



"HOLIDAY SAFETY"

CRIME PREVENTION TIP

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Greetings,

The holiday season is once again here and it's time for some reminders so we can all enjoy it. During this festive time we see a spike in burglaries, thefts, and frauds as criminals mask themselves as caring individuals. Some of the following tips or resources will help you lessen your chance of becoming a victim.

If you will be away from your home....

- Make sure your outdoor lighting is working and is on.
- Set automatic timers for indoor lights.
- Have a neighbor, friend or relative keep an eye on your house. (Great time to utilize your neighborhood watch!)
- Provide a phone number that you can be reached at while away. If something should arise at your residence, someone would be able to contact you.

If you are out shopping....

- Slow Down!! Don't be in a rush. When people rush they lose focus on their surroundings. Don't let your guard down just because you are in a hurry.
- Park in well lit areas and close the store if possible. Lock your car doors and store valuables and packages out of sight. Remember, crooks are waiting in parking lots watching activity. Don't pull into the parking lot and place your items in the trunk of your car. Place the items in the car prior to arriving at your destination so they don't see what you're putting in there.

Watch out for fraud....

- When out shopping, keep an eye on your transactions and receipts. Watch the handling of debit or credit card.
- When purchasing items on the Internet, buy from known sources/internet sites.
- Watch out for bogus groups asking for donations during the holidays. If you would like to donate, please do, but go to the business or organization to make your donation.

For more information in regards to Neighborhood Watch or other crime prevention programs contact the Salem Police Crime Prevention Unit at 503-588-6175.

To access additional Salem Police Fraud Tips click on the following link.

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/export/departments/police/fraudtipweek.htm>

Happy Holidays