

# Waunakee Police Department

April 2021 Newsletter

## Waunakee Public Safety Blood Drive

Waunakee Police, Fire, and EMS are partnering together to host a Waunakee Public Safety BLOOD DRIVE [on April 17, 2021](#). Waunakee Fire has opened up their doors as a location, and American Red Cross is excited to work with our agencies for such a desperate cause. American Red Cross has been hosting blood drives during the ongoing pandemic successfully and safely.

### Reason Why You Should Donate Blood

- Every three seconds, someone needs a blood transfusion
- 20 percent of recipients are children – many are cancer patients
- Giving blood is 100 percent safe
- One pint of blood from a donor can save up to three lives.

### General Guidelines for Blood Donation

- Been in good general Health and feeling well
- Be at least 17 years old (16 years old with parental consent)
- Weigh at least 110 pounds. Additional weight requirements apply for donors 18 years old and younger and all high school donors
- Have not donated blood in the last 56 days



**American  
Red Cross**

\*If you are interested in donating, please contact Officer Rachael Martin with Waunakee PD at [rmartin@waunakeepd.org](mailto:rmartin@waunakeepd.org). Include your name, email, and phone number, as well as this same information for additional contacts who are interested in donating.

## Thursday, April 15th is the Wisconsin Statewide Tornado Drill!

Wisconsin's statewide tornado drill is an annual event, typically held in mid-April during the Thursday of Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week. During the drill, everyone in the state is encouraged to discuss and practice their plans on what to do during a tornado warning. For many people, this includes going to their designated tornado shelter, whether they are at school, work or home.



## Promotion!

Investigator Jason Carbon has been selected as the next permanent Detective for the Waunakee Police Department. This is a new position as part of our 2021 budget. Detective Carbon has worked with the Waunakee Police Department since 2006. During that time he served as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer and Investigator. Congratulations Detective Carbon!



## Safety Tips for Walking/Biking at Night

Warmer weather increases the numbers of individuals who walk or ride their bicycles. It is very important that you are visible when walking or biking, especially at night! Follow these rules to stay safe:

- Wear light or bright colored clothes, something reflective, or carry a flashlight, especially at night.
- Be intentional showing you want to cross, wave an outstretched arm.
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Make eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you
- Cross at crosswalks and corners
- Have a bike light attached to the front (State law after dark)
- Have a red rear reflector (State Law)
- A steady or flashing red rear light on your bike is recommended
- Bike in the same direction as traffic (right side of the road)



## Rules for riding bicycles on the road

### General rules

- Ride at least three feet from the curb or parked vehicles or debris in curb area and in a straight line. Don't swerve in and out around parked vehicles.
- Always ride in the same direction as traffic.

- Sidewalk riding for bicyclists past the learning stage and being closely supervised by adults can be more dangerous than on the road, obeying traffic laws. It is also illegal unless the community has passed an ordinance specifically permitting sidewalk riding. This can be age-restricted, location-restricted or based on the type of property abutting the sidewalk. (***Sidewalk riding is permissible for cyclists in the learning stages.***)
- Obey all traffic laws.
- Be predictable! Let other users know where you intend to go and maintain an understood course.

### Motorist reminders

- Bicycles are vehicles. They belong on the road.
- Cyclists need room to get around potholes, sewer grates and other obstructions.
- Leave at least three feet when passing bicycles, more room at higher speeds.
- Change lanes to pass any bicycle traveling in a narrow lane.
- Train yourself to scan for fast moving (it's hard to tell speed) bicycles and motorcycles in the opposing lane to you when turning left, and scan sidewalks and crosswalks for pedestrians and bicyclists using the sidewalk and crosswalk as a pedestrian. Always scan to your right side sidewalk before you leave a stop light or stop sign. And to the left and right side sidewalks when on a one-way street.

\*For more information on bicycles rules/laws and safety please visit the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's website:

**<https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/safety/education/bike/rules.aspx>**

## If we can't find you, we can't help you!

Make sure your house/building number is well marked and visible. First responders often need to spend valuable seconds or minutes trying to find a residence if it's not well marked or not marked at all! The most important reason to make sure your building is well marked is so we can help you when you need it but it's also the law. See Waunakee Ord. 58-9 for legal requirements.



## 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) with 3-4 points assessed.

## National Drug Take Back Day

- Supported by the Wisconsin Department of Justice "Drug Take-Back Day" Campaign and in collaboration with the Waunakee Police Department, the Waunakee Community Cares Coalition will be having a Drug Take-Back Event on Saturday, **April 24th, 2021 at the Waunakee Police Department located at 205 N Klein Drive from 10 am – 2 pm.**
- You may safely dispose of unused or expired prescriptions which include controlled and uncontrolled substances, over-the-counter medications, ointments, patches, creams, non-aerosol sprays, vials, inhalers, vitamins and pet medications by dumping all pills out of pill bottles into a Ziploc baggy. Again, we will collaborate with MERI to safely dispose of Epi-pens, sharps and needles during this event **ONLY**.
- We will be following strict social distancing guidelines – please stay in your vehicles, pull-up in front of the Waunakee Police Department, and wait as volunteers will come out to get your items. Please wear your masks. Free lockboxes, lock bags, and masks while supplies last.

***Please join us!***



## Animals at Large

Waunakee has ordinance restrictions in place to prevent domestic animals from “running at large”. Ordinance 14-5 (a) (1) states the following:

(1) No person having the possession or ownership of any animal or fowl shall allow the animal or fowl to run at large within the village. The owner of any animal, whether licensed or unlicensed, shall keep the animal tied or enclosed in a proper enclosure so as not to allow the animal to interfere with the passing public or neighbors. Any animal running at large unlicensed and required by state law or this chapter to be licensed shall be seized and impounded by a humane officer or law enforcement officer.

(2) A dog or cat 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.

\*\*\*Owners can be held liable for damages their animals cause to others property. The fine amount for an animal running at large is \$98.80 for a first offense, and \$124.00 for second and subsequent offenses.

If your dog or cat is not licensed please go to the Pet Data website, and obtain an animal license. <http://www.petdata.com>



### As a Reminder:

All dogs must be on a leash and physically controlled by a person when in public including a sidewalk. This applies even if you feel your dog is friendly, others may feel unsettled by an animal off-leash. WNPD has recently responded to complaints of dogs being walked off-leash and wanted to post this as a reminder. You may feel your dog is safe but others who do not know your dog may not, please be respectful of others. See village ord. 14-5(a)(1)&(2)

## Turn Your Lights on For Safety!

Dense fog, snow, rain or other environmental factors can significantly reduce visibility. You may be able see where you are going but other vehicles may not be able to see you! The headlight visibility law requires drivers to turn on their headlights when weather conditions “limit visibility.”

Limited visibility is defined as “objects that are not clearly visible 500 feet from the vehicle.” In other words, turn your lights on in heavy rain, snow and fog.

A bill was signed into law that requires drivers to turn on headlights when weather conditions limit visibility. Under the previous law, if it was dark outside, drivers were required to activate their headlights. Now if it’s raining, snowing, foggy or if there’s any condition that limits visibility and prevents you from seeing 500 feet in front of your vehicle, drivers must turn on their headlights. This law can be found in Wisconsin State Statue 347.06(1).



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.

<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.

Send questions to [newsletter@waunakeepd.org](mailto:newsletter@waunakeepd.org). Questions submitted may be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.