

# Waunakee Police Department Newsletter

January 2012



## Winter & Snowmobile Ordinance Reminders:

**Snow and Ice Removal** – According to ordinance 82-281, snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours from the time the snow or ice ceases to accumulate on the sidewalk. *It is also illegal to deposit any snow or ice onto any public street, alley, public or private sidewalk.* Persons responsible for doing so may be cited.

**Snowmobiles** – Snowmobiles are only allowed to be operated on designated trails or private property with the owners consent while in the village limits. If the snowmobile is being operated on private property and not on a designated trail, the snowmobile cannot be operated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The speed limit is 15 mph throughout the village.

To see the designated trails in the Village of Waunakee go to:  
<http://wi-waunakee.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=437>

## Animal License Reminders:

As a reminder in the Village of Waunakee you are required to purchase animal licenses. Animal licenses are issued on a calendar-year basis. A license is required for dogs and cats over five months of age. For more information, view Wisconsin statutes 174.05 and 174.42 and the Village Code of Ordinances Chapter 14-41.

Proof of rabies vaccination from your veterinarian stating the manufacturer name, serial number of the vaccine, and expiration date of the vaccination must be provided before a license can be issued. View Wisconsin Statute 95.21 and Village Code of Ordinances Chapter 14-42. Due to the high volume of counter traffic during tax collection time (December and January), the staff members at the Waunakee Village Hall will not be able to call your veterinarian for this information

For a list of fee and payment options [click here](#).

## Safe Driving Tips for the Holidays:

Holiday events and celebrations can be exciting times for family and friends to get together. But, get-togethers with family and friends can turn into tragedies when people are killed or injured in traffic crashes. With the Holiday Season in full swing motorists need to be mindful of actions that will make their holiday travel safer.

During the holiday season, auto accidents significantly increase due to more people on the roadways – time off work, cross-country traveling, holiday shopping, and gatherings with friends and family. The most contributing factors to auto accidents during this festive time of year are fatigue, drunk driving, speeding, distractions, and wintry weather conditions.

Here are a few reminders for safe holiday travel whether around town or cross country.

1. Be mindful of ALL traffic. Drivers should always drive defensively in order to react to sudden changes in traffic conditions.
2. Do not follow too closely. Leave plenty of room for stopping between you and the vehicle in front of you, especially in inclement weather.
3. Stay alert and avoid driving while fatigued. If you feel tired, safely pull off the road and rest. It is better to arrive late than not at all.
4. Avoid drinking and driving. Alcohol is the most common cause of auto accidents during the holidays. Designate a driver who will not drink.
5. Do not text and drive. Avoid other common driving distractions such as talking on the phone, eating, applying make-up, looking through recent gift purchases, and changing the radio or MP3 player.
6. Watch your speed. Excessive speed is another common cause of auto accidents. In an attempt to squeeze more activities into their hectic schedule, drivers tend to speed. Don't let it be your last hectic schedule. Plan ahead and allow ample time to safely reach your destination. Avoid being hurried and distracted.
7. Accidents also increase during inclement weather. Be particularly careful when winter weather is upon us.
8. Be extra cautious in inclement weather, including rain, fog, snow, and black ice. Weather can make driving hazardous for motorists. If you must drive, be patient and stay focused. Decrease your speed and allow plenty of room to stop. If you feel the roads are too dangerous for driving, stay home.
9. Always wear your seat belt. Do not start the vehicle until all passengers are safely buckled and use car safety seats for children.
10. Be patient!

## **WI Driver Licenses to have a new look in 2012:**

Wisconsin is changing to a new "central issuance" system meaning that customers will leave the DMV service center with their existing driver license or ID card and a temporary driving receipt good for 45 days. The new cards will be printed and mailed in an unmarked envelope (similar to credit card mailings) and will typically arrive within two weeks.

This is all being done to

- >avert counterfeiting
- >reduce risk of identity theft
- >decrease fraud
- >meet federally recommended security features

All previously issued driver licenses and ID cards will remain valid until their expiration date.

\*\*\*\*\* see the attached pamphlet for further details

Questions can be sent 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.