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Harrisonburg Police Department Urges Home Safety Measures for Winter Travelers

Harrisonburg, VA- December 12, 2025- As residents prepare for holiday travel, the Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) encourages the community to take a few simple steps to help protect their homes, vehicles, and personal belongings while they are away.

Before leaving, ensure all doors and windows are securely locked, including basement and garage entrances. Setting interior lights on timers can also help create the appearance that someone is home. Residents planning to be away for several days and students who will be gone on an extended break are encouraged to pause mail and package deliveries or ask a trusted neighbor to collect them.

HPD also reminds travelers to secure their vehicles. Lock all doors, remove valuables from sight, and park in well-lit areas whenever possible.

To help keep your property safe, consider the following tips:

- Lock all doors and windows before leaving, including your garage and basement.
- Use timers for indoor lights to give the appearance that someone is home.
- Pause mail and package deliveries or ask a neighbor to pick them up.
- Avoid sharing travel plans or photos on social media until after returning home.
- Ensure outdoor lights and motion detectors are functioning properly.
- Let a trusted neighbor know you will be away and provide a contact number in case of emergencies.

The Harrisonburg Police Department wishes everyone a safe and peaceful holiday season.

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