

# **CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN**



## **Evanston Police Department**

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### **AUTO THEFT PREVENTION**

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, July and August are the top two months for vehicle thefts. There has recently been an increase in auto thefts in Evanston. The majority of the auto thefts have been by use of either a spare key or valet key that was stored inside the vehicle. Please follow the below proactive tips to assist with the prevention of auto thefts:

- Lock it up. Roll up the windows and lock your vehicle. Make sure you **take your keys with you, even if you park it in a garage.**
- If your vehicle has an alarm or an anti-theft device, use it.
- Hide your valuables. Items of value that are left in plain view attract thieves.
- Turn your car off. Never leave your car running and unattended.
- **Do not hide spare keys in vehicle.** Thieves know where to look.
- **Do not keep valet keys in vehicle.** Thieves know where to look.
- **Check your Owner's Manual for a Spare Key**

If you observe individuals looking in vehicles or checking car door handles or any other suspicious activity in your neighborhood, notify the police department by calling 9-1-1 or the non-emergency line at (847) 866-5000.

## **10-Ways to Reduce Auto Theft**

