Working Together to Protect Connectivity in Oklahoma

Copper theft is far more than a property crime. When thieves cut or damage telecommunications lines, phone and internet outages can occur, leaving entire neighborhoods unable to reach critical services like 9-1-1.

Oklahoma ranks 6th nationwide for copper theft impacting AT&T's network. **The state has experienced more than 300 reported copper theft incidents since August 2026, including 93 in Tulsa alone.**

Addressing the issue requires coordination, accountability, and shared commitment across sectors.

What AT&T is Doing

- Deploying technicians throughout Oklahoma **to restore service quickly, repairing damaged lines, replacing stolen cable, and minimizing downtime** for affected customers.
- Strengthening prevention efforts by **providing an award of up to $10,000 in Oklahoma** for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of copper theft suspects.
- Working alongside c**ommunity leaders, business organizations, and elected officials** to help safeguard local neighborhoods.
- In areas heavily impacted by copper theft or aging infrastructure, AT&T is **offering eligible residents the option to transition from traditional copper-based service to more resilient technologies,** like AT&T Phone–Advanced (AP-A).

What Elected Officials Can Do

- **Improve coordination** across jurisdictions
- **Strengthen enforcement tools** targeting repeat offenders
- **Support focused task forces** addressing infrastructure theft
- **Advance policies** that enable investment in modern, more resilient networks





What Public Safety Officials Can Do

- **Coordinated enforcement** in high-impact areas
- **Information-sharing** across agencies
- **Focused attention** on repeat and organized theft activity
- **Ongoing collaboration** with communications providers

How Residents Can Help

If you see suspicious activity near utility lines or communication equipment:

- **Keep a safe distance**
- **Immediately contact** local law enforcement
- When appropriate, report tips to **(800) 807-4205**

It takes all of us to prevent copper theft.

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