

Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association

Black Friday Safety Tips

During the holiday season, crime rates tend to have a slight up-swing. This is due, in part, to shoppers carrying more cash and credit cards while shopping, shopping later than usual, and the relaxed, easy-going attitude that comes with this time of year.

We call it good cheer; criminals call it complacency. Here are some tips to prevent a damper on your holiday.

Map it Out. Create a plan for the day. This will help to alleviate any potential stressors encountered throughout your shopping day.

Practice Patience. Expect long lines. Remember safety comes first. Enter the store safely, do not rush!! Always be considerate of other shoppers.

Protect Yourself. Women should carry their purses close to their body and men should keep their wallets in their front pocket or in a coat pocket to deter pickpockets. Never leave your purse unattended in a shopping cart

Dress for Success. Dress casually, comfortably in layers, and expect cold weather. Stay hydrated and well nourished. Also consider leaving small children at home with a trusted family member or babysitter.

Plan Your Day. Many Black Friday sales start on Thanksgiving Day. Plan your route of travel and be aware of "peak" shopping times at the mall or surrounding shopping centers.

Obey the Laws. Drive the speed limit, stop at stops signs and pedestrian crossings. Don't park in handicap stalls. Be aware of the road conditions and daily weather forecast. Buckle up for safety!!

Plan your Route. Be familiar with the roads around your destinations Typically these roads can become very congested during the holidays. Be patient and give yourself plenty of time to travel to and from those areas

If you would like further information on safety during the holiday season, please speak to your local crime prevention officer.

www.wicrimeprevention.com

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