



TIP OF THE WEEK

Holiday Safety

The holiday season is upon us once again. This season is meant to be joyous and filled with love for fellow human beings. Many criminals, however, find this time of the year as a wonderful opportunity to further their careers. Others, driven to desperateness by economic conditions, feel that stealing from others is their only option. To protect yourself, and your possessions, from theft, follow these few simple rules:

IN AND AROUND VEHICLES:

- Lock your vehicle every time you leave it.
- Never leave it empty and running, not even for a few seconds.
- Don't leave your windows rolled down, not even a crack.
- Don't leave vital information in your vehicle. Your home address is listed on the vehicle registration certificate as well as the insurance card.
- Park in well-lit, well utilized areas near a store entrance when possible.
- Don't leave valuables, such as Christmas presents, in full view. Store them in the trunk or under the seat.
- Affix your parking permit to your window.
- Consider investing in a car alarm or a locking device such as The Club.
- When at NAIT use the Safe Walk Program to escort you to and from your vehicle.
- Always check the back seat of our vehicle, as well as the area around you, before entering your vehicle. If you see anything suspicious get help immediately or begin screaming. Criminals wish to remain anonymous.

IN SCHOOL OR WHILE SHOPPING:

- Do not carry large amounts of cash with you.
- Keep all of your valuables with you at all times. Do not leave them unattended on a food court table or on the vanity in public washrooms.
- When shopping use the buddy system and be aware of your surroundings. Watch for suspicious activities such as someone paying uncustomary attention to the contents of purses, wallets and shopping bags of shoppers.
- If you suspect someone is following you, or is otherwise acting suspicious, contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477 and tell our Officers what you have encountered.
- Be extra alert when being jostled or pushed or if there is a loud altercation taking place nearby. This is often a diversion to attract people's attention allowing associate members to pickpocket unwary shoppers.
- Invest in a high quality shielded lock and be sure it is securely fastened before leaving your locker at school or at the gym.

AT HOME

- Lock your doors / windows whenever you leave your room or residence. Keep valuables away from direct exterior observation whenever possible.
- If you live in an apartment, do not allow unescorted strangers inside. Report strangers that appear to be loitering to the building caretakers or to the police.
- Be suspicious of unknown persons loitering in the area of your residence. Criminals do not want attention and will usually try to keep their faces hidden and give vague answers when questioned. Report any of these incidents to building caretakers or the police.
- Never leave an exterior door propped open. This is like inviting a fox into the chicken coup.
- Keep records of your valuables including descriptions and serial numbers. Include pictures or video if possible. One copy needs to be kept with a friend or in a safety deposit box at the bank and should be updated regularly.

The Management and Staff of Protective Services wishes to extend a very Happy and safe Holiday Season to everyone. Please visit www.nait.ca/security for more tips.

If you have information regarding a crime, contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your identity will remain anonymous, and if the information you provide leads to a conviction, you could eligible for a reward of up to \$2000.00.

Everybody benefits, except the criminal.