



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Wheat Ridge, CO — FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Crime Alert: Thefts from Motor Vehicles

Wheat Ridge, CO ~ The Wheat Ridge Police Department has seen a recent increase in theft from motor vehicle cases (First Degree Criminal Trespass). These cases have occurred at all times of the day as well as the middle of the night. In July 2014, there were 41 reported cases of theft from motor vehicles.

During the day time, these thieves have targeted parking lots at retail locations, parks and recreation centers. The thieves will either break out a window or search for vehicles that are already unlocked. They loiter in the area and watch people place valuables in trunks or under the seats in the cars. When the owner walks away, the thieves break into the vehicle and take anything of value. In nearly 50% of the July cases, the cars were trespassed through unlocked doors and open windows.

At night, the thieves have targeted residential areas, looking for vehicles that are unlocked and have small valuables in them. They take small change that is thrown into the cup holder, sunglasses, cigarettes, wallets, checkbooks, various electronics, GPS units and anything else that is not attached.

As always, we ask the residents of Wheat Ridge to always be aware of their surroundings. Here are a few tips to avoid becoming a victim:

- Do not leave valuables in your car
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Promptly report suspicious persons to the Wheat Ridge Police Department at (303) 237-2220
- Remember... If you see something, say something

For more crime prevention tips, you can go to the Wheat Ridge Police Department webpage at <http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/345/Crime-Prevention>.

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Wheat Ridge Police