



**FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Mount Vernon District**  
**Crime Prevention Unit**



**Special Attention!**

# Navigate away from being a victim

**What makes GPS units such a target?**



Satellite navigation systems can be pre-installed units fitted into vehicles during the manufacturing process or small, portable units that can be purchased separately and added to vehicles.

The portable units are easily installed with no complicated wiring procedures. Generally, all that is required is to install a cradle which attaches to the front windshield by a suction cup.

These units are small, portable and frequently reported stolen.

## Tips for deterring thefts:

- Do not leave valuables visible from the outside. Remove portable GPS units from the dashboard, including the cradle. Do not simply place it in the glove box or under the seat.
- Keep a supply of moist towelettes to clean the area of the windshield marked by the suction cup.
- Do not leave other valuables in the vehicle, including laptop computers, cameras, satellite radios or cellular telephones.
- Lock all doors and close windows when leaving the car, even if it is only for a short time.
- When possible, try to park the vehicle in a well-lit, busy area.

For more information regarding this or other important crime prevention initiatives, please contact the Mount Vernon Crime Prevention Unit at 703-360-8928.



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To request this information in an alternate format, call:  
703-360-8928. TTY 703-204-2264



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