

Waunakee Police Department

July 2021 Newsletter

National Night Out!



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- We are excited for the return of National Night Out! This event is a great opportunity for everyone to come out and meet members of the Waunakee Police Department as well as Fire, EMS and other neighboring Emergency Responders. National Night Out is designed to: Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts, and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

There will be activities for the kids, prizes, and free food while supplies last. We look forward to seeing everyone!

- **August 11th, 2021 from 5pm-7pm, Village Park.**



Big Rig Event 2021!

- Officer Jacob joined many other businesses in this year's Big Rig Event that took place Sunday! It was great getting out and seeing everyone in person again.



OWI Task Force

- **The Middleton Police Department, Waunakee Police Department and Shorewood Hills Police Department are joining forces in an OWI Task Force with a grant provided by the Bureau of Transportation Safety.**
- The task force will run from the middle of June through September 30, 2021. The grant will allow our departments to place more officers on the road to focus on OWI enforcement, along with seatbelt enforcement. Each department will patrol their own jurisdictions and report their activity to the Bureau of Transportation Safety each month.
- "About every three hours in Wisconsin, someone is injured or killed in an alcohol-related crash," **Sergeant Quamme** said. "This is not about stopping or arresting motorists. This is about saving lives and preventing needless tragedies by encouraging drivers to be safe and responsible."
- Last year in Wisconsin, there were 6,058 alcohol-related crashes that injured 2,918 people and resulted in 140 deaths (about one-quarter of all traffic fatalities). While alcohol-impaired drivers remain a concern, a growing problem involves drug-impaired drivers - people whose ability to safely operate a motor vehicle is compromised by legal or illegal drugs including prescription and over-the-counter medications. To help combat impaired driving, Wisconsin has:
 - 5,223 police officers trained in Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) to help detect and remove impaired drivers from the roadways;
 - 310 highly-trained Drug Recognition Experts - among the most in the nation;
 - 23 multi-jurisdictional high-visibility enforcement task forces operating throughout the year, across the state.

Citizens can help in several ways:

- If you plan to drink, identify a sober designated driver or find a safe alternative way home. Never allow someone to get behind the wheel impaired.
- Protect yourself and your passengers every time you travel. Ensure everyone is buckled up. Watch your speed and eliminate distractions.
- If you suspect a driver is impaired, call 911. Provide as much detail as possible on the driver, vehicle and location.
- Download the free "Drive Sober" mobile app from the WisDOT website. The app includes a "find a ride" feature to help locate mass transit and taxi services;
- Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons a safe ride home.

"Drivers impaired by alcohol or other drugs risk the safety of everyone along our roadways," **Sergeant Quamme** said. "Our goal is to help ensure all travelers reach their destinations safely."

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.

A general rule of thumb is if the device leaves the ground or explodes it is illegal.

2021 Bike Rodeo

The Waunakee Police Department would like to thank the Village Center, DreamBikes, Waunakee Neighborhood Connection, and everyone who took part in and donated to the 2021 Bike Rodeo!



Bike Safety

There were 675 Bike Related Deaths in the US in 2020. Bike riding is a great way to get out and traverse the Village! The Waunakee Police Department encourages the safe and responsible use of bicycles. Below are 10 tips for safe riding:

1. Wear a Helmet
2. Ride defensively and alert
3. Ride predictively – No swerving or abrupt stops or turns
4. Watch for pedestrians
5. Pass pedestrians safely – “Passing on your left” or ring a bell
6. Allow at least 3 feet when passing other bikes or pedestrians
7. Ride the same direction as traffic
8. Slow and look for traffic when crossing streets
9. Watch for cars backing out of driveways
10. Use of lights and reflectors at night



How to Call Police

Occasionally we have citizens comment on not knowing if they should call 911 or a non-emergency number for police assistance. Here are some simple tips to help with this as well as the numbers to call.

- If there is an imminent threat to someone's safety, property, or an active crime in progress **Call 911**
- If you want to file a complaint or speak with an officer about something that isn't an imminent threat call **Non-Emergency 608-849-4523**

*If you call Non-Emergency after normal business hours and there is no officer at the police department to answer the phone, stay on the line and you will be transferred to dispatch who can contact an officer for you.

PARENTS WHO HOST LOSE THE MOST



Hosting graduation parties can cost you! A warning to parents and other adults thinking of hosting a Graduation party that involves alcohol being served to those under 21....don't do it. The Waunakee Police Department often receives reports of underage drinking parties related to the Graduation season. According to the CDC more than 4,300 deaths to underage youth are attributed to alcohol, including but not limited to drinking and driving, accidental falls and fights. These deaths are preventable.

If WNPD officers contact a person under 21 whom has been drinking alcohol they will receive a citation. The citation will range from \$98.80 - \$439.00 depending on the age of the person and number of prior offenses.

If you are an adult who is hosting or procuring the alcohol **you can be fined for each violation.** Each violation is typically the number of underage individuals found to be drinking at the party or provided alcohol. The fines could reach thousands of dollars very quickly. The bottom line is: "the parents that host lose the most", don't be a party to underage drinking. Don't buy alcohol for parties when minors will be attending.

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. – 10:30 p.m.



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.

It's important to note that **if there is an active situation call police immediately, not the tip line. You may still remain anonymous but active situations require a faster police response.



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. Questions submitted may be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.