

Copper Theft is Key Infrastructure Theft

Impact of Copper Theft on the Community is Far-Reaching

Illegal removal of copper cable can disrupt network operations and impact service in the area. This creates issues for residents, businesses, law enforcement and emergency services.



The Network Structure

The structure of the network as an interconnected system means that unintended impacts may occur downline during an outage.



Costly Repairs

When thieves have little fear of punishment for this crime, they become emboldened leading to increased costly repairs.



Poor Customer Satisfaction

Repeated outages that occur due to copper theft often contribute to diminished customer satisfaction.



Employee & Community Safety

As employees of AT&T and other utility providers respond to damaged copper lines, they may be placed in harms way due to damage caused by theft.



Impact to Wireless Network

Theft or damage of phone lines have the potential to impact the AT&T wireless network in addition to the wireline network.



Delayed Deployment of New Technology

Constant repair of outdated legacy services causes a delay in the deployment of new technology like fiber.



Negative Impact on Public Safety

When copper theft occurs, citizens needing essential services are impacted. Hospitals, community clinics, police stations, etc. could be disconnected. People's lives are at risk.



Interruption of Government Services

When copper theft occurs, the delivery of essential governmental services may be impacted, leading to an even greater threat in the community.

Theft and vandalism of critical communications infrastructure are serious matters that disrupt essential services for our customers, public safety and the community at large.
We're actively working with local law enforcement as they investigate to find those responsible.