

- some other place that you feel safe.
- Walk around your vehicle and look inside before entering your car.
- Load your items into the vehicle as quickly as possible and lock yourself inside.
- Carry a charged cell phone with you at all times and don't be afraid to call 911.
- Report any suspicious circumstances you observed to the police or store security personnel.
- If you see anything that looks suspicious, please take the time to tell security so they can investigate and possibly prevent someone else from being victimized.
- If attacked, be a good witness. Use your best judgment on how to react to the situation. Remember that your life is worth more than the amount of money you have in your possession.



- return the cart, get in, turn on their ignitions and back out to get a prime parking spot causes an unnecessary traffic jam. It will probably take less time if you simply park further away and walk the extra distance.
- Obey speed limits. Most parking lots have posted speed limits but if there isn't one posted, keep it to 15 mph.
- Park Courteously. Do not take up more than one space. Park in the center of the space to allow cars on both sides to park and passengers to get out of their cars safely. If you drive a long vehicle, make sure you pull your car all the way in the space or park in a location further away from other cars.
- Never park in a space reserved for people with disabilities UNLESS you have a permit, placard, or handi-capped parking plates.



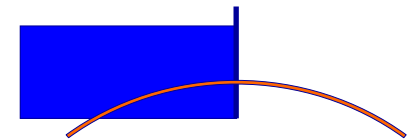
Parking Lot Etiquette and Safety

- Drive in the right direction. Pay attention and notice if it the aisle is one-way or two way.
- Use your turn signals. Blinkers show others the intended direction of your vehicle and not only protect your car but also allow pedestrians to make safe judgments when walking through parking lots.
- Don't wait. Waiting on people to walk to their car, load their belongings,

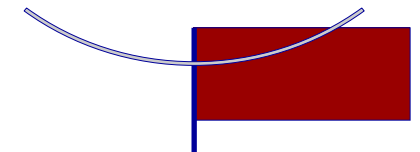
Enjoy the Season!

Last but not least, don't let holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends, and neighbors and think about reaching out in the spirit of the season and helping someone who is less fortunate.

Weatherford Police Department wishes you and yours a safe and happy holiday season!



HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY



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During the Holiday Season

The holiday shopping season is upon us and the Weatherford Police Department would like to encourage everyone to practice good crime prevention techniques to help us reduce crime and reduce the potential of becoming a victim. We hope that the tips provided in this brochure will help ensure a safer holiday season. The three main things that we want every person to remember are:

- Be prepared.
- Be informed.
- Be safe.



Preparing to Shop

- Allow extra time to accommodate traffic congestion and crowded stores. If you are shopping with family and friends, carpooling will reduce the amount of traffic and can be an extra set of eyes and ears for personal safety.
- Dress casually and comfortably and avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Always carry your driver's license or identification along with necessary checks or credit cards you expect to use.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- When possible, shop in areas that you

are familiar with.

- Prepare a personal plan in case you are robbed. Have personal safety items such as a cell phone, car alarm switch, pepper spray, etc. immediately accessible.
- Be prepared for anything. Carry jumper cables, a spare tire, jack, tire tools, ice scrapers, emergency food and water, blankets, etc. in your car.

While Shopping

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times, both inside and outside the store.
- Never leave your purse unattended. Carry only essentials in your purse and leave the remainder locked in the trunk of your vehicle.
- Make sure your vehicle is locked and packages are secured before leaving it.
- Carry your purse strapped across your body, not hanging on your shoulder.
- When using a public restroom be cautious of your surroundings. Do not place any items on the floor as they may be easily accessible to someone reaching under the door.
- Shop during daylight hours when possible. If not, park in well-lit areas of the parking lot.
- Do not overload yourself with items to carry.
- Keep your receipts and destroy any copies that could be used to obtain credit card numbers, driver's license

numbers or other personal information.

- Keep in contact with friends or family members to let them know of your location and destinations at all times.



Post Shopping and Personal Safety

- Keep packages hidden in the trunk of your vehicle as you travel from store to store. If at all possible, do not keep visible packages in your vehicle.
- Keep at least one hand free at all times when walking to and from your vehicle and the store.
- Scan the area you are traveling to and from thoroughly before walking into an unfamiliar location and placing yourself into a bad situation.
- Have a plan for everything you are doing and a backup plan in the event you are attacked.
- Remain alert at all times and trust your instincts or your sixth sense (if you feel like you are in danger, you may be).
- Have your keys ready and walk with confidence. (If you look like a victim and act like a victim, you may become one). Robbers assault the easiest and most vulnerable prey.
- Utilize the available resources at hand. Don't be afraid to call the police or a store security guard and have them escort you to the parking lot or