There have been recent incidents of larcenies at commuter lots. Suspects are cutting and removing catalytic converters from vehicles. These incidents are occurring during regular working hours, commuter lots along I95 are the primary target.

Why do thieves target catalytic converters? They can easily be removed in a few minutes to sell to a scrap yard for up to $200. After a catalytic converter has been removed, a car will sound loud and "gravelly" when started.

Recommendations

- Be aware of your surroundings in parking lots. If you notice activity that looks out of place or suspicious, call the police immediately.
- During hours of reduced light and visibility, park your vehicle in well-lit areas where possible.
- Park close to building entrances or the nearest road in public parking lots. This leaves your car in a location where it will be visible.
- If your vehicle already has an alarm, adjust the security system to activate from vibrations, such as those produced by a saw.
- Install a catalytic converter-specific security device, or have it welded to the car frame. You can also engrave your car's VIN number to the catalytic converter.