

Lakefield Police Department Community Update

JANUARY 2023



L.P.D. UPDATE

Stay Aware & Stay Safe

LATEST SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF

2023 EXPECTED ATTACKS

- Romance scams
- Online shopping
- Employment lures
- Fake contests
- QR Codes
- Robocalls
- Malicious links
- Phony websites
- Text messages with links
- Social Media Platforms

As technology continuously advances, online fraudsters are constantly developing sophisticated cons.

Cybersecurity attacks have been around for quite some time, but they pose greater risks now than ever before.

Protecting yourself against scammers should be your top priority for 2023

Remember: If you're ever in doubt, don't give your information out.

If you're the victim of a scam, you can file a report with the Lakefield Police Department.

(more info. on page 2 & 3)

Stay aware, Stay Safe.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2023, as all new year's bring opportunity and hope, the Lakefield Police Department is committed to keeping our community safe! Two areas that I wish to bring to your attention:

First, Scams: Technology brings scammers from across the World to your door-step. We expect to see more Publisher Clearing House scams, ransom attacks and phishing attacks. I invite you to join us for a presentation on scams at the Lakefield Library, January 4th at 2:00 PM. Lakefield Police Department along with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office will be present to discuss the latest scams and how to stay safe in the coming year!

Second, we would like you input on a draft ordinance regarding oral administration of CBD products and THC edibles. Join us Thursday evening, January 5th at 7:00 PM at the Multi-Purpose Building to review the proposed draft ordinance on Tobacco and Cannabinoid/Cannabidiol products.

As stated by Sir Robert Peel, "the public are the police and the police are the public". Keeping our community safe, takes all of us working together and I value your input.

Here's to a prosperous new year for all member's of our community and I look forward to working with all of you to keep our wonderful community safe.

- Chief Roger D. Pohlman



Roger D. Pohlman



Scam Definitions from the Federal Trade Commission

Cramming: The illegal practice of adding unauthorized charges to consumers' telephone bills or credit cards.

Identity theft: Stealing your identity could mean using personal information without your permission, such as your name, Social Security number, bank account information, or credit card number.

Hacker: Someone who uses the Internet to illegally break into computers.

Malware: Short for "malicious software," this term means computer viruses and other types of programs that cybercriminals use to disrupt or access your computer, typically with the aim of gathering sensitive files and accounts.

Pharming: When hackers use malicious programs to route you to their own sites — even though you've correctly typed in the address of a site you want to visit. The software stealthily diverts you to a look-alike destination, typically with the goal of gathering personal information for identity theft.

Phishing: In phishing, a scammer impersonates a business or a person to trick you into giving out your personal information, such as passwords, credit card numbers, or bank account information. A scammer may use fraudulent emails, texts, or websites to steal this information from you. These emails can look authentic.

Scareware: A type of malware that displays on-screen warnings of nonexistent computer infections or generates constant pop-ups intended to trick you into buying useless or potentially dangerous "protection" software.

Skimming: The capturing of information from the magnetic stripe on your ATM and credit card by use of portable "skimmer" devices that are secretly installed on card-reading machines.

Spoofing: Spoofing occurs when a caller disguises the information shown on your caller ID. This gives the caller the ability to disguise or "spoof" the name and/or number to appear as though they are calling as a certain person from a specific location.

Ransomware: Cybercriminals take over a consumer's device and block access until the consumer pays a ransom. In many cases, the fraudsters threaten to destroy the hard drive if the consumer doesn't pay by a deadline.

Robocall: A pre-recorded telemarketing call. As of September 1, 2009, nearly all telemarketing robocalls to consumers' home and cell phones are illegal.

Smishing: Short for "SMS phishing," smishing often involves text messages claiming to be from your bank or another company. The message displays a phone number to call or a link to click, giving scammers the chance to trick you out of money or personal information.

Spam: Unsolicited commercial email.

Spyware: A software program installed on consumers' computers without their consent to monitor their computer use. Spyware may be used to send pop-up ads, redirect computers to certain websites, or record keystrokes, which could lead to identity theft.

Vishing: Short for "voice phishing," it's the use of recorded messages to telephones — usually claiming to be from a bank — with the goal of tricking you into revealing personal or account information for identity theft.

Virus: A computer program that can replicate itself and spread from computer to computer or file to file. It comes to life only when you take a specific action, such as running a particular program.



