

## Lock It, Don't Leave it in View, or You Can Expect to Lose It!

Montgomery County residents are fortunate to live in a very safe County, but please do not take your safety

for granted. The vast majority of people become victims of theft from vehicle because they leave their vehicle unlocked. Don't make it easy for the bad guys. Officers frequently report watching potential thieves walk down residential streets testing the car handles to see which cars are open and easy to get into.

But even more important than locking, is to never leave anything of value within sight inside your vehicle. Cars in the County have been broken into because thieves have seen even a handful of spare change. So you certainly don't want to leave your purse, your laptop, even your sunglasses in view. Even if you've locked your vehicle, if a potential thief sees something inside, he is going to break into your car to get it.

We also ask our community members to be on the lookout, if a person, vehicle, situation seems suspicious, act on your gut instinct and call the police non-emergency number, 301-279-8000 and let an officer investigate. If you believe a crime is occurring, call 9-1-1. Take these simple prevention measures and you will definitely lessen your chance of becoming a victim.