

WORKING AS A COMMUNITY

The Redmond Police Department operates the with the department mission statement "To Provide Quality Policing In Partnership With The Community."

Fighting crime is a community effort and this includes vehicle prowls. Because these crimes are quick to happen, it is often difficult to catch a suspect in the act. Quick communication is key in catching vehicle prowlers. Call 911 immediately to report suspicious persons or vehicles in the area to receive a police response.



NEIGHBORHOOD

Statistics show that crime is lower in neighborhoods where residents know each other.

The success of a Neighborhood Block Watch is reflected in how the area is kept, how well-lit it is, and how quickly a stranger is confronted. Neighbors who take an active role in watching out for each other can help reduce the chances of being crime victims.

A Neighborhood Block Watch program starts with a meeting of all neighbors with the Police Department Crime Prevention Officer. This gives neighbors an opportunity to meet one another so if strangers are seen in the area they are easily identified.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about the information in this brochure or interest in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program, please call the Redmond Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at:

425-556-2545

Or visit:

www.redmond.gov/police



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Vehicle Prowls

City of Redmond Police Department



**The #1
Crime in
Redmond**





Remove it or "lose it"

If you don't take care of your vehicle, somebody else will.



VEHICLE PROWL

Vehicle prowl is the illegal entry into a vehicle with the intent to remove items or destroy property. Vehicle prowling is the number one property crime of focus in the City of Redmond.

Many of these vehicles are entered by an unlocked door or window. Large parking areas are prime targets for a prowler because they can enter several vehicles in a shorter span of time. This frequently occurs in parking lots of apartments, city parks, schools, and shopping centers. Vehicle prowlers also know the odds are that someone will leave a door unlocked, a window down, convertible top down, or even keys in the ignition. Valuables are often left in plain view like money, credit cards, cell phones, laptops, purses, and GPS units.



STATISTICS

Vehicle prowls accounted for 536 calls to the Redmond Police Department in 2006 and 578 in 2007. In 2006, 20 of those vehicle prowls specifically targeted GPS units. In 2007, nearly 100 vehicle prowls targeted GPS units, an increase of 370%. Many times, these situations could have been avoided had proper crime prevention steps been taken.

PREVENTION

The Redmond Police Department believes in working with the community to prevent crimes. You are an important member of this team, please consider the following tips:

1. Lock your vehicle.
2. Secure windows, doors, and tops.
3. Remove all valuables from your vehicle.
4. Park in an area that is well-lit. Inform management if your lot lacks proper lighting.
5. When possible engrave all items with your Washington State Driver's License or Identification Card Number.
6. Keep serial numbers of all electronics and other items that have one.
7. If you hear something suspicious (glass shattering, for example) or see someone looking in vehicles, call 911 immediately.
8. Don't hesitate to call, the vehicle they choose next time might be yours.
9. Alarm it. There are a number of vehicle alarms that will do the trick. If you alarm it—advertise it; Put an alarm sticker on the window.
10. If your stereo, GPS unit, or anything else valuable is removable—remove it.
11. Take your garage door opener with you when leaving your vehicle. If someone steals it, then they can open your garage and possibly access your home through the interior door.