Voice Phishing—or “Vishing”—Calls

From the MN AG’s Office

Download the pdf <https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Brochures/pubVoicePhishing.pdf>

It is difficult to ignore a ringing telephone. While fraudulent emails and unwanted mail can be deleted or tossed in the trash, telephone calls are tougher to tune out. And because telephone calls are still considered a secure form of communication, voice phishing scams take advantage of consumers’ trust to steal money and personal information.

In voice phishing—or “vishing”—scams, callers impersonate legitimate companies to steal money and personal and financial information. And these scams are on the rise. In fact, the Federal Trade Commission reports that 77 percent of its fraud complaints involve contact with consumers by telephone.

Vishing calls are generally made via Voice over Internet Protocol (“VoIP”). Thousands or millions of VoIP calls can be made around the world in an instant. And because these calls are made over the Internet, they are nearly untraceable. Vishing scammers also use recordings and caller ID “spoofing” (falsifying caller ID information) to further avoid detection. Placing these calls is relatively inexpensive, so even a small fraction of responses can make the scam very lucrative.

Tips to Avoid Being a Victim of Vishing

When a caller claims to represent a specific company, ask for his or her name or employee number and call the company back using an independent and trusted source, like your billing statement or the phone book. Do not call the number provided by the caller.

Tips to Avoid Being a Victim of Vishing

Avoid providing personal or financial information over the phone, especially if you did not initiate the call. If someone claims you owe a debt, remember that both state and federal laws provide you certain rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, including the right to receive written verification of the debt.

Remember that in general, you cannot win a prize if you did not enter a contest.

If you are not sure about the legitimacy of a call, tell the caller you need time to think things over. Ask a friend or family member for their perspective, or conduct your own research by contacting the Better Business Bureau at (651) 699-1111 or www.bbb.org.

Don’t be afraid to hang up if something doesn’t seem right. If it sounds “too good to be true,” it probably is. Never give out your Social Security number or Medicare number to an unsolicited caller. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Social Security Administration will not call you to update your information or give you a new card. And remember that your Medicare number is the same as your Social Security number!

How to Report Vishing

Notify the company or agency being impersonated so it can alert others.

Report the call to the Federal Communications Commission, which enforces laws regulating caller ID spoofing and unwanted telephone calls, at www.fcc.gov/complaints or (888) 225-5322.

Report the call to the Federal Trade Commission, which enforces the National Do Not Call Registry and takes action against deceptive business practices, at www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov or (877) 382-4357.

Download the pdf <https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Brochures/pubVoicePhishing.pdf>



WE LOVE OUR PETS, SO LET'S WORK TOGETHER



Lakefield
City Ordinance 93.02

We love our pets, so let's work together to care for them.

All pet owners are required to:

- Obtain licenses for your pets from the City Clerk's Office;
- Properly house the animals in your home or on your property;
- Properly leash the animals and ensure that they are under the supervision of a responsible individual when they are not on the owner's property;
- Pets are not allowed to run at large;
- Ensure that the feces of the animals are disposed of properly;
- Four or more pets are considered a kennel, and a special license is required.

L.P.D. - 507-662-5353
City Hall - 507-662-6744



PETS CONTINUED

93.02 DOGS AND CATS.

(A) Running at large prohibited. It shall be unlawful for the dog or cat of any person who owns, harbors, or keeps a dog or cat, to run at large. A person, who owns, harbors, or keeps a dog or cat which runs at large shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor. Dogs or cats on a leash and accompanied by a responsible person or accompanied by and under the control and direction of a responsible person, so as to be effectively restrained by command as by leash, shall be permitted in streets or on public land unless the city has posted an area with signs reading "Dogs or Cats Prohibited."

(B) License required. (1) All dogs over the age of six months kept, harbored, or maintained by their owners in the city, shall be licensed and registered with the city. Dog licenses shall be issued by the City Clerk or appointed staff upon payment of the license fee as established by the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges adopted pursuant to 30.11 of this code, as that ordinance may be amended from time to time. The owner shall state, at the time application is made for the license and upon forms provided, his or her name and address and the name, breed, color, and sex of each dog owned or kept by him or her. No license shall be granted for a dog that has not been vaccinated against distemper and rabies, as evidenced by a certificate by a veterinarian qualified to practice in the state in which the dog is vaccinated.

(2) It shall be the duty of each owner of a dog subject to his section to pay to the City Clerk or appointed staff the license fee established in the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges adopted pursuant to 30.11, as it may be amended from time to time.

