



## Preventing wintertime auto theft

During the colder months, car thieves take advantage of residents who leave their cars running unattended.

The temptation to start the car and let it warm up while you stay warm inside or leaving it running while doing a short errand could be a costly mistake! Officers may issue tickets (with fines of \$34) to any cars that are running with no driver present.



Even if you lock the car, it only takes seconds to break a window or jimmy a door lock. It is against City ordinance to leave your keys in the ignition while you are not in your car (Minneapolis City Ordinance 478.160, Open Ignition—a petty misdemeanor)\*. In fact, if your car is reported stolen and your keys are in it, you may get a ticket.

Running your car to keep it warm may leave you in the cold! Please help us to reduce this winter crime.

Contact your crime prevention specialist for additional prevention information. Call 311 (or 612-673-3000) or see [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf) to locate your neighborhood crime prevention specialist.

For further crime prevention resources, please visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/).

\* The use of remote car starters is legal but still provide temptations.



**English:** Attention. If you want help translating this information, call 612-673-3737

**Spanish:** Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700

**Somali:** Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500

**Hmong:** Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800

**Sign Language:** TTY 612-673-2626

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the Minneapolis Police Department at 612-673-2912.