

Xavier University
XUPD and Off Campus Living
Reminder Tips to Protect Property Over the Holiday

XUPD recommends the following tips to protect your property when you leave for the holiday break.

1. Take all valuables with you when you go home. This includes electronic equipment such as game boxes, video games, laptops, and small TVs. Also, take all jewelry and cash with you.
2. Let your neighbors know when you are leaving and when you are returning. Ask neighbors to help keep an eye on your property when you are away. Offer to return the favor sometime during the school year.
3. Lock all the doors and windows when you leave. If possible put a piece of wood or a broom handle in the frame of windows or in the frame of doors. It is critical that the last housemate to leave remembers to lock the exterior of the house including all doors and windows.
4. Use a timer to operate a few lights when you are away to create the illusion that someone is home.
5. Stop mail and newspaper deliveries. When these items pile up it is a clue that no one is home.
6. Make sure to leave an emergency number with a landlord or neighbor.

For additional tips please check out the following Xavier websites:

Safety Site (www.xavier.edu/safety)

Commuter Services Safety Site (<http://www.xavier.edu/commuter/Safety1.cfm>)

If you would like to speak with someone regarding the safety of your property please contact the following campus liaisons:

Norwood-Lt. Tom Williams at 513-458-4545

North Avondale-Officer Paul Graves at 513-569-8649

Evanston-Curtis Walker at 513-997-4433

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Reminder Tips for Safety During the Holiday Season

The following tips have been adapted from the North Avondale Neighborhood Association Tips

- 1) Safety in numbers – If at all possible try not to shop alone, especially at night. Park in a safe, well-lit area. Take a few moments to observe the area before exiting your vehicle. If you see anyone (alone or in a group) loitering, just sit tight and watch for a few minutes. If they do not leave, leave and park in another area.
- 2) Don't advertise – Remove any GPS or other portable electronic devices before exiting your vehicle. Put them in your trunk, along with any packages or other valuables.
- 3) Purses are targets! If at all possible, leave your purse in your trunk or at home. Use only a small wallet that can be kept in your pocket or a belt pack.
- 4) Use caution at ATMs – If possible use a drive through ATM at your bank before shopping. Use your hand or jacket to keep the keypad out of view from others. Take out only as much cash as you really need.
- 5) Don't walk around with your arms full of shopping bags, thieves will go for your wallet or purse while you are juggling shopping bags. Don't carry a wad of cash-- use credit cards or gift certificates.
- 6) When returning to your car be aware of your surroundings; don't be afraid to ask for an escort to your car from mall security, and have your car keys in hand.
- 7) If you choose to drink during the holiday season be sure someone is with you to assist you going to and leaving from any gathering.