



Protecting Our Elders

As our nation's population continues to grow older, it is now more important than ever to look out for the safety and security of seniors who call our community home.

Seniors want to enjoy their independence and freedom during retirement. Unfortunately, that independence can sometimes put them at risk, as criminals and other predators often seek out those who are not physically or mentally able to defend themselves.

This brochure is designed to provide tips and advice to ensure that seniors remain safe and are aware of many common threats.

Important topics such as home security measures, safety in public places, and recognizing possible fraudulent activity are discussed inside in an effort to educate and protect some of our city's most respected and appreciated residents.



Canton Police Department

Telephone Directory *and*
Frequently Used Numbers

EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1

Community Interaction Unit	(330) 458-4807
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Detective Bureau	(330) 489-3144
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Dispatch	(330) 649-5800
630 30th St NW - Cirelli Building	
General Information	(330) 489-3100
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Impound Lot	(330) 489-3186
2436 30th St NE - Bulding B	
Impound Payments	(330) 438-6169
626 30th St NW - Cirelli Building	
Information / Report Desk	(330) 489-3100
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Internal Affairs	(330) 489-3377
City Hall Building	
218 Cleveland Ave SW - 3rd Floor	
Juvenile Bureau	(330) 489-3144
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
License Technician	(330) 438-4480
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Patrol Lieutenant	(330) 489-3106
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Police Chief	(330) 489-3111
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Record Room	(330) 489-3172
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Tip Line	(330) 489-3117
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Traffic Division	(330) 489-3162
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Traffic Signal (Engineering)	(330) 489-3126
2436 30th St NE - Building A	
Traffic/Hit Skip	(330) 438-4487
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	
Vice / Intelligence Unit	(330) 649-5929
221 3rd St SW - Police HQ	

SAFETY TIPS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND THEIR FAMILIES



This information is a service of the
Canton Police Department
City of Canton, Ohio
www.cantonohio.gov/police



Out and About: Stay Safe in Public Places

Seniors lead active lives and enjoy free time away from home like everyone else. Unfortunately, criminals often focus upon these individuals in public settings like supermarkets and shopping malls because they see them as easier targets.

When out and about, seniors should:

- Go out with friends and family when possible instead of by themselves.
- Not carry large sums of money with them at any time.
- Be aware of their surroundings and avoid unfamiliar areas - a route should be planned before leaving home to prevent becoming lost.
- Park and walk in well-lit areas, and only carry what is absolutely necessary to avoid becoming overburdened.
- Women should carry their purses close to their bodies and men should keep their wallets in an inside coat pocket or front pants pocket to avoid being targeted by muggers.
- Make sure someone knows where they are going and when they expect to return.

Home Sweet Home: Safety and Security

Safety at home is as important to seniors as it is to their loved ones. Seniors must pay close attention to their surroundings and follow these tips to ensure that they are not put at risk.

While at home, seniors should:

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times and make sure doors have deadbolt locks installed.
- Not let strangers into their homes. If a visitor is from a utility or delivery company, seniors should ask to see proper ID before letting them in.
- Not publicly reveal that they live alone in strange situations. Seniors should also make sure their answering machine message does not reveal this to anonymous callers.
- Install a door peep hole to view guests and prevent opening the door to a stranger.
- Stop mail and newspaper deliveries when leaving on vacation or for any long period of time.
- Make sure their street address number is large and well-lit so police and emergency vehicles can locate the house quickly and easily if there should ever be an emergency.



Identity Theft: A Threat to Senior Citizens

It is extremely important for seniors to be wary of identity thieves, both on the Internet and while going about everyday life. Identity thieves can wreak havoc on seniors' finances before they are even aware anything is wrong - leading to serious financial trouble for those on fixed incomes.

To prevent identity theft, seniors should:

- Never give out information about themselves, including addresses, Social Security Numbers, or other personally identifiable information (like birthdate, etc.) to people or businesses they do not know well or trust.
- Not give any details about credit cards or bank accounts to telephone salesmen.
- Place outgoing mail in a secure box so no one can take it or look inside.
- Only make Internet purchases from trusted online retailers. Most reputable Web sites are certified by leading consumer watchdog groups - check for these before making a purchase.

If you believe you may be a victim of identity theft, call the Ohio Attorney General's hotline at 1-888-694-3463 or visit www.ag.state.oh.us.