between large vehicles and big bushes (they provide cover for thieves)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it; Call 911 or security for an escort

Hiding Valuables

Avoid leaving these items in plain view:

- Electronics (cell phones, GPS navigation systems, computers, etc.)
- Charger cords
- Antennas
- Cigarettes or medicine
- Money (loose change)
- Purses, briefcases, wallets, or credit cards
- Weapons

- Packages with your address listed
- Personal belongings that could hold any value (clothing, sports equipment, etc.)

Criminal Methods

Be aware of potential entry methods:

- Unlocked doors (the most common method of entry by 90%)
- Breaking windows
- Pried or jimmied windows or doors
- Open windows, vent, sunroofs, or convertible tops

Be aware of these high risk areas:

- Parking lots (apartment, shopping centers, restaurants, city parks, and bar)
- Single-family residence driveways
- Auto repair shops and dealers

Be aware of signs of these suspicious actions:

- Pulling door handles
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of the year (long coats and gloves worn in the summer)
- Lookouts
- Nervous or rushing behavior
- Checking for alarms by bumping windows or bumpers for sensitivity

Practice TLC:

Take out valuables

Lock your vehicle

Closed your windows & sunroof

Take out valuables

If you can leave your valuables at home, do so. Otherwise, take your valuables with you rather than leaving them in your vehicle. If you have to leave them, place them in your trunk before arriving at your destination.

Lock your vehicle

Verify that your vehicle is securely locked before leaving the area. Keyless or remote locking systems can malfunction from a low battery, leaving your vehicle vulnerable. Make sure it's locked! Check your remote locking and alarm activation devices batteries regularly.

Close your windows & sunroofs

Windows and sunroofs allow a thief to access your vehicle quickly and quietly. Even a crack in the window makes a thief's job much easier. Verify that your windows are rolled up and the sunroof is closed before leaving the vehicle.