

# BICYCLE THEFT PREVENTION

Many bicycles are stolen from homes every year. Most of these thefts could have been prevented if the following basic precautions have been taken.

- **Always lock your bicycle.** Many bikes are not even locked when they are stolen. Often the owner had a bicycle lock but did not use it, thinking, I'll only be gone for a moment. Remember, it only takes a couple of seconds to steal an unlocked bicycle.
- **Use a good lock.** The most common tools used by a bike thief are bolt cutters and cable cutters. If you have an expensive bicycle, you might consider using the costly U shaped lock. These are very difficult for a thief to remove.
- **Lock your bicycle properly.** Be sure to use your lock to secure at least your back wheel and frame tube to a bike rack or immobile object. If you have a spin off front wheel, take it off the bike and lock it with the frame. **Never lock your bike by the front or rear wheel alone.**
- **Report suspicious persons.** Make mental notes of anyone "hanging" around the neighborhood that you are not familiar with. Persons riding two to a bike may be looking for another bike" just lying around".
- **Keep a record of the make, model, color, pertinent identifying features and most important, the serial number.**
- **Some people engrave identifying marks or numbers on their bicycle to aid in the recovery.**
- **Bicycle thefts will most likely always continue to occur.** However, by taking the above steps now, you can reduce the risk of your bicycle being stolen.