



Holiday Safety Tips



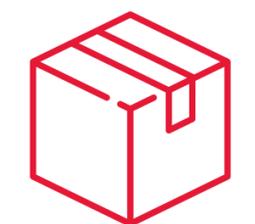
Holiday Theft

Theft overall tends to rise in the months of November and December. Best thing to do is to make you secure everything that you can. Lock up cars, trucks and homes.



Leave the lights on

Thieves usually don't approach homes that appear to be occupied. Leave on the outside lights at night (or set them with a timer) and when you leave the house during the day; leave on some of the lights inside the home to give the appearance that someone is home.



Package Delivery

More and more people are purchasing gifts online having packages stolen right off their front porch. If you're expecting package, request signature confirmation or have a trusted neighbor hold on to it for you.



Cooking Hazards

A fried turkey is delicious. A fried house due to a deep fryer accident is not. Make sure you read the instructions on how to prepare your turkey safely and please, use the deep fryer OUTSIDE if the house.



Decoration Hazards

Speaking of fires, Christmas tree fires can be devastating for what is normally such a beacon of happiness. If you have a live tree, make sure that it has water every day, and ensure that any lights you use are checked for breaks or exposed wires.



Creative Disposal

Dispose of your present boxes creatively. Placing that 60" TV box outside on trash day after Christmas is just asking for trouble. Try and break down the boxes and other packaging as to not give away the wonderful gifts your family received.



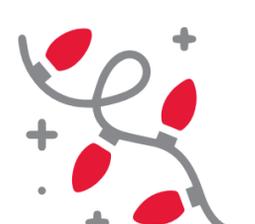
Social Media

In this inter-connected age, it's important to be careful what you share on social media. Be very careful about what you post, and if you decide to share your gifts, please make sure you don't have your location tagged to the post.



Travel

If you're traveling to visit family or going on a holiday vacation, wait until after your trip to post about it. Have a good friend or neighbor check on your house every couple of days to give you an update.



Decoration & Lighting

Make sure not to run extension cords through windows or garage doors. Just the littlest crack can expose a home to thieves.



Who's at the Door

Criminals can try and scope out your home by posing as a delivery person or someone looking for charitable donations. Be cautious when talking to people you are unfamiliar with and don't let them in your home.