Vehicle theft is a worldwide crime that affects not only the owner of the vehicle, but also affects the insurance rates of all vehicle owners. According to nation wide statistics, a vehicle is stolen approximately every 19 seconds. In 2003, over 1,500,000 vehicles were stolen. A high percentage of the total number of vehicles stolen was a crime of opportunity. Everyday, cars, trucks, motorcycles are stolen from malls, convenience stores, streets, driveways, parking lots and garages because the owner left the door unlocked, windows cracked or left a valuable object out in plain view. There is good news for students, faculty, staff, and law abiding citizens because with a little common sense, you don't have to be a victim of vehicle theft.

There are some measures that can be taken to greatly decrease the odds of your vehicle being the next statistic. Below is a list of prevention tips that should be implemented into your daily routine.

**Prevention Tips**

- Never leave your car unlocked.
- Never leave your car running unattended.
- Never leave your keys in the car ignition.
- Always roll your windows up and lock the car, even if you are parked in your driveway.
- Never leave valuables, cell phones, or radar detectors out in plain view, even if your car doors are locked. This is the number one reason cars are broken into.

- Always park in busy, well-lighted areas.
- Invest in a mechanical device that locks the steering, column or brake to prevent the wheel from turning. Commonly referred to as a Club, collars or j-bars.
- Research for the purchase of an auto security system. Many insurance agencies may give a discount for such a security system. Check your current insurance agency now!
- Always leave just your ignition key with the attendant, if you park at a garage or just simply dropping your car off at a repair shop.
- Always keep insurance information and registration with you. Do not leave your personal information or credit cards in the vehicle.
- Copy your license plate number and VIN numbers on a card and keep them with your driver's license. If you vehicle is stolen, the police will need this information promptly.
- If you see something suspicious call your Campus Safety or local police.
Safety and security are important issues for the entire Wayne County Community College District community. Each member of the College's campus communities - faculty, staff, and students - are responsible for taking an active role in both reporting and preventing incidents that might jeopardize the safety of others attending, visiting or working at Wayne County Community College District. It is the College's intent to provide the safe environment needed for its members to successfully pursue their various goals.

Wayne County Community College District has a strong commitment to the safety and security of its facilities. Every effort is made to ensure that buildings and grounds are maintained in such a way to minimize any criminal opportunities.

Exterior lighting, security patrols, alarm systems, and surveillance monitoring of interior and exterior sites are just a few of the security measures taken by the College for the safety of the College community. All students, faculty, staff and visitors are encouraged to be actively aware of their surroundings and mindful of their personal protection. Concerns regarding exterior lighting and other safety matters should be reported to the Security Station at the appropriate College facility.

Students, employees, and visitors have access to most areas on the campuses during regular College hours as posted at each facility. A high-security keying system is used to limit access to computer areas, laboratories, storage areas, shops, and similar areas to times when an attendant is present. Administrative hours are 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. Parking is limited to students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

It is the intent of Wayne County Community College District to make every effort to prevent crime rather than react to crime after it has occurred. The College makes every effort to inform the College community on matters of awareness, events of importance, and personal safety. Bulletin boards are maintained at each campus safety station. Information pertinent to safety concerns, personal protection, community feedback, and other information that might be required by applicable laws and ordinances are posted on these bulletin boards.