

Waunakee Police Department

Newsletter

August 2013



Just another reason not to drink and drive!

The new WI State budget bill, 2013 Act 20, has increased the driver improvement surcharge from \$365 to \$435 for Operating a Motor Vehicle While Intoxicated (OMVWI) offenses committed on or after July 2, 2013. If you are arrested in Waunakee for a 1st offense OMVWI violation, the citation amount will be \$801.00.

The citation is just the beginning of the total costs. There are several other costs associated with an OMVWI arrest. The following is an estimate of other likely expenditures associated with an OMVWI arrest and conviction.

1. Attorney's fees \$500.00 to \$10,000.00
2. Insurance rate increase for at least the next 3 years \$3,600.00 - \$6,000.00
3. Driver's license suspension or revocation
4. Driver's license reinstatement fee \$200.00
5. If your Blood Alcohol Concentration was over .15 or you refused testing, you may be ordered to equip your vehicle with an Ignition Interlock Device. The average cost for installation and service fees is over \$1000.00 annually.

***This is an example of a "routine 1st offense OMVWI" situation. If you damaged your vehicle, injured or killed someone while driving while intoxicated the above listed estimates are just a fraction of the total costs.

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over crackdown—8/16/13 to 9/2/13

Waunakee Police will be participating in the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" Crackdown.

- * To save lives and prevent injuries, law enforcement officers from all over Wisconsin and throughout the nation will be patrolling in greater numbers and for longer hours to arrest impaired drivers and get them off the road.

- * Saturation patrols and other types of high visibility enforcement have proved to be an effective deterrent to impaired driving, especially when combined with an effective media campaign like *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*.
- * The goal is not to arrest more drunken drivers. The goal is to deter drunken driving, so that we can reach our ultimate goal of zero preventable traffic deaths.

Bicycle Safety & Traffic Basics

1. Bicyclists should remember if they are riding on the roadway they have the same rights and responsibilities as one who would drive a car.
2. Bicyclists riding on the road must obey all traffic laws, signs and signals.
3. Be predictable. Signal turns, stop as required by law and use the proper lane.
4. Be visible. Wear bright colors during the daytime and use lights and reflective material at night.
5. Ride in the same direction as other traffic. Motorists in intersections and driveways do not expect traffic coming from the wrong way. The chances for a "head on crash" are much greater.
6. The most effective way to prevent head injuries is to wear a properly fitting bicycle helmet. A helmet worn correctly, just above the eyebrows, on every ride is the best defense against serious injury in a fall or crash.

Wisconsin Bicycle Safety Facts (WI DOT)

1. In Wisconsin, in 2011, one bicyclist was injured or killed every 9.0 hours.
2. 1,048 crashes involved bicyclists in Wisconsin in 2011.
3. Of these crashes, 12 bicyclists were killed and 964 bicyclists were injured. The bicyclist is almost always injured in a bicycle/motor vehicle crash.
4. The number of injuries has decreased by 43% since 1990.
5. Most bicyclist crashes occur between 3 and 6 p.m. on weekdays, the hours after school and the prime time that adults commute from work.
6. The most common types of bicycle/motor vehicle crashes involve: (1) motorists failing to yield the right of way to a straight-through bicyclist when they make a left turn (2) motorist drives out at a sign control (3) bicyclist riding through a sign control (4) motorists turning right on a red signal.

August 4-10 is National Stop on Red Week

Law Enforcement agencies across the Nation will be raising awareness through enforcement, safety and education about the dangers of red-light running. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) *Traffic Safety Facts 2008 Report*, there were more than 2.3 million reported intersection-related crashes, resulting in more than 7,770 fatalities and approximately 733,000 injury crashes in 2008.

TEN THINGS...

