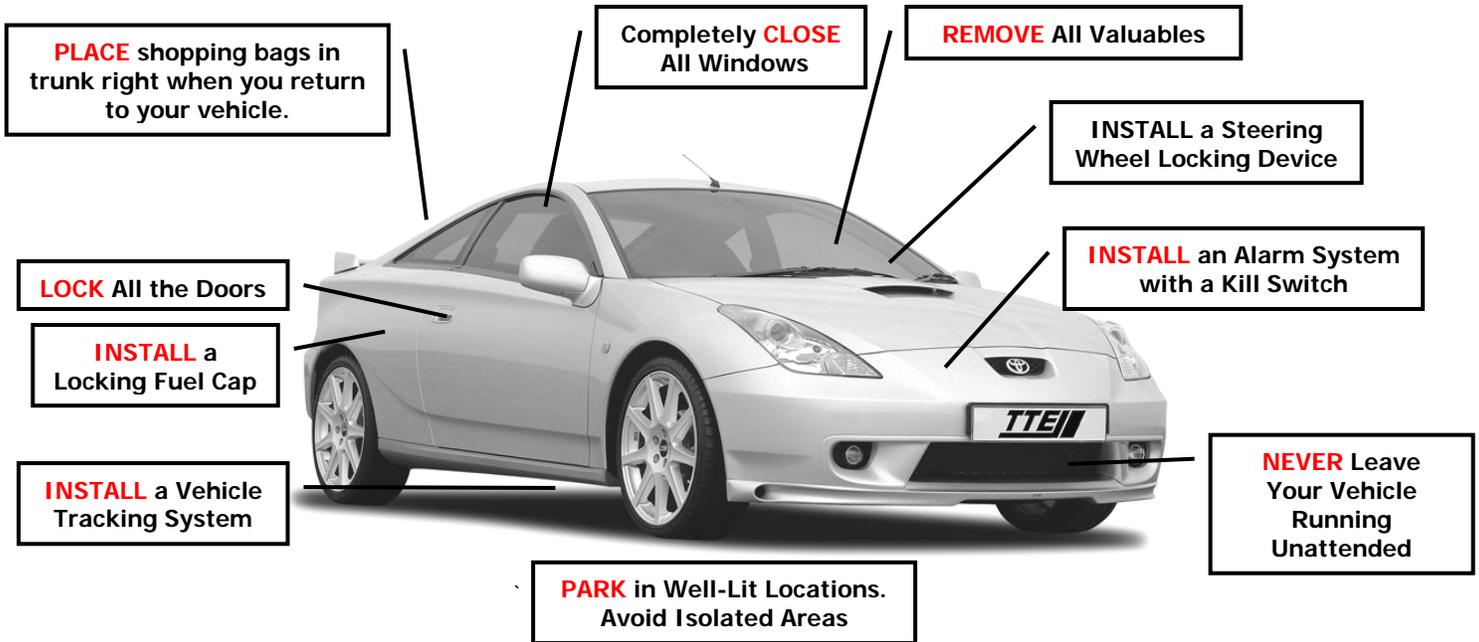


TEN WAYS TO REDUCE AUTO THEFTS & BREAK-INS



TEN WAYS TO REDUCE RESIDENTIAL BREAK-INS



www.maplevalleywa.gov/police

Call Maple Valley Police for a home security inspection
425-413-5158

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

A Neighborhood Watch is a program of neighbors helping neighbors. The Block Watch Program is a free community-based crime prevention program. Residents on a street or in a complex form a communication chain, aided by a block map of names, telephone numbers, and addresses. They make a commitment to watch out for each other's homes, and report suspicious activities to the police and to each other. They also keep each other informed about neighborhood occurrences, burglary, thefts, and other crimes or problems occurring on their street.

Getting Started

- Contact your neighbors and encourage them to join in forming a Neighborhood Watch
- Obtain information to create a neighborhood map and telephone pyramid
- Select a time, date and location for your Neighborhood Watch meetings i.e., private home, community room, etc.
- Contact the Maple Valley Police Department at 425-413-5158 to check availability of an officer to attend your meeting
- Notify your neighbors of the confirmed meeting details

Residents should

- Select a Neighborhood Watch Captain.
- Provide each home with a copy of the telephone pyramid and neighborhood map.

The Neighborhood Watch Captain should be someone who has strong organizational skills. The Captain is responsible to ensure that all activities are performed and delegated whenever possible. Responsibilities of the Neighborhood Watch Captain include:

- Organize monthly meetings or contacts.
- Contact residents who were unable to attend the meeting to pass on information, explain the program and encourage participation.
- Order Neighborhood Watch signs and Operations ID materials.
- Encourage information sharing of suspicious activity, problems or needs.
- Organize the annual National Night Out event (1st Tuesday of August).
- Act as the liaison between your Neighborhood Watch and the Police Department (E-mail or photocopy newsletters or special bulletins received from MVPD to all members of the Neighborhood Watch).

Neighborhood Watch is a community program and will only be as effective as the community makes it. Independent studies have shown that Neighborhood Watches, when properly run, can reduce property crimes significantly. For example, burglaries can be reduced up to 60%. Being a Neighborhood Watch Captain can be a vital service to your community.

