## **AURORA POLICE**

## STREETWISE SAFETY TIPS

- When walking, it's always better to walk in pairs or groups. Walk on the sidewalk. Avoid walking at night or walk in a well-lit area. Safety items you may consider having with you: walking stick, reflective clothing, small flashlight, whistle, cell phone, ID card.
- Trust your instincts. If a situation doesn't feel right, take action to avoid it (If walking, cross the street to the other side. If you know the people in the area, go up to their house). Stay alert, let the person know you are paying attention!
- Park in well-lit, well-traveled areas. Remember where you parked so you won't have to hunt for your car. Be aware of your surroundings when walking to and from your car. Don't have your head buried in your cell phone.
- Keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times, especially while you are in it. Have your keys ready so that you can enter your car as quickly as possible and lock the doors upon entry. Do a quick visual check inside before entering.
- If you find anything wrong with your car, go back to the safety of the building and get help. Be cautious of anyone who might be standing by or near your vehicle offering assistance.

- If your car breaks down, you can either raise the hood or remain in your car with the windows up and doors locked. If you don't have a cell phone, display a large "CALL POLICE" sign. If someone stops, ask through the window, to call police or a towing service.
- If you are being followed or harassed, drive to the nearest safe place where there are people or if you have a cell phone, call 911.
- If you are stopped by a police vehicle with emergency lights, legally, you are required to pull to the right and stop immediately. However, if you have reason to believe that the vehicle may not be official, and fear for your safety, you may want to carefully and slowly drive to the nearest safe place where there are lights and people before you stop. You can also call 911 to verify it is a police officer stopping you.
- If approached by a non-uniformed officer, you may request to see official identification. Do this through rolled up windows and locked doors. You may also call dispatch (911 or 303.627.3100) and verify that a real police officer has stopped you or request that a marked police vehicle respond also.

Trust your instincts - if it does not feel safe or right, take the necessary precautions to ensure your safety.



