

Waunakee Police Department

May 2021 Newsletter

Waunakee Community Garage Sale

The Waunakee Community wide garage sale is scheduled for May 6th - May 8th. Please be aware there is a considerable increase in vehicle and pedestrian traffic due to the amount of people attracted to this event. Be extra cautious while driving about the Village. Please obey and respect all parking laws as well. We receive many complaints of parking violations during the event. For more information on the event please visit the following website:

<http://waunakeegaragesalemap.com/>



Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15th

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as National Police Week. During Police Week we honor Peace Officers who have died in the line of duty.

Waunakee Public Safety Blood Drive

On 4/17/2021 Waunakee Police, Fire and EMS hosted the first annual Waunakee Public Safety Blood Drive. We are extremely grateful for all the support we received from the emergency responders, village employees, community members and those outside the community. We received 73 donations that will save the lives of 219 people.

A special thanks to Piggly Wiggly for donating food for the event and Jet Wash Exterior Cleaning for sanitizing the fire department to ensure a safe event for all participants. Thank you American Red Cross for helping us make this event a success. And lastly, special thanks to Officer Rachael Martin who helped organize the event. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



Waunakee Bike Rodeo & Bike Donation Event!!!

The Waunakee Village Center is partnering with Dreambikes, the Waunakee Police Department and the Waunakee Neighborhood Connection to offer a free community bike rodeo and donation event. **May 22nd 9am – Noon At Village Center**

The Bike Rodeo is designed to promote safe riding habits and skills for younger riders. Participants are typically elementary to Intermediate school age (5-12). Participants will ride their bike through a series of courses that help them to develop skills to avoid typical crashes as well as learning to watch their surroundings for traffic, other riders, road hazards etc.

All participants are given a checklist and if completed they enter a drawing and win a prize! Prizes bought and paid for by the Waunakee Police Department. Prizes include: Helmets, locks, lights and other bike related items. The Bike Rodeo is a great way for officers to interact in a positive way with the youth of our community.

DreamBike's trained staff will be available to inspect all of the bikes and offer simple fixes on site. Bicycle crashes can happen for many reasons and improper bike maintenance is one of those reasons. Simple things like a loose chain, tire and brake cable or even non-functioning brakes can be a major cause of a crash. These crashes can be prevented through simple maintenance.

DreamBikes will also be collecting gently used bikes. These bikes will be tuned up and used to support the mission of DreamBikes. We will also be partnering with the Waunakee Neighborhood Connection to collect bikes for Waunakee families that are in need of a dependable bike.



Fireworks

Know your fireworks laws

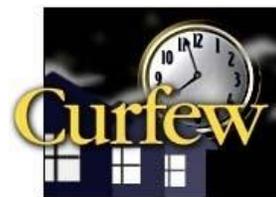


Fireworks in Wisconsin are strictly regulated by state law WI Stat. 167.10 Very few fireworks are actually legal in Wisconsin, without having a permit. Those "fireworks" are; sparklers, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs and caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers with less than ¼ 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.

Almost all fireworks permits held by users of the fireworks are not valid. Valid fireworks permits can only be issued by a mayor, village president, or a municipal employee they have designated. If a valid permit is issued it is only valid within the city, village or town where it was issued. Therefore, permits issued by fireworks vendors are not valid.



CURFEW for children under16

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.

Roundabouts Guides



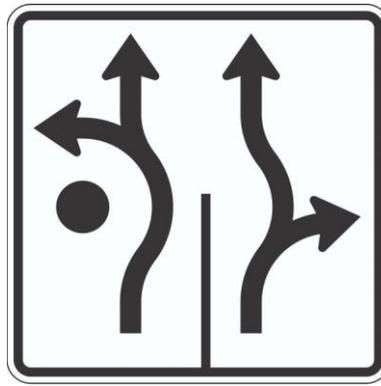
One thing is certain about roundabouts; they are here to stay and will only become more common.

