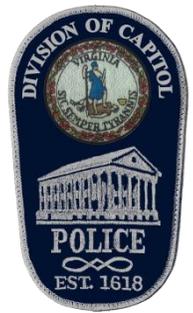




HOLIDAY Safety Tips



For more information please visit www.dcp.virginia.gov



Parking Lots

When storing items purchased at the stores, place them out of sight. The best place is in a locked trunk.

When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.

Criminals choose the victim who looks like the easiest target. If you walk with purpose, scan the area around you, and make casual eye contact with others, you are displaying confidence.

Shopping

If using a shopping cart, try to secure your purse or bags with the child locking system.

Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason.

At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

Teach your child to go to a store clerk and ask for help in case your child is separated from you. Teach your children their full name, address and telephone number to give to police officers or mall security.



Home



Valuable items, such as televisions, stereos, and computers should be inscribed with an identifying number unique to its owner (do not use your entire social security number).

Be sure your Christmas tree is mounted on a sturdy base so children, elderly persons or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.

Turn on lights, radio or television so the house or apartment appears to be occupied.