

Waunakee Police Department Newsletter

March 2016



Waunakee Police Department 2016



Top: Admin. Manager Helleis, Lt. Peterson, Sgt. Bartels, Ofc. Houk, Chief Plendl, Det. Pittsley, Ofc. Jacob, Ofc. Torbeck, Ofc. Doherty, Ofc. Christenson, Administrative Asst. Rottscheit
Bottom: Sgt. Hutchinson, Ofc. Geldernick, Ofc. Schmidt, Ofc. Martin, Ofc. Brehmer, Ofc. Carbon, Ofc. Perkins, Sgt. Kreitzman, K9 Alex,
Absent: Sgt. Beaudette



Spring Ordinance Reminders

Park hours: Except for authorized events and subject to certain exceptions listed in this section, all village parks shall be closed from 10:30 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. the following day, and it shall be unlawful to enter in or be upon any park, playground, or swimming pool after the hour designated.

Littering: No person shall throw any glass, refuse or waste, filth or other litter upon the streets, alleys, highways, public parks or other property of the village or upon property within the village owned by the Waunakee School District or any private person or upon the surface of any body of water within the village.

Curfew: It shall be unlawful for any juvenile under 16 years of age to be on foot, bicycle or in any type of vehicle on any public street, avenue, highway, road, alley, park, school grounds, swimming beach, cemetery, playground, public building or any other public place in the village between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., unless accompanied by such juvenile's parent or guardian or person having lawful custody and control of such person or unless there exists a reasonable necessity therefor. The fact that the juvenile, unaccompanied by parent, guardian or other person having legal custody, is found upon any such public place during the hours mentioned in this section shall be prima facie evidence that the juvenile is there unlawfully and that no reasonable excuse exists therefor.

Exceptions: This division shall not apply to a juvenile: Who is performing an errand as directed by such juvenile's parent, guardian or person having lawful custody. Who is on such juvenile's own premises or in the areas immediately adjacent thereto. Whose employment makes it necessary to be upon the streets, alleys or public places or in any motor vehicle during such hours. Who is returning home from a supervised school, church or civic function.

Animal Running at Large: No person having the possession or ownership of an animal shall, allow the animal to run at large within the village, including village parks. The owner of any animal shall keep the animal on a leash, tied, or enclosed in a proper enclosure so as not to allow the animal to interfere with the public or neighbors. Any animal running at large unlicensed and required by state law or this chapter to be licensed may be seized and impounded by a humane officer or law enforcement officer. An animal shall not be considered to be running at large if it is on a leash and under control of a person physically able to control it, or, in the case of dogs, if the dog is at the Waunakee Dog Park.



Dangerous Ice Conditions

The Village of Waunakee has several small bodies of water located in neighborhoods, parks and industrial areas throughout the Village. These bodies of water are mostly used as retention ponds to manage storm water run-off. It is not uncommon to see adults and children walking out on the ice during the winter season. Caution, this time of year is a dangerous time for ice travel due to the warming temperatures and the amount of melt water these ponds receive. Parents, please have a conversation with your children about the dangers of ice travel.

If you fall through the ice, remain calm and act quickly.

1. Do not remove your winter clothing. Heavy clothes can trap air, which can help provide warmth and flotation. This is especially true in a snowmobile suit.
2. Go back toward the direction you came. That is probably where you will find the strongest ice – and what lies ahead is unknown.
3. Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface.
4. Kick your feet and work your way back onto the solid ice. If your clothes have trapped a lot of water, you may have to lift yourself partially out of the water on your elbows to let the water drain before starting forward.
5. Once back on the ice, don't try to stand up. Lie flat until you are completely out of the water, then roll away from the hole to keep your weight spread out. This may help prevent you from breaking through again.
6. Get to a warm, dry, sheltered area and warm yourself up immediately. In moderate to severe cases of cold-water hypothermia, you must seek medical attention.



