

# CAR BREAK-IN PREVENTION TIPS

A REMINDER TO



# HIDE YOUR THINGS



# LOCK YOUR CAR



# TAKE YOUR KEYS

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.  
CALL 911 TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.



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7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, MD 21046



## CAR BREAK-IN PREVENTION TIPS

Car break-ins are a common crime and Howard County is not immune to them. The good news is that there are things you can do to protect yourself from having your car broken into or damaged.



## HOW CAN YOU FIGHT BACK

1. Put your possessions in the trunk before you arrive at the park.
2. Never leave items visible inside your vehicle.
3. Take your possessions with you; leave them at home; or store them in your trunk before you get to the park. For example: GPS units, handbags, purses, wallets, gym bags, briefcases. High dollar items such as cell phones, laptops and tablets.
4. Roll up your car windows, lock your doors, and engage your car alarm.



## SUSPICIOUS EVENTS TO WATCH FOR AND REPORT

- Someone peering into parked cars.
- People in the park after hours  
*(unless the park is designated for night-time activities).*
- People loitering in the park.
- The sound of breaking glass/or broken glass on ground.



## BE A GOOD WITNESS

- Call 911 if you witness a car break-in.
- Relay the following information to the operator:
  - Location
  - Physical description of thief
  - Make/model of thief's car
  - License plate number of thief's car
  - Direction getaway car was going
  - Description of the victim's car



## IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF A CAR BREAK-IN

- Call 911
- Call a Howard County Park Ranger: 410-245-1410
- If safe to do so, remain by your car.
- Do not touch or enter your car. Please preserve the crime scene.



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