

Waunakee Police Department Newsletter

April 2018



K9 Report

Officer Houk and K9 Thoro will celebrate one year working together for the WNPD on April 17th 2018. Officer Houk and K9 Thoro have been quite busy. K9 Thoro has been involved in 70 vehicle sniffs, 6 building sniffs and 3 tracks. The four illegal drugs that K9 Thoro indicates to (Marijuana, Cocaine, Heroin and Methamphetamine) have all been located due to vehicle indications by K9 Thoro. Searches of vehicles based in K9 Thoro's positive indication has resulted in the discovery of other illegal items besides illegal drugs to include: A Firearm in possession of a Felon, Stolen Property, and Illegally obtained prescription medications.

K9 Thoro has assisted the Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigation, Dane County Sheriff's Office, Deforest PD, Town of Madison PD, Cross Plains PD, Sun Prairie PD, and the Wisconsin State Patrol on sniffs and tracking as well. We would like to thank those of you who provided donations towards the purchase of K9 Thoro and the businesses who continue to provide support and services to the K9 program.



Free Training!

Do you ever worry about "How to respond to an Active Shooter"? The Waunakee Police Department is holding a free training open to the public on April 9th at 7:00PM in the Performing Arts Center at the Waunakee Community High School. Active shooter events are sudden, unpredictable and can happen anywhere. On average, these shootings last less than 5 minutes with a majority ending in less than 2 minutes. The national average time for police response is 5-6 minutes. So, what can be done? Unfortunately, simply waiting for police to arrive may not be your

best option. Having a plan and formal training on how YOU respond can significantly increase your likelihood of survival. This training will provide actionable tactics and techniques should you ever be faced with an active shooter. No need to sign up. This training will last approximately 1 hour but will be opened to questions following the presentation.



Waunakee Police Department would like to thank Michael F. Simon Builders of Waunakee for donating books through Reach-A-Child as a part of their 125th Anniversary celebration. Reach-A-Child is a program which provides bags of books for emergency workers. These books are given to children in times of crisis as a way of coping with what is going on around them. Michael F. Simon Builders not only donated the bags of books, but their employees helped stuff the bags prior to delivery. We would like to thank them for their continued support of the Waunakee Police Department and Waunakee Community.



Waunakee Police Department Bike Rodeo

The Waunakee Police Department will be hosting its annual Bike Rodeo on Thursday May 31st from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at Prairie Elementary School. The Bike Rodeo is designed to promote safe riding habits and skills needed for young bike riders, ages 5-12. Free helmet fitting, free bike licensing and a bike technician will be on hand to help identify mechanical issues of the kid's bikes. All participants will receive a prize! Prize tickets will be drawn after the event and prizes delivered to the school. No need to register or sign up. This is a free event, just show up and enjoy! *The Bike Rodeo may be canceled if there is inclement weather the day of the event.

For more information or questions about the event contact Police School Liaison Officer Erik Schmidt 849-2109



Open Burning

A newsletter reader asked that we post the open burning ordinance and its restrictions. Below is the abbreviated ordinance with the excepted practices and restrictions. To see the entire ordinance please go to Sec. 30-2. - Open burning at https://library.municode.com/wi/waunakee/codes/code_of_ordinances

No person shall build or maintain any outdoor fire within the corporate limits of the village except as set forth in subsection (b) of this section. This prohibition on burning includes burning of construction waste and debris at construction sites.

Exceptions to the prohibition stated in subsection (a) of this section are as follows:

- (1) Outdoor cooking over a fire contained in a device or structure designed for such use is permissible.
- (2) Dry wood may be burned in an outdoor recreational fireplace that is certified by a nationally recognized listing agency and which is screened and which contains a lid or in a non-commercially constructed brick fireplace with a chimney that is approved by the building inspector according to applicable building codes. Open burning of material is not allowed within the village limits. This includes burning materials in the street or on sidewalks. The burning of grasses, leaves or vegetation require a permit or prior written approval from the Fire Chief.



State law requires drivers to yield to pedestrians

1. Who have started crossing an intersection or crosswalk on a walk signal or on a green light if there's no walk signal. (Please note: drivers do not need to stop for pedestrians waiting on the side of the road/curb and are not in the act of crossing the road)
2. Who are crossing the road within a marked or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection where there are no traffic lights or control signals.
3. When a vehicle is crossing a sidewalk or entering an alley or driveway.
4. Pedestrians must give a driver enough space to safely yield to the pedestrian before leaving the curb or area of safety.

In addition, drivers may not legally overtake and pass any vehicle that has stopped for pedestrians at an intersection or crosswalk. Drivers who fail to yield the right of way to pedestrians who are legally crossing roadways in the Village of Waunakee may be issued citations in amounts ranging from **\$98.80 - \$250.00** (depending on the violation) and 3-4 demerit points. We have plans to perform pedestrian/crosswalk enforcement in the near future.



Protect the exterior of your home

1. Place lighting at all entry points to your home. Use low wattage bulbs to light porches, decks and walkways.
2. Install outdoor motion lights overhead so burglars can't reach them. Consider dusk till dawn lights that activate at dusk and remain on until dawn.
3. Trim shrubs and bushes so they do not block windows, doors or walkways. Consider thorny bushes under windows.
4. Lock up ladders and tools that may assist a thief to break in.
5. Cover garage windows with window film so they can't see if your car is gone when you are away.
6. Install a peephole on entry doors.
7. Install deadbolts
8. Use a stick, metal pipe or other type of device to secure sliding glass doors.
9. Check your door to make sure the door and the frame are not too large. A gap as small as 1/8 inch can allow a crow bar access to allow it to be pried open.
10. Make sure hinges are fitted on the inside of your door. If not a burglar could knock out the pins and remove the door.



Tornado Awareness

April 9-13 is Wisconsin's Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week. Wisconsin Emergency Management, the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association (WBA) have once again teamed up to sponsor the state-wide tornado drills scheduled for Thursday, April 12.

A mock tornado watch will be issued April 12 at 1 p.m., followed by a state-wide mock tornado warning at 1:45 p.m. Many radio and TV stations across the state will issue the test tornado warnings. In addition, mock alerts will be issued on NOAA Weather Radios and many communities will sound their tornado sirens to test their emergency severe weather plans. Later, a mock tornado warning will be issued at 6:45 p.m. to give families and second-shift workers a chance to practice their emergency plans.



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.

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.