(3) Upon payment of the license fee as established by the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges adopted pursuant to 30.11 of this code, as that ordinance may be amended from time to time, the Clerk shall issue to the owner a license certificate and metallic tag for each dog licensed. The tag shall have stamped on it the year for which it is issued and the number corresponding with the number on the certificate. Every owner shall be required to provide each dog with a collar to which the license tag must be affixed, and shall see that the collar and tag are constantly worn. In case a dog tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate shall be issued by the City Clerk once proof of a license is verified. A charge shall be made for each duplicate tag in an amount established in the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges adopted pursuant to 30.11, as it may be amended from time to time. Dog tags shall not be transferable from one dog to another and no refunds shall be made on any dog license fee or tag because of death of a dog or the owner's leaving the city before the expiration of the licensed period.

(4) The licensing provisions of this division (B) shall not apply to dogs whose owners are nonresidents temporarily within the city, nor to dogs brought into the city for the purpose of participating in any dog show. If the animal owned is a service animal which is capable of being properly identified as from a recognized school for seeing eye, hearing ear, service or guide animals, and the owner is a blind or deaf person, or a person with physical or sensory disabilities, then no license shall be required.

(C) Cats. Cats shall be included as controlled by this division insofar as running-at-large, pickup, impounding, boarding, licensing and proof of anti-rabies vaccine is concerned. All other provisions of this section shall also apply to cats unless otherwise provided.

(D) Vaccination. (1) All dogs and cats kept harbored, maintained, or transported within the city shall be vaccinated at least once every three years by a licensed veterinarian for;

(a) Rabies – with a live modified vaccine; and (b) Distemper.

(2) A certificate of vaccination must be kept on which is stated the date of vaccination, owner's name and address, the animal's name (if applicable), sex, description and weight, the type of vaccine, and the veterinarian's signature. Upon demand made by the City Clerk, the Animal Control Officer or a police officer, the owner shall present for examination the required certificate(s) of vaccination for the animal(s). In cases where certificates are not presented, the owner or keeper of the animal(s) shall have seven days in which to present the certificate(s) to the City Clerk or officer. Failure to do so shall be Penalty, see 93.99

Learn more by going to <https://www.lakefieldmn.com/ordinances>



Public Input

The Lakefield Police Department invites residents of the Lakefield Community to a **"PUBLIC INPUT"** meeting regarding the proposed/draft copy of City Ordinance 112 - Tobacco and Cannabinoid/ Cannabidiol Products Regulation.

Meeting Location: 112 Main Street - Multi-purpose Building

Meeting Date: Thursday, January 5th, 2023

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

The draft ordinance will also be presented to the Lakefield City Council for consideration on Monday, **January 9th and on Monday, January 23rd**, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Questions or request for copies of the draft may be obtained from Chief Roger Pohlman at 507-662-5353 or via email at pdchief@lakefieldmn.com

NOTE: This is a Lakefield City Ordinance proposal only, copies will only be provided to residents.



Make a Plan



THE GOAL: Understand what puts you at risk from disasters and take steps to lower your risk.

Disasters change things. When an emergency happens you may have to decide what to do very quickly, while you are worrying about what might happen. By planning ahead, it will be easier to make the right decisions when the worst happens.

▶▶▶ CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH TO BECOME BETTER PREPARED:

- Learn what disasters can happen in your area and decide what you will do in a disaster.**

It is important to know what types of disasters can happen where you are. Is your home in a floodplain? Are you in an area that has earthquakes? When are tornadoes most likely to happen? Knowing what disasters could happen can help you know how to be prepared and what to do. Contact your local American Red Cross or emergency management office to learn more about the disasters in your area.

Meet with your family or household members. Discuss how to prepare and respond to emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, learn, work, and play. Identify responsibilities for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team. If a family member is in the military, plan how you would respond if they were deployed.

TALKING ABOUT DISASTERS

Talking about disasters can be scary, especially with children, or with someone who may have difficulty coping with daily life. Be open and positive. The unknown often causes more anxiety than knowing the facts. Listen to what the individual has to say, learn how they feel and what they may be afraid of. Older people and people with disabilities may worry that asking for help during a disaster will take away their independence. Talk about different options for assistance and make a plan with them.



Take steps now to prevent damage to your home in a disaster.

