

- Our hope is that an individual's car won't be an automatic target."
- Use a friction mount on top of your instrument panel or an AC vent mount for your GPS. These do not leave the traces that the suction cup mount does. Keep your dashboard dust free so the friction mount location does not show in the dust.
- The little suction cup circle left on the windshield automatically targets your car as having a portable GPS system. If the circle residue is wiped away, and the system is removed, then it is NOT so readily apparent that your car may have a portable GPS System.



• **REMEMBER,**
YOU ARE THE SECRET
TO
STOPPING MOTOR VEHICLE BREAKS
AND
GPS THEFTS!

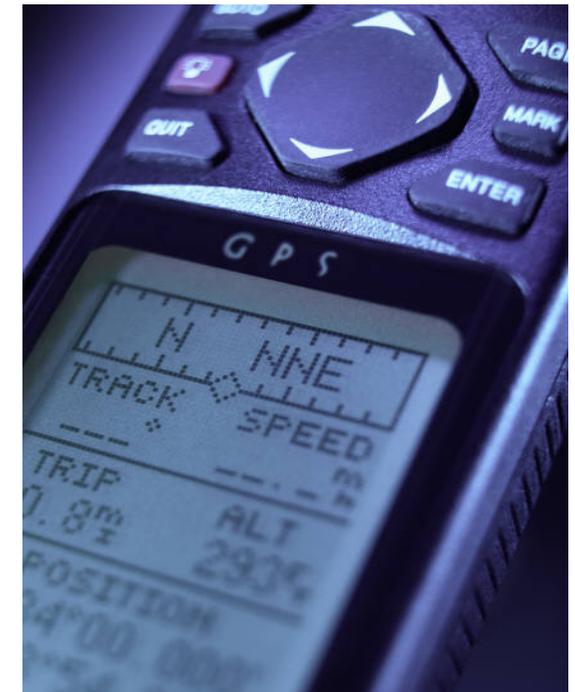


MSOL Website
www.masafetyofficers.org

MSOL Membership Application Website
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Safety Tips On Preventing GPS Thefts



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GPS Thefts have been increasing at an alarming rate! The recent rise in popularity of Global Positioning Systems, CD Players and iPods among American Consumers has also led to a rise in the number of motor vehicles being broken in to that contain these devices! Some crime experts believe portable GPS systems and iPods are “Crimogenic”— that is, they can actually create crimes. As more and more people purchase GPS Units, more and more thieves steal them!



When someone becomes the victim of a GPS thief, they not only lose the GPS Unit, but they usually have an expensive auto repair bill because the thief usually breaks their window or tears out their lock in order to get to the GPS Unit. Sometimes, the car repair bill is higher than the cost of the GPS! This doesn't count their loss of time settling with their insurance company and the length of time leaving their car off for repair work.

Here are some General Safety Tips about preventing GPS Thefts and Motor Vehicle Breaks.

- Take your GPS with you whenever possible.
- Remove the mount from your dashboard or wherever it is in your car.
- Then, remove any trace of the mount. Carry a micro fiber cloth in the glove compartment to wipe away any signs of the suction cup that secures your GPS to your car.
 - Live by this rule:
Leave no trace of your high-tech tool.
- Try to remove your GPS unit from your car every time you exit your vehicle. Try NOT to put it in the glove compartment, under the seat or in the trunk.
- If this is not possible, then lock your GPS in the trunk. Do NOT put it under the seat or in the glove box or console inside the passenger area between the seats. Out of the criminal's sight is best.
- Record the GPS serial number so you can identify it if it is recovered. You can notify the GPS vendor if someone tries to download the latest software from the Internet, the vendor can block the download and possibly help locate it for police.
- Keep Sales Receipts for your records.

- Decide if you are going to PIN lock your GPS. If you do, the thieves may not be able to use it. However, some stolen GPS units are recovered and the owners are identified by the home address they have entered in the GPS. If it is PIN locked, the police cannot find your home address. Your decision.
- Fill out the product registration card that came with your GPS unit and send it back to the manufacturer.
- If you threw it out, write down the make, model and serial number.



- Hide the power cord and other accessories from being seen.

Be a good neighbor! Consider starting or joining a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood. Be alert and aware of suspicious persons or activity.