Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council
Watch Your Car Program

The Watch Your Car program is a voluntary vehicle registration program designed to deter auto theft and assist in the apprehension of auto thieves. Vehicle owners sign an agreement stating their vehicle is not normally used between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. The vehicle's identifying information is then entered into a special database, which is available to law enforcement officers throughout the State.

Decals are displayed on the registered vehicle for identification purposes. If police officers observe the vehicle being driven during these hours, they may stop the vehicle and determine if the vehicle has been stolen. Information provided by the owner on the registration form will also allow law enforcement officials to immediately notify the vehicle's owner upon determination that it is being illegally operated.

Registration in the Watch Your Car Program

Your registration in the Maryland Watch Your Car Program will be complete once you place the enclosed decals on the vehicle described herein: Make: Tag:

NOTE: If you wish to withdraw from the "Watch Your Car" Program; or if you change vehicles or registration information you must notify the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council in writing (1201 Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, MD 21208)

Instructions for Placement of Watch Your Car Decals on Your Vehicle

The Watch Your Car decals are made of a self-adhesive heavy-duty reflective material that is easily seen at night. The decals are to be placed on the OUTSIDE of the registered vehicle, and according to Maryland law, limits their placement to a seven (7) inch square area located at the lower corner of the front and back windows as shown in the pictures below.

The [rectangular] front windshield decal is placed on the vehicle’s front window, on the driver’s side. This decal contains legal information and notification that it is a federal offense to remove the decal without the owner’s permission. The decal should not be placed over the dashboard vehicle identification number.

The [round] back window decal is placed on the vehicle’s back window, on the driver’s side. This decal serves as a beacon to law enforcement officials that the vehicle is registered in the Watch Your Car Program.