



## City of Danbury – Police Department

### *Community Service Division*

375 Main Street Danbury, Connecticut 06810 (203) 203-796-1635

# HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holidays are for good times spent with family and friends. Many things can go wrong over the holidays that can ruin these cherished memories. Here are some holiday safety tips to follow:

### **Package deliveries...**

More and more people are going online to purchase gifts that are being sent to their homes. There has been an increase in packages stolen from front doors and porches. When purchasing your online gifts, require a signature on delivery or have a trusted neighbor hold on to them for you

### **Leave the lights on...**

Give the appearance that someone is home inside your home. Leave a light or two on inside when you leave or program your lights on a timer. Thieves tend not to approach a home that appears to have people inside it

### **Decoration hazards...**

Many holidays are ruined by Christmas tree fires. If you have a live tree, ensure you water it daily. If you decorate the tree with lights, make sure there are no exposed wires or breaks that could potentially start a fire

### **Waste disposal...**

In the days following Christmas, many people place their boxes or packaging outside in the trash. Usually these boxes or packages still show what expensive item was inside. It is a bad idea to let thieves see what new products are inside your home. Try cutting up and breaking down the boxes as to not give away what great gifts were received

### **Social media...**

Social media is great for keeping up with friends and family. However, monitor what you post. Avoid making posts that say you're away on vacation or pictures that have your location attached.

### **Decorations and lighting...**

Make sure you don't run extension cords through open windows or garages. This means the window or doors are unlocked giving thieves the opportunity to get inside. Also avoid overloading power outlets with plugs and adapters. This could be a dangerous fire hazard

### **Who's at the door...**

Many criminals case your home to see if anyone is there. Sometimes they pose as a delivery person or a door to door sales person. Be cautious when speaking with someone you are unfamiliar with and never let them enter your home