

Waunakee Police Department Newsletter

September 2017



WNPD to participate in 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' initiative Aug. 18 – Sept. 4

The Waunakee Police Department will join hundreds of law enforcement agencies across Wisconsin to combat drunken driving during the annual “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” initiative from Aug. 18 to Sept. 4. Last year in Wisconsin, alcohol-related crashes resulted in 143 deaths and over 2,900 injuries.

Rather than risk a drunken driving arrest or crash, the WNPD urges drivers to follow these common sense suggestions:

- Choose a sober designated driver before you start drinking.
- If you're feeling buzzed, you likely are over the 0.08 BAC limit and should not drive.
- Take mass transit, a taxi, Uber or ask a sober friend to drive you home
- The Zero In Wisconsin traffic safety program has a free “Drive Sober” mobile app that can be downloaded by visiting zeroinwisconsin.gov.
- Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons with a safe ride home. Visit www.tlw.org/ and click on Safe Ride.
- Report impaired drivers to law enforcement by calling 911. Provide as much detail as possible on the driver, vehicle, and location.
- There were over 24,700 convictions for drunken driving in Wisconsin last year.
- On average, a DUI can cost \$10,000 in fines, court costs, attorney fees, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing and repairs, and more.
- Drunken driving is 100 percent preventable, but too many people are still being killed or injured because of the irresponsible decision to drive while impaired.

National Night Out



Thanks to all who helped make National Night Out, August 9th 2017 a big success!



Quite often WNPD receives calls questioning if individuals are allowed to go door to door to seek donations or sell items.

1. Can they go door to door to seek donations? Yes, those seeking charitable donations can go door to door in an attempt to raise money.
2. Do they need a permit? No, those who are seeking donations for a non profit do not need a permit.
3. What about those who are selling items door to door? Individuals selling merchandise and not part of a charitable group do need a permit from the Village of Waunakee. Feel free to ask the salesperson for their permit. If the person can't produce a permit, we recommend calling the police department to report the person.
4. Are those seeking donations or attempting to sell...scammers? The Waunakee PD cannot guarantee those coming to your door seeking a charitable donation or selling door to door even with a permit are acting in good faith. Never invite anyone you don't know into your home, particularly after dark. If the salesperson refuses to leave and/or if you feel threatened, call the WNPD immediately.
5. The Federal Trade Commission's Three-Day Cooling-Off Rule gives consumers three days to cancel purchases of more than \$25.00 made in the home. Always get a receipt. By law, the company must give consumers a refund within 10 days of receiving the cancellation notice.
6. Be cautious of high pressure sales tactics. A reputable seller will give you time to consider the deal and make an appointment to return at another time. If they don't want you to have the time to perform research on them or their product or service, you may want to spend your money elsewhere.

School Starts September 5th

Drivers must be extra cautious when school starts

It is that time of year. Kids will be heading back to school with morning and afternoon traffic increasing. Please pay attention to pedestrians and watch your speed in and around schools zones.



Vehicles must stop for adult school crossing guard

Every operator of a motor vehicle approaching a school crossing which is controlled by an adult school crossing guard shall follow the directions of the crossing guard. If directed by the school crossing guard to stop, the driver must stop the vehicle not less than 10 feet or more than 30 feet from the school crossing and remain stopped until directed by the crossing guard to proceed. **A violation in Waunakee will likely result in a forfeiture of \$111.40 and three demerit points.**



Passing a school bus

Under a new state regulation, school buses in Wisconsin built after January 1, 2005 must have amber lights to alert drivers that the bus is about to activate its flashing red warning lights while coming to a stop. The new regulation goes into effect on August 16, 2016.

“Flashing amber lights are a signal that the school bus is preparing to stop, so drivers need to slow down, pay attention and proceed carefully. Drivers are allowed to pass a moving bus with flashing amber lights, but they should do so cautiously. However, once the bus displays flashing red warning lights, drivers both in front of and behind the bus must stop at least 20 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the red lights are turned off or the bus resumes travel. Drivers must stop even if the red stop-sign arm on the side of the bus is not extended.

A vehicle owner can be cited when the driver of a car passes a school bus illegally. A law enforcement officer need not witness this violation if the school bus driver reports it to the law enforcement agency within 24 hours. **If the violation occurs in Waunakee the forfeiture is \$250.00 and 4 demerit points.**

LOST & FOUND

The following pieces of property were found in the Village this summer with no owner known at this time. These items are currently in the custody of the Waunakee Police Department. If you or someone you know lost these items please contact Sgt. Bartels at 849-4500 or by email rbartels@waunakeepd.org. Please provide a complete description of the item you lost so a positive identification can be made.

On 6-7-17, a pair of prescription sunglasses were found in the 600 block of E. Main St.

On 6-15-17, a car key and fob was found near the roundabout on W. Main St.

On 7-5-17, several items were found in Ripp Park, (1) Metal Water Bottle (1) Headband (2) pair of sunglasses (1) camera lens cap (1) women's purse (1) blanket

On 7-7-17, a men's wedding ring was found in Village Park.

On 7-18-17, a vehicle key was found in the 5600 block of Woodland Dr.

On 7-21-17, a bicycle was found on Arboretum Dr.

On 7-25-17, bicycle was found at the post office.

On 7-27-17, a vehicle key was found on Hogan Rd.

On 7-28-17, a cell phone was found in the 100 block of E. Main St.

On 7-29-17, a cell phone was found in Centennial Park.

On 7-30-17, a bracelet was found in the 500 block of E Main St.

On 8-1-17, a blanket was found in the 100 block of E Main St.

On 8-2-17, a men's wedding ring was found on Grant St.

On 8-9-17, a bicycle was found in Village Park.

On 8-10-17, a bicycle was found on Cooper Rd.

On 8-17-17, a Pedometer was found on N Klein Dr.

On 8-25-17, a drone was found in the 300 block of Prospect Rd.



Watch for Charity Scams in Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is urging consumers to do their research before sending money to a charity claiming to help those affected by Hurricane and Tropical Storm Harvey.

Fake charity schemes will use any available means of soliciting “donations” — they may make their pitch over the phone, by mail or online. They will often use names and website addresses that are nearly identical to those of major established charities, so pay close attention to the wording in a donation pitch. Keep in mind that most legitimate charity websites end in “.org” rather than “.com.”

Consider the following tips to protect yourself from charity scammers:

- Watch for social network messages, e-mails or text messages that claim to have exclusive information or photos. Clicking on attachments or clicking links in these communications can expose your computer or phone to malicious software.
- Look up charities by name at www.charitynavigator.org or www.give.org.
- Use caution with any that popped up since the incident. Research who will administer the funds, how they will be used and if donations are tax-deductible.
- Be leery of high-pressure pitches, and requests to wire money.
- Avoid donating cash or wiring money to people or organizations you don't know.
- If you are donating via a public fundraising website (often called “crowdfunding”), review the site's safety and security policies before making a payment. While these sites typically have a number of safeguards in place for users, understand that there is no way to guarantee that the information posted is completely accurate or truthful.
- If you question the legitimacy of a charity, seek contact information for the operation rather than using the contact information provided in the pitch or search listing.

Under Wisconsin state law, most organizations soliciting for charitable donations must register and file an annual report with the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI). To check if a charity is registered, visit the [DFI website](#) or email: DFICharitableOrgs@wisconsin.gov.

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



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.