School Zones

With warmer weather coming we will have an increased number of pedestrians on sidewalks and roadways. This is especially true in school zones. Every school zone has a special speed limit sign posted. These signs insure drivers are aware they are traveling through a school zone. School zones have special speed limit restrictions, reducing speed limits to 15 MPH. The adjusted speed limit applies anytime children are present; whether the children are on the adjacent sidewalks, parking lots, or on the roadway. Penalties for violating school safety zone speed limits carry stiffer penalties than normal speeding violations.



Tailgating

Following too closely behind another motorist, or tailgating, is an aggressive driving behavior. You could be ticketed for tailgating. Worse, you could cause a crash, and end up hurting yourself and damaging your car in the process. Tailgating is a common cause for traffic crashes. So keep these thoughts in mind:

1. Tailgating doesn't make the person in front of you drive any faster, and may just get them irritated with you.
2. If you must get ahead of the vehicle in front of you, maintain a proper distance and wait for a safe time in which to pass.

Wisconsin law: "The operator of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicle and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway."

It's about being able to stop your car in time in case the vehicle in front of you suddenly hits the brakes. Here are some tips:

- Allow no less than 2 seconds between vehicles during the daytime.
- Allow more leeway for different conditions: 3 seconds at night, and 4 seconds during inclement weather such as during rain, snow, or ice.
- Be especially cautious when approaching stop lights, intersections, and when changing lanes.
- Anticipate potentially hazardous situations that could cause the driver in front of you to stop suddenly.

And if you happen to be the one BEING tailgated, you can head off aggressive driving behavior by allowing sufficient space in front of you so that an overtaking vehicle can enter and occupy that space without danger.



Private Citizens and Family Members Concerned about unsafe drivers

It is not easy to decide to report a relative or friend to Wisconsin Department of Transportation, but concern for the driver's safety and the safety of others is usually the deciding factor. If you know someone who could be dangerous behind the wheel because of a medical condition, you may report this to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Medical Review Unit. You can download a MV3141 form by going to the following website (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/medical/citizens.htm>) or go to a DMV office and request a form.

Symptoms which affect driving

- Confusion
- Disorientation
- Memory loss
- Impaired judgment
- Extreme exhaustion
- Difficulty making simple decisions
- Chronic drowsiness
- Impaired response/reaction time
- Inability to concentrate
- Impulsive behaviors
- Severe shortness of breath
- Episodes of impaired or altered consciousness

What is needed for WisDOT to act?

- Positive identification of the driver such as full name, date of birth and current address. The license plate number is not enough; the driver could be someone other than the owner of the car.
- A report that is signed. If the report is from a private citizen, another person must also sign the report indicating they are able to verify the information.
- A description of behaviors, observations or impairment related to driving **WisDOT will not take action based only on a diagnosis or a person's advanced age.**



Consumer Alert: Fraudulent emails

The latest fraudulent e-mail messages to flood inboxes are using the names of popular online services to trick readers into downloading malware to their devices.

Watch for messages from senders with names like:

- WhatsAppNotifier
- WhatsAppReminder
- The YoutubeSupport
- Auto Gmail Notifier
- Automation FacebookService

Delete these emails immediately without opening them and never click the links in the message. The email addresses associated with the supposed sender have nothing to do with the service in question and are likely hacked accounts.

These emails typically claim that you have a missed voicemail or a deferred or missed notification. If you open the email, you will find little more than a link to supposedly hear the voicemail or read the missed message. Clicking the

“Play” or “View notifications” (or similar) button or the link in the email will open a website that tries to fool you into downloading malware to your device.

For additional information or to file a complaint, visit the Consumer Protection Bureau at <http://datcp.wisconsin.gov>, send an e-mail to datcph hotline@wisconsin.gov or call the Consumer Information Hotline toll-free at 1-800-422-7128.



Please  our Waunakee Police Department Facebook page. We provide information regarding local events, safety tips and press releases for major incidents. You can also send us your questions through private messages and tips on any recent crimes that have taken place.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Waunakee-Police-Department/349673238430794>

Newsletter ideas or topics

If you have a topic or idea you would like us to consider for future Waunakee Police Newsletter, please email the idea for consideration to the address below.

Questions can be sent to newsletter@waunakeepd.org. Questions submitted may be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.