

DRIVING BUSINESS ~

Parking Safety can be as simple as ABC...



Now that winter is over and spring has sprung, many of us are ready to get out and enjoy all of the festivals and events our area has to offer. Rolling down the windows, riding in a convertible, enjoying the sunshine and warm breezes are images that come to mind.

The last thing we may be thinking about is safety. This is a good chance for PARK Roanoke to take the opportunity to share parking safety tips with readers.

Before you leave your parked car:

- Roll up the windows and lock the doors
- Place valuables out of sight - take belongings and packages with you or store them safely in the trunk
- Choose a parking spot in a well traveled, well lit area
- Be aware of the surroundings and report suspicious activity by calling 9-1-1
- Avoid storing an extra key under the car, visor, bumper

Once you leave your parked car:

- Walk with confidence and a purpose
- Keep the keys in hand
- Stay alert and avoid texting, talking on a cellular telephone or looking for car keys
- Avoid using ear phones
- Trust your instincts

When returning to your parked car:

- Walk with friends if available and do not walk alone to a parking area at night. If alone, walk closely to other groups of people to give the impression you are with others, even if you are not
- Remember P-A-R-K - when **P**arking **A**lways **R**eturn with **K**ey in hand
- When approaching the vehicle, look inside before entering to ensure there are no unwanted occupants
- Once inside the car, lock doors immediately, start the engine, and exit the parking area. If you are unable to locate the vehicle, ask the parking attendant for assistance
- Do not offer rides to strangers
- Continue to be aware of the surroundings and call 9-1-1 to report any safety concerns
- If you feel you are being followed, do not go straight home...instead, drive to a public, crowded, well-lit location and try to locate and park by a police vehicle

For more information on Parking Safety, visit Park Roanoke at www.PARKRoanoke.com

We Appreciate Your Patience !

With the recession behind us and increased activity in City of Roanoke permitting, the Department of Planning, Building and Development is working to respond to increased levels of development with new personnel, reassignment of existing personnel, and process improvements.

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