



Security Tips from the Laurelhurst Private Security Team

1. **Light up your house numbers**, so police can find your home. If the number is on the curb, do not cover it with a parked car.
2. **Lock your car!** Do not leave your car unlocked - **ever**.
3. **Remove all belongings from your car and PORCH.** The most recent targets for thieves are packages, *GPS* devices, iPods, laptops, CDs, backpacks, packages/bags from stores (new merchandise). Apparently, they target cars who display the "disc" imprint left by use of the *GPS*. Laurelhurst is offering "good stuff" to "fence" right now!
4. Clean out your garage and use it for your car. It may be cheaper to rent a storage unit for other items than risk auto prowls.
5. **Install motion-sensor lights** near your entry doors and driveways.
6. **Report any suspicious behavior** - unknown cars, vans, etc. - to 911 so it can be checked out immediately.
7. **Do not open your door to strangers**, and report aggressive or suspicious solicitations to 911.
8. **Report crime (including a car prowling of any nature)** through 911 so the case is assigned a number. Increased reports may help the neighborhood get extra patrols.

Prius catalytic converters are a hot item and trafficked easily and profitably for the rare metal Palladium, which is currently in short supply due to its high demand for use in electronics manufacturing. Removal of a catalytic converter takes under five minutes. The catalytic converters in Prius models prior to 2011 contain more Palladium than current models, so earlier models are at greater risk. Because of increased thefts, the wait for repair could be weeks. To prevent an expensive theft, install a security panel.