

HO, HO, HOME SAFETY & SECURITY

for the Holidays

DECORATING

- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Do not have the tree blocking an exit.
- Real trees: add water to the stand daily, dry trees become increasingly flammable as they dry out.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles. Use battery operated candles to prevent risk. Never leave a candle burning when you are not in the room.

PROTECT YOUR PACKAGES

- Keep packages out of site in the car while shopping.
- Store wrapped presents away from windows at the house to avoid the temptation for someone breaking in.
- Know when packages are being delivered and who is at your doorstep with packages or potentially removing packages with a Video Doorbell.
- After the packages are ripped open, break down boxes so they don't sit on your curb letting everyone know what's inside the house.

LIGHT UP YOUR HOME

- Make your home look lived in while you are away. A home security system with integrated home automation allows you to control your lights, doors and more from the palm of your hand.
- If you are away, have neighbors or friends remove snow or make tire tracks in your driveway to create the idea you are home.
- Put a hold on your mail or have someone you trust pick up your mail while you are away.

KEEP TRAVEL PLANS OFFLINE

- It can be hard, but try to refrain from posting your travel plans and/or pictures on social media. Leave out the details and wait until you return to share all the fun you had. This is perfect information for a thief, knowing your house is empty and the timeframe they have to get what they want.

LET THE EXPERTS HELP

- Burglars are less likely to break into a home with a security system. Take some time to make sure yours is working correctly.
- Make sure to arm your system when leaving the home or going to bed.
- Display or get a yard sign or sticker for your window to let people know you have a security system protecting you.
- Fires: put a monitored combination smoke and carbon monoxide detector in your home and reduce the potential damage if something were to happen.



ROCHESTER
mom