



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

CHARLIE HALES, MAYOR

Amalia Alarcón de Morris, Bureau Director

Crime Prevention Program

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110

Portland, Oregon 97204

Organizing and supporting community partnerships to prevent crime and fear of crime

Vehicle Vandalism Alert

What: Tire punctures, motorcycle seat slashing, soft top slicing to vehicles

When: Late night/early morning hours approximately 10pm - 6am

Portland Police and Crime Prevention have received numerous reports of vehicle vandalism across the City, but especially in SE and NE residential areas from the Willamette River to 72nd Avenue. These include tire punctures, motorcycle seat slashing and convertible top slicing. Finally, reports about cars keyed along an entire side of the vehicle are increasing.

Tire Puncture Information. The most targeted vehicles are SUVs, trucks and vans which account for more than 80% of the police reports. Whether parked in the street or in a driveway, tire punctures occur on either side of the auto. The small puncture hole is near the top of the tire through the sidewall making the tire irreparable. The owner may notice that the tire is "low on air", but not flat. Check all low tires for damage *using the water test*. Not all flat or low tires are the result of vandalism. People still drive over nails, screws, glass and metal which can cause a flat tire.

Motorcycle Seat Slashing. Typically, the seat is slashed in the middle and a large section is removed. The resulting damage is that the entire seat must be replaced.

Convertible Soft Top Slicing. The vehicle soft tops are sliced directly over the driver's seat. The top can't be repaired; it must be replaced.

The Portland police and Crime Prevention want to help you and catch the person(s) responsible for these crimes. We offer the following suggestions and tips:

- Park your vehicle off the street and in a garage, if possible.
- Enhance your exterior lighting: leave porch lights on at night, add motion sensor lighting to the garage and add pathway or sidewalk solar lighting.
- If you have exterior video cameras, turn them toward the street to capture activity and people near vehicles parked on the street.
- **Report, Report, Report - Let's look out for one another.**

If you are up early in the morning or late at night, take the time to look out your window at vehicles parked in front of your or neighbors property. **If you see someone hanging out by or close to your or your neighbors' car, call 9-1-1.** If your vehicle is vandalized, please report it to the police. Use your smart phone, computer, laptop, tablet or other electronic device to make an online report at <http://portlandoregon.gov/police/cor>.

For more information about vehicle/home safety and security, contact your Crime Prevention Coordinator. Call 503-823-4064 or 503-823-4000 to locate your coordinator. Check out the recent news release from Crime Stoppers: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/news/read.cfm?id=4465#cont>