...We Bet You Didn't Know About Red-Light Running*

1. You or your loved ones are more likely to be injured due to a red-light running related crash than any other type of crash.
2. Running a red light or other traffic control is the most common cause of all urban crashes.
3. Someone runs a red light an average of every 20 minutes at urban intersections.
4. In the last decade, red-light running crashes killed nearly 9,000 people.
5. An estimated 165,000 motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians are injured annually by red-light runners.
6. Half of the people killed by red-light runners are not the signal violators – they are passengers, other motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.
7. Nearly 93% of drivers believe running a red light is unacceptable, yet 1 in 3 drivers reported doing so in the past 30 days.
8. There are an average of 7 fatal crashes and over 1,000 injury crashes EVERY DAY at signalized intersections across the United States.
9. The cost to society of all crashes exceeds \$230 billion annually.
10. The tragedies and costs resulting from red-light running are preventable!

* Visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/stoppedlightrunning> to access the references for these statistics.

"Move Over Law"



Drivers must provide a safety zone for stopped law enforcement, emergency and maintenance vehicles

To help safeguard law enforcement officers, emergency responders, road maintenance workers, and others who work on the side of highways, Wisconsin has a "Move Over Law."

The law requires drivers to shift lanes or slow down in order to provide a "safety zone" for a squad car, ambulance, fire truck, tow truck or highway maintenance vehicle that is stopped on the side of a road with its warning lights flashing.

Drivers have two options for creating a safety zone:

- If the road has more than one directional lane, like the Interstate, and you can switch lanes safely, you must move over to vacate the lane closest to the law enforcement or other vehicle with its lights flashing.
- If the road has a single directional lane or you can't safely move over, you must reduce your speed.

Failure of motorists to move over is one of the reasons that motor vehicle crashes kill more law enforcement officers on duty than any other cause.

Slow Down Watch for Kids Signs are still available!



Please pick up a Slow Down Watch for Kids sign at the Waunakee Police Department. We all need the reminder to slow down when children are present. The faster vehicles travel, the more likely crashes are to occur and the more severe injuries are likely to be. Children are especially vulnerable due to their smaller stature.

If a child pedestrian is hit by a car traveling at 20 mph, 5 percent do not live, most injuries are slight, and 30 percent suffer no injuries at all. At 30 mph, 45% do not live and many are injured. At 40 mph, 85% do not live.

According to the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, pedestrian injuries are the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 5 to 14. Each year in the United States, nearly 900 children ages 14 and under die from pedestrian injuries and another 24,000 are injured in traffic-related crashes.

When child pedestrians are hit by cars, it's usually as they dart out between cars mid-block. Please drive slowly and be on the lookout for kids!

If you're interested in posting signs in your yard or neighborhood, they will be available for pick up while supplies last at the Waunakee Police Department.

Upcoming Events

Waunakee Police to Host National Night Out

On Wednesday August 14, 2013 the Waunakee Police Department will be hosting their National Night Out festivities at Village Park in Waunakee from 5pm-7pm. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and co-sponsored by the Waunakee Police Department, will involve over 10,000 communities from all 50 states.

National Night out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts;(3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and united with the police in their efforts to make Waunakee a safe community to live in.

There will be activities for kids, prizes, free brats and hot dogs, and numerous displays by various law enforcement agencies. Members of the community are encouraged to sign up to win one of the many prizes to be given away at Village Park during National Night Out.

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Waunakee Citizens Academy

Waunakee Police, Fire, and EMS are pleased to announce the 2013 Waunakee Emergency Services Citizen's Academy program starting **September 4, 2013**. Participants will meet on Wednesday evenings 6pm-8:30pm for 9 consecutive weeks.

The Citizen's Academy is a "hands on" program. The goal of the program is to give participants a better understanding of Police, Fire, and EMS duties and responsibilities. During simulations, participants will be able to assume the role of the Police Officer, Firefighter, and Emergency Medical Technician. The class is limited to 14 participants.

Requirements: You must be at least 18 years of age. Preference will be given to Village of Waunakee residents. **Applications Due August 28, 2013**. Applications and course schedule may be picked up at the Waunakee Police Department or by contacting Sergeant Adam Kreitzman at 849-4523 or e-mail akreitzman@waunakeepd.org

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.