Once you know what disasters could happen in your community, there are things you can do to lower your risk of injury or property damage. Here are some suggestions:

TORNADO

Add a tornado safe room to your home, or add extra protection to an existing room to keep your family safe in a tornado. Look for FEMA publication 320 for more information.

HURRICANE

Install hurricane shutters. Keep trees around your house trimmed to prevent damage from falling branches. Secure your soffits to make sure that they won't provide a way for wind and water to get into your home. Make sure entryway doors have three hinges and a deadbolt lock.

WILDFIRE

Use fire-resistant building materials like shingles and siding. Cut back branches and brush within 30 feet of your home. Keep firewood at least 30 feet away. Check into the National Fire Protection Association's Firewise program for more ideas.

FLOOD

Elevate your home above the base flood level or take steps to floodproof. Elevate your utilities above the base flood level. Make sure you have adequate flood venting. Use flood-resistant building materials when you build or remodel. Taking steps like these can lower your flood insurance rates.

EARTHQUAKE

Secure your furniture, appliances, and water heater to walls and floors. Install safety catches on cabinets and cupboard doors. Make sure your appliances are connected with flexible connections. Consider using a safety film on your windows or installing laminated glass to prevent injuries from broken glass.

For more information on any of these projects, or other things you can do to protect your home and family, contact your local sheriff's department or emergency management office.

Plan what to do if you have to evacuate.

Choose two places for your family to meet. One should be right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire. The other should be outside of your neighborhood, in case you cannot return home or are asked to evacuate.

Decide where you would go and what route you would take to get there. You may choose to go to a hotel, stay with friends or family in a safe location, or go to a shelter. Hold evacuation drills at home. Practice getting out of the house quickly, and drive your

planned evacuation route. The more you practice, the more confident you will be if you really have to evacuate.

Plan ahead for your pets. Due to health concerns, pets are not allowed in Red Cross shelters. Keep a phone list of pet-friendly hotels and animal shelters that are along your evacuation route in case a designated pet shelter is not available. Contact your local humane society or animal shelter to ask if pet emergency shelters will be opened in a disaster.



YARD OF THE WEEK STARTING IN SPRING OF 2023

The Lakefield Police Department Launches *'Keep Lakefield Beautiful'* Program

Ready, get set, and buy your bulbs!

We are excited to announce the Keep Lakefield Beautiful Program, the 'Yard of the Week' program, recognizing residents who strive to beautifully maintain their lawns and add to the overall appeal of the Lakefield community.

Keep Lakefield Beautiful is established to promote goodwill and reward lawn care in the community. The purpose of the program is to recognize neighbors who demonstrate average and above-average efforts in maintaining their property, thereby contributing to the overall appearance of the community at large.

For the months of **May 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023**, the Lakefield Police Department will choose a lawn that best typifies the qualities of uniqueness, beauty, appeal, and consistency with the guidelines. In addition, the Committee will select one residential yard every Monday. The winner will be provided with a decorative flag to display, indicating their yard as a "Yard of the Week" winner. Also, a photo of the yard will be shared on the city's website and social media accounts.

Yard of the Week Guidelines

All residential properties within the city limits are automatically eligible. Award winners are selected based on the recommended judging criteria listed below.

- Key criteria include manicured yard, beautification, originality, and creativity.
- The upkeep of the yard can reflect the residents' efforts or that of a professional landscaper groundskeeper.
- An award duration term lasts a single calendar week and runs from Monday to Sunday.
- The same property cannot receive more than one award in a 12-month calendar period. At least 12 months must lapse between awards for the same yard.
- While an individual's home is being recognized as a "Yard of the Week," they are expected to maintain their yard in the same manner that allowed them to win the title.



JUDGING CRITERIA:

The Lakefield Police Department will judge solely on the total exterior appearance of their property. Therefore, general upkeep of the yard and property is paramount. Factors include the overall appearance, tidiness, and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed, and shaped foliage, edged and defined lawns, borders & flower beds and a visually appealing facade. Each yard will be chosen from the nominations given to the Lakefield Police Department or an officer's choice. Nominations are encouraged and can be made by emailing pdchief@lakefieldmn.com.

LAWN: Grass should be healthy with no bare spots or excessive weeds. Grass shall be mowed and trimmed around foundations and fences. Debris shall be picked up and removed. A unified, simple, balanced landscape design is preferred.

