

Vehicle Crime Prevention Tips

Vehicle Theft or Break-in Prevention:

- Lock your vehicle when parked. Do not leave the windows open.
- When possible, park in your garage. Otherwise, park in a well-lit area.
- Remove any valuable items and do not use your car for storage.
 - Do not store firearms in your car.
 - Do not leave valuables such as laptops/iPads, cell phones, cash & loose change, GPS devices, sports equipment, or important papers and documents in your vehicle.
 - Do not leave packages in plain view. Put them in the trunk or cover them.
- Do not leave your car running while you check your mailbox or do other “quick” things requiring you to leave your car unattended. *It is a misdemeanor in North Carolina to leave your vehicle unattended while it is running.*
- Do not leave a spare key inside the vehicle.
- Do not allow people you don’t know to use your vehicle or access to your keys!
- Utilize anti-theft and/or vehicle alarms; consider a steering wheel locking device.
- Use an ignition kill system to prevent your car from being started.
- If you have any information about vehicle thefts or break-ins, please contact the Durham Police’s Community Resource Unit at (919) 560-4404.

Traffic Violence Prevention:

- Minimize the risk of killing or injuring yourself and others by following the rules of the road and by being a predictable driver:
 - Always wear your seatbelt and require all passengers to wear their seatbelt or be in an appropriate child safety seat.
 - Do not exceed the speed limit, especially on neighborhood streets.
 - Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists. They may have the right-of-way.
 - Stop completely at stop signs and use your turn signal.
- When driving, minimize distractions caused by cell phones, eating, or other passengers. Focus on the task of driving with your hands on the wheel and eyes on the road.

The Durham Police Department Emergency number is 911.

The Durham Police Department Non-Emergency number is (919) 560-4600.