

Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association

Holiday Safety Tips

**WORKING
TOGETHER**

**TO KEEP
WISCONSIN
SAFE**



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Home Safety

- Be extra careful and cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house. It only takes a few moments for a burglar to get in and steal your property and gifts.
- Never put large displays of holiday gifts in view of your windows or doors.
- Never advertise what you got for Christmas by putting the boxes out on trash day. Break the boxes down or take them to the dump yourself.
- When going on trips or out for the evening, use automatic timers to turn indoor lights on and off. This gives the appearance that someone is home. Have someone watch your home or check to see if your law enforcement agency provides vacation checks on your property.
- Make sure that you don't leave candles unattended nor have electrical outlets overloaded.
- If travelling, make sure that you have a cell phone and it is charged.

Shopping Safety

- If you shop at several stores in one day, lock your purchases in the trunk of your car.
- Always park in well-lit areas and as close as possible to the entrance of the store. Be particularly aware of persons loitering in the parking lot, especially if they are near your car.
- Always lock your car and make sure all of the windows are closed.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and the people around you. Never allow your attention to become distracted from your purse, packages or your young children.
- Teach your children to go immediately to a store clerk, cashier or security guard and ask for help if you become separated in a store or shopping mall.
- Never hesitate to notify store security if you see suspicious activity.

Shipping and Receiving Gift Safety

- Track your orders to stay updated on when your item will arrive to make sure someone is home or schedule it so that it arrives when someone is home.
- If you cannot be there to receive the package, consider having it mailed to your work.
- Add a signature request for the delivery.
- Have the delivery service hold the item at their facility for you to pick up.
- If shipping an item, consider insuring it. In addition to damage, insurance will cover loss.