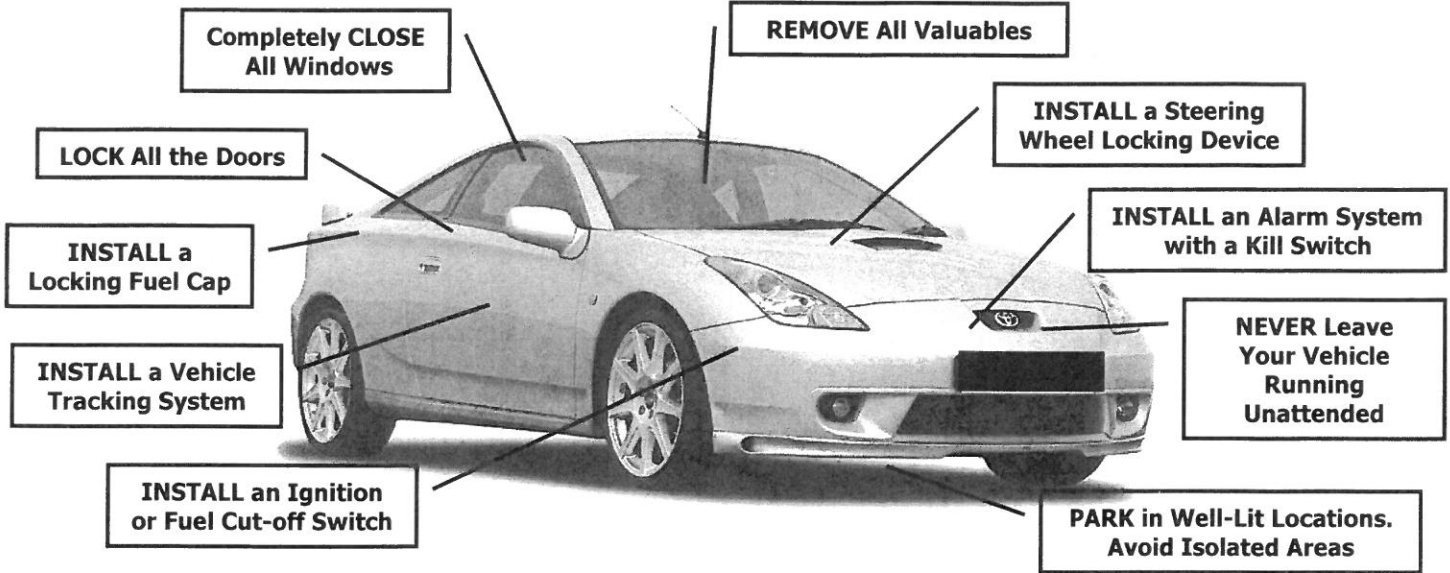




Auto thefts? Car break-ins? NOT in Pierce County! Ten Ways to Reduce Auto Thefts & Break-ins



The Pierce County Sheriff's Department
Is concerned about **VEHICLE BREAK-INS**
We don't want **YOU** to be the next victim!



Are any of these items visible in YOUR vehicle?

- ▶ Cell Phone or GPS Unit
- ▶ Music CDs or mp3 players
- ▶ Purse and/or wallet
- ▶ Shopping bags, clothes, or other merchandise
- ▶ Laptop or other electronic equipment
- ▶ Sporting equipment or Tools
- ▶ Checkbooks or other papers for *identity theft*

If SO, a **THIEF** could **easily steal them in just seconds!**
PLEASE be sure your car is locked and has no valuables in sight.

*This information provided by the
Pierce County Sheriff's Department Community Support Team.*

THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. YOU DO NOT NEED TO CALL POLICE.

You CAN prevent vehicle break-ins

A vehicle break-in is the theft of property from your automobile. In 2015, there were **1880** vehicle break-ins & **1084** vehicle thefts reported in unincorporated Pierce County.

Vehicle break-ins only take a few moments – especially when the car is left unlocked or when thieves smash windows to grab items they have seen inside! Criminals often drive through parking lots looking for vehicles with open windows and/or unlocked doors. Vehicle prowlers also look for valuables left in the open such as cell phones, laptops, iPods and purses. If you must leave valuables in your car, conceal those items from view before arriving at your parking space, if possible.

Be aware that vehicle break-ins commonly lead to other crimes such as **fraud** and **identity theft**, so limit the amount of personal information you keep in your vehicle. Record serial numbers of your valuables and keep them in a safe place (*not* inside your vehicle).

If you see any suspicious persons or activity, call 9-1-1.

**For additional information contact the Community Support Team at
253-798-4842 or visit us at www.piercesheriff.org**