Studies show, roundabouts:

- Are proven to reduce the number of severe injury crashes and deaths
- Provide a good economic value
- Reduce delay and improve traffic flow
- Are a greener alternative with less vehicle idling, lower fuel emissions and less wasted fuel

A common misconception about roundabouts is that they increase the risk of a crash. In reality a roundabout significantly reduces the risk of serious injury crashes and do make our roads safer. Crashes in roundabouts can be easily avoided if drivers take the time to learn the concept of their use and pay attention to the road signs leading up to them. The road signs will tell the driver what lane they should be in to travel in the desired direction, the recommended speed while navigating the roundabout and most importantly, the Yield sign.

The most common crash in a roundabout is simply that the driver entering the roundabout fails to yield to the vehicle navigating the roundabout to their left. The second most common crash relates to drivers not knowing the direction they can travel in the lane they occupy, for example they think they can turn left in a lane which can only go straight or turn right.



The sign above represents the lane sign leading up to the roundabout in Waunakee at W. Main Street and Century Avenue. The arrows show the legal use options for each lane.

The arrow on the left represents the inner most lane within this roundabout. The arrow formation means the driver in this lane may go straight through, may turn left or complete a U-turn (represented by the circle).

The arrow on the right represents the outer most lane within this roundabout. The arrow formation means the driver may go straight or turn right. At this roundabout **making a left turn from the outside lane is illegal** and is the cause of common crashes as the vehicle traveling on the inside lane may continue to go straight resulting in a collision. The driver in the outside lane would be at-fault for this collision.



The most common crash in a roundabout is simply the driver approaching the roundabout fails to yield to a vehicle to their left that is already in the roundabout. Remember, any vehicle to your left has the right of way.

For more information on roundabout use see the Wisconsin Department of Transportation website at:

<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/safety/safety-eng/roundabouts/works.aspx>

*The below graphic was obtained from the WI DOT website and explains the laws regarding large vehicles and roundabout use.

Navigating with Large Vehicles at Roundabouts

Along the 40-foot line

This graphic gives a rough idea of where larger vehicles fall along the 40-foot line, but keep in mind that not every vehicle is designed exactly the same so sizes will vary. Use good judgement and always drive safely.

Passenger Car



Moving Van



Delivery Truck



Garbage/Recycling Truck



School Bus



Fire Truck



Coach Bus



Combination of Vehicles



Tractor trailer



Roundabout Rule Basics

- All vehicles, large and small, must yield to traffic already in the roundabout.
- Be cautious, courteous and aware of other traffic.

Give space - It's the law!

When approaching a roundabout alongside or closely adjacent to a larger vehicle (such as a tractor-trailer, bus, fire truck or farm equipment), drivers of smaller vehicles (such as sedans, pickup trucks or motorcycles) must provide space by yielding or slowing down, allowing the larger vehicle first entrance and space through the roundabout. 2015 Wisconsin Act 139 defines "large vehicles" as those measuring at least 40 feet long (including combinations of vehicles) or 10 feet wide. It's important for drivers of all vehicles to remember that, even with the new law's additional right-of-way language, **every driver must yield** at a roundabout's entrance until it's adequately clear of traffic.

Large vehicle yielding

If two large vehicles approach a roundabout at the same time, the vehicle on the right must yield right-of-way to the vehicle on the left. Large vehicles also must yield to all traffic, no matter vehicle size, that's already in the roundabout.

Why this law?

The law was passed in the interest of safety, as commercial trucks can weigh up to 80,000 pounds, and most larger vehicles have an expanded turning radius.

Parking Reminder!

We have recently received complaints about people parking in disabled parking stalls without a valid legal reason to do so. The complaints referred to this occurring at local gas stations. Officers will be conducting extra patrols looking for these violations throughout the village. Vehicles parked in disabled parking must have a valid hanging placard or disabled/disabled veteran plates registered to the vehicle. The citation for this violation is \$50. (WI 346.505 / WN 70-2)

Please be respectful of others, even if it's a short stop at a gas station.



Please "like" our Waukegan 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/Waukegan-Police-Department/349673238430794>

Newsletter ideas or topics

If you have a topic or idea you would like us to consider for future Waukegan Police Newsletter, please email the idea for consideration to the address below.

Send questions to newsletter@waukeganpd.org. Questions submitted may be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.