AVOIDING CAR PROWLS

Car prowls can occur in any parking lot or along any street at any time of the day. Police Officers commonly report that they see a lot of vehicles that are improperly secured and which contain tempting items in plain sight. Incidents of this type of crime can be reduced with care and caution.

University Police and Risk Management encourages University and rental car users to follow some simple, yet effective, tips for preventing car prowls:

- Do not leave expensive personal or University items in the vehicle.
- If possible, remove radios and other electronic gear from the vehicle. Lock them in the trunk or take them with you.
- Keep your car locked, close windows/sunroofs and take the keys.
- Don’t leave packages or personal and University items in full view inside the vehicle. Put them in the trunk or somewhere out of sight.

It also helps to select parking locations that are well lit and in view of pedestrian activity. University Police also encourages the reporting of any suspicious activity, such as strangers hanging around parking lots, or persons looking into cars or trucks in parking lots. Report all suspicious activity or car prowl incidents to local law enforcement.