



St. Louis, Sept. 16, 2025

## **Crackdown on Copper Crime: AT&T Steps Up Missouri Efforts**

*Local and statewide collaboration and \$20,000 reward aim to protect communications infrastructure*

As copper theft and infrastructure vandalism persist in Missouri, AT&T shared the latest efforts to combat these crimes today at a community roundtable with public safety, business and community leaders.

AT&T's multi-pronged strategy to deter copper theft includes:

- A reward of up to \$20,000 for tips that lead to the arrest and conviction of individuals involved in copper cable theft or its attempted sale in Missouri. The hotline is already receiving tips to support investigations.
- Increased network efforts, including manhole security enhancements, traceable marking and paint on copper wiring, and surveillance and sensor technology.
- Collaboration with state officials, law enforcement and others impacted through data sharing, public safety bulletins and civil litigation.
- Coordination with industry peers across the country to protect communications infrastructure.

Between June and Dec. 2024, the telecommunications industry experienced nearly 6,000 reported incidents of copper theft and infrastructure vandalism nationwide.

The public should report any unmarked (non-AT&T) vehicles or individuals cutting and removing cable. Tipsters with information can remain anonymous and should call local law enforcement and AT&T Global Security at (800) 807-4205. The reward is valid for leads received by Feb. 1, 2026.

### **About AT&T**

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