

Community Update

Provided by Crime Awareness Unit of the DeKalb County Police Department

23 October 2008

“Auto Thefts” or “Stolen Vehicles”



Now that the cold weather season is approaching, the potential for Auto Thefts are prone to increase. The increase, unfortunately, could be victim motivated; this means that during the colder months car owners who warm up their cars and leave them unattended contribute to these statistics.

- During the winter months, Detectives estimate that 20-30% of cars reported stolen are taken during this moment of opportunity
- Leaving keys, purses, computers, etc. in the vehicle gives opportunity to other criminal activity (i.e. burglaries, Identity Theft and Fraud)

If you are a victim of an **Auto Theft**, please dial **911** immediately to alert the police of the incident.

H-E-A-T.
Help Eliminate Auto Thefts

Ways to possibly avoid becoming an **Auto Theft** victim:

- Do not leave your running vehicle unsecured and unattended at any time
- Always lock your vehicle when parked in your driveway/carport
- Stay with your vehicle during the warming-up process to avoid availability to thieves
- Call 911 for any suspicious persons or vehicles in your community
- Communicate with your neighbors on reported incidents to avoid others becoming future victims



*** Remember if you do not inform the Police,
the Police do not know what's happening in your community. ***

