

Waunakee Police Department Newsletter July 2017



Big Rig Gig

Officer Christenson attended Waunakee's 6th annual Big Rig Gig on June 4th at Ripp Park. Kids of all ages were able to get up close with their favorite big rigs including a front end loader, snow plow, tractor, fire engine, squad car, large construction vehicles and even UW Med-Flight. This event is sponsored by the Waunakee Recreation Department.



Village of Waunakee's 4th of July Celebration

Come and celebrate Independence Day at this free event, while experiencing the fun, food, music, family activities, volunteer firefighter recognition, F-16 flyover and fireworks display. This wouldn't be possible without the support of our generous sponsors, volunteers and the Waunakee Area Chamber of Commerce.

Carry-in alcoholic beverages are prohibited and no alcoholic beverages are allowed outside designated areas. Pets and personal fireworks such as sparklers are not permitted in the park. Please visit <http://waunaboom.com/> for more information on the event.



The annual WaunaFest celebration is scheduled for July 27th -30th. The Waunakee Police Department will have extended office hours and increased staffing. As was the case the last few years; **carry-in alcoholic beverages are prohibited and no alcoholic beverages are allowed outside designated areas.**

Please note: The WaunaFest parade will be held July 30th between the hours of 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Hwy 19/113 E. Main St will be closed to traffic as will other streets along the parade route.

Please visit the WaunaFest website at <http://www.waunafest.org/> for more information on the event.



Waunakee Police to Host National Night Out

On Wednesday August 9th, 2017 the Waunakee Police Department will be hosting their National Night Out festivities at Village Park in Waunakee from 5pm-7pm. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and co-sponsored by the Waunakee Police Department, will involve over 10,000 communities from all 50 states.

National Night out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts;(3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and united with the police in their efforts to make Waunakee a safe community to live in.

There will be activities for kids, prizes, free brats and hot dogs, and numerous displays by various law enforcement agencies. Med-Flight has also been invited. Members of the community are encouraged to sign up to win one of the many prizes to be given away at Village Park during National Night Out.

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Waunakee Emergency Services Citizens Academy

Waunakee Police, Fire, and EMS are pleased to announce the 2016 Waunakee Emergency Services Citizen’s Academy program starting **September 6, 2017** Participants will meet on Wednesday evenings 6pm-8:30pm for 9 consecutive weeks. The Citizen’s Academy is a “hands on” program. The goal of the program is to give participants a better understanding of Police, Fire, and EMS duties and responsibilities.

During simulations, participants will be able to assume the role of the Police Officer, Firefighter, and Emergency Medical Technician. The class is limited to 14 participants. Requirements: You must be at least 18 years of age. Preference will be given to Village of Waunakee residents. **Applications Due August 30, 2017.**

Applications and course schedule are attached, may be picked up at the Waunakee Police Department, Waunakee Police Department website, or by contacting Sergeant Adam Kreitzman at 849-4523 or e-mail akreitzman@waunakeepd.org



Children at Home Safety

Summertime is a time when children may be left alone, even if for a very short period of time. It is up to each parent to decide when a child is mature enough to stay home alone.

The following rules for the children should be discussed and followed. Children should never tell anyone that they are home alone. All exterior doors and windows should be closed and locked. Don't forget the sliding glass doors. If anyone comes to the door, don't open the door. Don't answer the door. If they do not leave promptly, call 9-1-1 for help. The same rule above applies when the phone rings. Tell them your Parents are busy and ask them to call back later. If you have an answering machine, let it answer for you. Listen to the message. Never touch anything in the medicine cabinet or any cleaning products anywhere in the house. Tell the children you will be checking in with them while you are gone and do so.



Driving in work zones

The Waunakee area is surrounded by work zones, as we repair and replace the roadways. Drivers need to slow down whenever they see flashing lights, or move over, if possible, to leave the lane beside the work zone open. In some construction areas, lowered speed limits are posted and must be obeyed at all times. Remember, when you enter a work zone, be patient. Worrying about the time and traffic won't get you anywhere faster. Instead, slow down and pay attention to your surroundings.

As of Oct. 1, 2016, it is illegal to talk on a handheld mobile device while driving in a Wisconsin road work zone, WI State Statute 346.89 (4m).



® **849-2TIP** “We want your information, not your name”

The Waunakee Police Department maintains an anonymous tips line, 849-2TIP (2847). Callers can leave a message about criminal activity including drug information. The caller may report the information they have and can remain completely anonymous. Tipsters may be eligible for a cash reward if the information results in an arrest.



Park Safety

This time of year we often receive traffic/vehicle related complaints in our larger parks (Ripp, Centennial and Village Parks). Please drive slowly and safely in the park and obey all traffic signs. The speed limit is 15 mph inside the parks. Please park in the designated parking areas and not on the grass. Park hours are from 5:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.



Fireworks Reminder

Fireworks in Wisconsin are strictly regulated by state law Wis Stat. 167.10

Very few fireworks are actually legal in Wisconsin, without having a permit. Those “fireworks” are; sparklers, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs and caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers with less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of a grain of explosive mixture. These “fireworks” are the type usually found in convenience and grocery stores.

Possessing or using any other fireworks such as firecrackers, roman candles, bottle rockets and mortars, without a valid permit is illegal. A general rule of thumb is if the device leaves the ground or explodes it is illegal.



Another IRS Phone Scam Variation

A recent spike in reports about Internal Revenue Service (IRS) phone scam attempts to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) coincides with a warning from the IRS about a new variation on this never-ending scam.

In this new twist, the IRS reports that phone scammers have recently begun telling taxpayers that they failed to respond to two certified letters from the agency and that they risk arrest if an immediate payment is not made by prepaid debit card. The scammer falsely claims that the debit card is linked to the IRS's payment system (the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System or EFTPS) and warns the victim not to contact their tax preparer, an attorney or the local IRS office until the payment is made.

It is likely that these scammers are playing off of the recent news that the IRS has begun using four approved debt collection companies to assist in collecting debts that are more than two years old. Those taxpayers affected by this change will, in fact, receive two letters to inform them that they will be contacted by one of these companies – one letter will come from the IRS directly and the other will be from the collection company. There is additional information about the debt collection program on the [IRS website](#).

This new ploy has yet to be reported to DATCP by Wisconsin consumers, but we expect that it is only a matter of time before this tactic surfaces in Wisconsin. The current scheme consumers are reporting to DATCP involves a fake IRS agent threatening lawsuits and demanding immediate payment. Wisconsin consumers need to remember that any threatening call demanding immediate tax payments is a scam.

You can report these illegal calls to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration through their [IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#) web page or by calling 800-366-4484.

For more information including updated scam alerts please visit the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection at: <https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx>



Facebook

Please "like" 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.

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.