



WESTERVILLE DIVISION OF POLICE

News Release

"Being There When Needed"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject:	SUMMER PUBLIC SAFETY TIPS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycling, skateboarding in Uptown Business District • Avoid theft by locking vehicles 		
Releasing Officer:	Sgt. Charles Chandler		
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WESTERVILLE DIVISION OF POLICE ISSUE SAFETY REMINDERS

Bicycling, Skateboarding in Uptown Prohibited

As a summer safety tip, the Westerville Division of Police reminds the public that riding a skateboard or bicycle on sidewalks is prohibited in the Uptown Business District as designated by Westerville Ordinance 311.03 and 373.10.

Residents and visitors traveling through the area on a bicycle or skateboard are asked to help ensure the Uptown District remains a safe place to dine and shop by observing this Ordinance.

Avoid Thefts from Vehicles

The Westerville Division of Police continues to respond to reports of thefts from vehicles throughout the community. This is a common crime, but most thefts can be prevented by taking a few precautions.

Thefts from vehicles primarily happen to unlocked vehicles. *Locking your vehicle greatly reduces your chance of becoming a victim of theft.*

- Remove all valuable materials from the vehicle, or secure it in the trunk. Never leave property visible in the vehicle. Purses, laptop computers and electronic equipment are popular targets.
- Always keep the windows up and doors locked when parked.
- Always park in well-lit areas.
- Park your vehicle in your garage or off the street and in your driveway.
- Report any suspicious activity to the police. It is very important to call immediately.

When reporting suspicious activity to the Westerville Division of Police:

- Call the non-emergency phone line at **(614) 882-7444**
- Identify yourself by name, address and phone number
- Report the type of crime (burglary, assault, suspicious person, or vehicle, etc.)
- State the location. Be specific as possible.
- Provide description of the suspect, whether armed, and how many suspects
- Provide description of the vehicle, including license plate number
- Provide the direction of travel of the suspect, if applicable.
- Stay on the phone with the dispatcher until they tell you that you may hang up. (Unless you fear for your safety)

For more information, please contact Sgt. Charles Chandler, Westerville Division of Police at (614) 901-6878; email charles.chandler@westerville.org.