

Below is an email Orchard Hills received from Sergeant Fisher of the Baltimore County Police Precinct 7 Community Outreach Team regarding recent thefts of airbags, primarily from Honda vehicles.

At least one steering-wheel airbag theft occurred in Orchard Hills overnight between July 20 and 21. Please stay alert for unusual or suspicious activity, such as vehicles driving very slowly through the neighborhood or individuals looking into car windows. If you see something suspicious, call 911 immediately to report it.

Email from Sergeant Fisher

Good afternoon everyone,

Just a quick heads-up for our Cockeysville/Timonium/Lutherville area communities of Precinct 7. Our officers took 4 reports for thefts of vehicle airbags yesterday in neighborhoods along York Road in the Timonium/Lutherville areas. I'm sure there were more than 4, and I'd like to ask each of our communities to relay some information to their residents.

First, the airbag thefts are primarily a Honda problem at this point. Honda airbags are apparently very easy to steal, and command high resale prices for thieves. If you own a Honda product, please do some research about your specific model's vulnerabilities. Knowing your weaknesses can go a long way to strengthening your defenses. A simple search engine query should tell you about how thieves can target your specific vehicle model. Keeping your car doors locked, using anti-theft devices like steering wheel locks and alarm systems, and securing your keyless entry fobs can all help to combat multiple types of vehicle-related theft.

Besides improving your own security measures, taking steps as a community and neighborhood can help everyone. Having an effective way to communicate with each other as a neighborhood can help share information (accurate information hopefully) quickly, strengthen bonds as a neighborhood, and improve your ability to recognize and report suspicious activity. Being able to quickly report suspicious activity to the police can be one of the most effective tools that we have to combat crime. An immediate report of suspicious activity can lead to a quick Police response and assessment of the situation. Know your neighbors and pay attention to what kind of vehicles they drive. This can help you recognize when someone is not supposed to be where they might be.

If you ever need additional information about incidents in our community, please don't hesitate to ask.

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