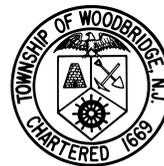


# NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

July 31, 2019

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Woodbridge Police Department

732-634-7700

## **WOODBIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATING COLONIA-AREA AUTO THEFTS**

Woodbridge, NJ - The Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) is actively investigating a series of auto thefts and/or the burglary of items of value from automobiles parked primarily in the estate section of Colonia.

The WPD investigation has determined that the thefts occur during the early morning hours - between 3:00 and 6:00 AM. The suspects cruise the street(s) looking for unlocked vehicles parked in driveway(s) or on the street in front of the residence. The investigation found that a majority of the stolen vehicles were unlocked and that the key FOB was left in the vehicle or was stored in close proximity, making it easy for the criminal to steal the vehicle.

The WPD has increased patrols and reassigned personnel and are participating in a multi-jurisdictional investigation to address the increased instances of motor vehicle theft. While numerous arrests have been made, the theft and/or burglary of unlocked motor vehicle(s) continues to remain a crime of opportunity.

The WPD reminds residents and vehicle owners...

1. **LOCK ALL VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES.**
2. **REMOVE ANY VALUABLES (ELECTRONIC DEVICES, CASH OR OTHER ITEMS) FROM INSIDE THE VEHICLE.**
3. **ALWAYS REMOVE THE KEY FOB (OR ELECTRONIC KEY) FROM THE CAR - IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT KEY FOBS KEPT IN THE VEHICLE (OR WITHIN CLOSE PROXIMITY) MAKE THE CRIME OF AUTO THEFT FAR EASIER FOR THE CRIMINAL.**
4. **REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO THE WPD.**
5. **IF YOU SEE SOMETHING... IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE WPD AT: 732-634-7700 OR IN AN EMERGENCY CONTACT 9-1-1.**

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