

Seasonal crime tips from the Oak Park Police

The Oak Park Police Department is working to raise public awareness of some common crimes of the season by offering the following tips to help reduce the chances of become a victim.

Motor vehicle theft...Many autos are reported stolen during colder months after being left unattended to warm up, unlocked and running with the keys in the ignition. This can happen on the street, in a garage or while making a quick stop at a store. Leaving a running vehicle unattended not only increases its risk of it being stolen, it also is a violation of state law.



Auto burglaries...Packages and valuables left visible in auto – even if it is locked – are an invitation to thieves who may be willing to damage the vehicle to get at them. And if you have to make multiple trips from your car to your home to unload, be alert – especially if the trunk or a door must be left open.

Package theft...If you are expecting deliveries, make arrangements with friends, family or neighbors so that packages will not be left out where thieves can see and get them.

Pickpockets and thieves...While out shopping or dining take care with purses, bags and wallets. Thieves like bags and purses hanging on chair backs, left in shopping carts, sitting unattended or simply put down while the owner answers a telephone or is otherwise distracted.

Residents are urged to report any suspicious activity to the Police. In an emergency always call **911**. For non-emergencies call **708.386.3800**. For more information or additional crime tips visit **www.oak-park.us/police** or contact your resident beat officer.