LANDSCAPE & FLOWER BEDS: Beds shall be weeded and edged, flowers must be deadheaded and dead plants removed, trees and shrubs pruned, and natural areas clean. Beautification efforts should include new plants, flowers, trees, shrubs, etc.

WALKWAYS & DRIVEWAYS: Walkways and driveways shall be clean (including trash containers or yard products removed from view). The area in front of the curb must be free from debris and dirt. The appearance after dusk includes accent, safety, and visible interior lighting, if applicable.

AESTHETICS: The overall look of landscaping (formal versus informal, use of color and textures, garden art) is essential. The front entryway should be inviting, with original and creative touches to show personality (hanging baskets, pots, yard art, bird feeders, etc.)

The Lakefield Police Department is dedicated to improving our community's quality of life and appearance. We encourage residents to take pride in their homes and neighborhood. In turn, we look to celebrate those who do a superior job in keeping their yards in such a way that they enhance the overall curb appeal of the entire community.





EMERGENCY PLAN

WATER
MEDICATION
COMMUNICATION
FOOD
PETS
A FAMILY PLAN
A BUSINESS PLAN



LET'S MAKE LAKEFIELD DISASTER RESILIENT

Clip & Save Phone Numbers

For all emergencies
dial **911**

Lakefield Police Dept.
1-507-662-5353

**Jackson County
Dispatch Services**
507-847-4420

**Human Trafficking
Hotline**
1-888-373-7888

Lakefield City Hall
507-662-5457

Suicide & Crisis
988

**Domestic Assault
Victims (SW Crisis Ctr.)**
800-376-4311

**MN SW Crisis Center
24 hour SAFE Line**
800-376-4311

**MN SW Crisis Center
Youth Text Line**
218-666-8336

MN Elder Justice Center
651-440-9312

**Violence Free
Minnesota**
1-800-333-SAFE

**Minnesota Coalition
Against Sexual Assault**
800-964-8847

**The Council for
Prevention of Domestic
Violence**
712-362-4612

**Des Moines Valley Health
and Human
Services**
1-800-662-5207

Jackson Cnty. Court
507-800-7003

Jackson Medical Cntr.
507-847-2420

EMERGENCY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Do 1 Thing is a twelve-month preparedness program that focuses on a different area of emergency preparedness each month.

Do 1 Thing is designed to help people take small steps toward personally preparing for emergencies or disasters.

What residents can do:

Download a 12 month plan

<https://www.do1thing.com/individuals/> and [download a 12 month plan.](#)

What businesses can do:

Download a 12 month plan <https://www.do1thing.com/business/>

Subscribe to Jackson County Emergency Alerts

[https://account.civicplus.com/identity/CivicPlusLogin?
signin=ac78cf6f75410930bd08679f85f92e22](https://account.civicplus.com/identity/CivicPlusLogin?signin=ac78cf6f75410930bd08679f85f92e22)



CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM

In 2021, the Minnesota Legislature created the catalytic converter theft prevention pilot program (Minn. Stat. 325E.21 subd.2b). The Lakefield Police Department is a participating agency in this program.

If you own one of the top 15 most targeted vehicles or if your catalytic converter has been (or attempted to have been) stolen, you can get a free catalytic converter marking label from a participating law enforcement agency (Lakefield Police Department is a participating agency), business, or community organization. * Please note police departments provide but do not install labels.



CATALYTIC CONVERTER

Top 15 vehicles targeted for catalytic converter theft are:

1. Chevrolet Express
2. Ford Econoline
3. Ford F250
4. Honda Accord
5. Honda CRV
6. Honda Element
7. Honda Odyssey
8. Hyundai Santa Fe
9. Hyundai Tucson
10. Kia Sportage
11. Mitsubishi Eclipse
12. Mitsubishi Lancer
13. Mitsubishi Outlander
14. Toyota Prius
15. Toyota Tundra

If you would like a catalytic converter marking kit, contact the Lakefield Police Department, 507-662-5353 or via email at pdchief@lakefieldmn.com.

LIGHTS ON PROGRAM

Lakefield Police Department is now a partner with Lights On, A Program of Microgrants! We have received our vouchers and if a Community Member has a Headlight, Brake Light, Tail Light or Turn Signal out, stop by the Lakefield Police Department to request a voucher, or an officer may stop you for a light outage and issue you a voucher. Public Safety of our community is our top priority!

Take care, stay aware! #LPD Lights On

