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CD players, car stereos, GPS navigation systems, purses, wallets, cellular telephones, loose change and tools . . . what do they have in common? They are the top items stolen from vehicles in Burleson. Other prime targets are iPods, CDs, radar detectors, briefcases/work bags, computers, jewelry, guns and garage door openers.

More than half of the time, the thieves don't even have to work to get what they want. There is no forced entry . . . the vehicles are left unlocked, and, the majority are in residential areas.

How do you, as a resident, businessperson, or just someone who visits or travels through Burleson make a difference? Here are five easy steps to prevent vehicle theft.

- Lock your vehicle-all windows and doors. It seems obvious but too many people don't lock their vehicles.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight in the vehicle.
- Park in busy, well-lighted and well-traveled areas.
- If your vehicle has an alarm or anti-theft device, use it.
- Report people who look suspicious. Have a good description of what the person looks like, what they are driving, and their location, when you call 911.

For more information on neighborhood watch groups and crime prevention, e-mail cro@burlesontx.com or call the police department at 817-426-9910. If you are a victim of a crime, call 911.