

Waunakee Police Department Newsletter

March 2017



WE ARE MOVING OUR NEWSLETTER

We are moving our newsletter access to the Village of Waunakee website! The change allows us to keep pace with the growing number of community members who wish to receive our monthly newsletter. If you wish to continue receiving our newsletter you will need to follow the link below which sends you to the “Notify Me” section of the village website. Once you have reached that page you simply add your email address and select the email option next to the Waunakee Police Department section. Should you no longer wish to receive the newsletter once you have signed up, there are directions on the same page on how to unsubscribe. While we transition over the next few months we will continue to send out the newsletter from our newsletter@waunakeepd.org email address and provided access through the Village of Waunakee website. Starting in May of 2017 we will only send the newsletter out from our website sign up list. <http://www.vil.waunakee.wi.us/list.aspx>



We Are Hiring!

The Waunakee Police Department is hiring a full time police officer in 2017. If you or someone you know would be interested please go to: <https://wilenet.org/html/employment/index.jsp> and find the Waunakee Police Department posting. Qualifications, responsibilities and other necessary information is contained in the posting. Applications must be received by 4:00 PM, 3-24-2017. If you have any questions please contact Lt. Joe Peterson at jpeterson@waunakeepd.org or 608-850-4510.



Read with a Cop!

Attention readers! Come to the Waunakee Library for the “Read with a Cop” program. Children can sign up for a 10 minute period to read the story of their choice to a Waunakee Police Officer. We will love to hear you read! The upcoming dates for this event are: March 29th (4p-5p) and April 25th (4p-5p). Sign up at the Waunakee library or call 849-4202 to reserve a time slot.



It's a car, not a phone booth.



Texting While Driving

We received a response from a newsletter reader who is employed in the auto insurance industry. The auto insurance industry is seeing an overall increase in vehicle accidents due to drivers' texting while driving. I think we have all seen a driver holding onto a cell phone while at the same time driving similar to an intoxicated person. Take a look at the following statistics on texting while driving and the next time you want to send or receive a text message, "pull over" in a safe location. For more information on texting while driving please visit: <http://www.textinganddrivingsafety.com/>

Texting while driving causes:

1. 1,600,000 accidents per year – National Safety Council
2. 330,000 injuries per year – Harvard Center for Risk Analysis Study
3. 11 teen deaths EVERY DAY – Ins. Institute for Hwy Safety Fatality Facts
4. Nearly 25% of ALL car accidents

Texting While Driving Is:

1. About 6 times more likely to cause an accident than driving intoxicated
2. The same as driving after 4 beers – National Hwy Transportation Safety Admin.
3. The number one driving distraction reported by teen drivers

Texting While Driving:

1. Makes you 23X more likely to crash – National Hwy Transportation Safety Admin.
2. Is the same as driving blind for 5 seconds at a time – VA. Tech Transportation Institute
3. Takes place by 800,000 drivers at any given time across the country
4. Slows your brake reaction speed by 18% – HumanFactors & Ergonomics Society
5. Leads to a 400% increase with eyes off the road



Property Crimes

The two most common property crimes in Waunakee are thefts to unlocked motor vehicles and open garage burglaries. This is the time of the year that more of these crimes begin to be reported. A deterrent to such thefts can be as simple as remembering to keep your vehicle doors locked when parking outside and either remove valuables or secure them in the trunk. Also, be sure overhead garage doors are shut and garage service doors are locked. In many cases items of value were in plain view in the unlocked vehicles. Over the years we have had valuable items to include firearms stolen from unlocked vehicles. It is recommended not to store such items in an unlocked vehicle if at all possible. The department would also like to remind residents to be diligent in calling the police as soon as an incident is occurring or discovered. We also recommend that you record serial numbers on all electronic items to assist us in recovering and returning property that has been stolen.



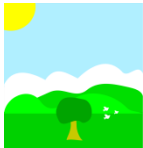
Heroin Addiction

Waukegan Officers responded to two heroin related overdose incidents in Waukegan during the month of February. Thankfully both individuals are alive today. Officers used Naloxone to counter the effects of the drug. Naloxone blocks or reverses the effects of opioid medication, including extreme drowsiness, slowed breathing, or loss of consciousness. An opioid is sometimes called a narcotic and includes heroin. This epidemic of heroin abuse is resulting in devastation to families in the area and all across the country. Please visit the Wisconsin Department of Justice website dedicated to heroin awareness at: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dci/heroin-awareness> You may learn some information that can be shared with others to make a difference in someone's life.



Many families will be traveling for the upcoming "Spring Break". Below are a few tips to avoid ID theft.

1. **Reduce what you carry:** Clean out your wallet or purse and remove all unnecessary cards or other items. Do not carry anything with your social security number.
2. **Pay attention in tourist areas:** These are areas where scammers may have card skimming devices or the standard pick pocket/ purse snatcher.
3. **Avoid using public computers:** They could have information stealing software installed. If you must use one, avoid entering personal information or logging into online bank accounts.
4. **Don't bring your checkbook:** If you have your checks stolen a scammer has your name, address, account number, routing number. Plenty of information to withdraw money and open you up to a host of other scams.
5. **Verify Callers To Your Hotel Room:** A common scam is to call the room and convince the guest that there is a problem with the credit card. Do not give your card number over the phone. Instead go to the front desk to confirm there is a problem.
6. **Watch Out if using public WiFi:** Make sure if you do use a public WiFi network that it is an authenticated network. Some scammers will set up public hotspots that are not secure and others can gain access to a traveler's personal information.



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 Waukegan 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.



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.



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.