

Lakefield Police Department Community Update

NOVEMBER 2022



L.P.D. UPDATE

Stay Aware & Stay Safe

Driving in the Dark

SAFETY TIPS

From the Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Coordinator

When daylight savings time ends, many people will find themselves spending more time driving in the dark. Depth perception, color recognition and peripheral vision can be compromised in the dark, making it more difficult for drivers to judge the speeds and distance of other vehicles. The National Safety Council offers these tips for driving in the dark:

- Aim your headlights correctly, and make sure they are clean.
- Dim your dashboard.
- Look away from oncoming lights.
- If you wear glasses, make sure they're anti-reflective.
- Clean the windshield to eliminate streaks.
- Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time.

Fall is a great time of year to remind your friends and family that road hazards can change with the seasons.

Stay aware, Stay Safe.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

The Perfect Holiday Gift... Driving Sober

As we gather to celebrate with family and friends, keep in mind, Thanksgiving is one of the most traveled holidays of the year and there is a serious and possibly deadly side to the holiday when people drink and drive.

The Lakefield Police Department wants everyone to get to their destination safely. We encourage everyone to have a sober ride home. If you are hosting a celebration, find your guest a sober ride home or let them sleep it off at your home.

DWI Consequences

- Loss of license for up to a year, thousands of dollars in costs and possible jail time.
- Repeat DWI offenders, as well as first-time offenders arrested at 0.16 and above alcohol-concentration level, must use ignition interlock in order to regain legal driving privileges or face at least one year without a driver's license.
- Offenders with three or more offenses are required to use interlock for three to six years, or they will never regain driving privileges.

Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) Campaign

Minnesota TZD is the state's cornerstone traffic safety program, employing an interdisciplinary approach to reducing traffic crashes, injuries, and deaths on Minnesota roads. TZD focuses on the application of four strategic areas to reduce crashes – education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency medical and trauma response.

Minnesota Traffic Fatalities

- 2022 Minnesota has 379 fatalities



Roger D. Pohlman



UPCOMING EVENTS

LAKEFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT'S

GRINCHMAS * SELFIE STATION

"Lock Up Your Inner Grinch"

Immanuel Lutheran Activity Center – November 4th – 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Dudley's Garage - November 26th – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(Bring your own camera - Props provided)

ENTER THE KINDNESS CONTEST TO WIN A \$20 GIFT CARD & BOOK!



UPCOMING EVENTS

This booth is FREE and is for the young and the young at heart. Just like the people of Who-ville, your kindness can make all the difference. Plan to visit the Lakefield Police Department's Grinchmas photo booth to contribute to making Lakefield, an even kinder community by helping to grow the Grinch's heart with your smile.

Grinch Booth Highlights:

- Choose from a variety of props and frames to make your holiday photo special.
- Law enforcement officials will also be available to answer all your questions.
- Meet and take a selfie with the Grinch.

Enter the kindness contest: Enter or nominate an act of Kindness story.

We also invite you to share/nominate an "An Act of Kindness" story/poem/drawing by emailing your submission and a photo to pdchief@lakefieldmn.com, mailing it to or hand-delivering it to the Lakefield Police Department at 301 Main St., PO Box 900, Lakefield, MN. 56150. Nominations are open to ALL individuals who have a Lakefield, Minnesota address.

Your submission must include:

Your first and last name.

An email address.

Mailing address.

Phone number.

Your act of kindness story/poem/drawing submission.

The person with the most inspiring story/poem/drawing will receive a prize from the Lakefield Police Department. The award consists of a \$20 gift card to Walmart, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" book autographed by the Lakefield Police Department officers, and a Grinch tote bag.

All submissions must be received by Wednesday, December 1, 2022, at 3 p.m. The winner will be announced December 5th at the City Council meeting.

Our hope is your story/poem/drawing will inspire others to lock up their inner GRINCH and promote kindness throughout the year!



Power



THE GOAL: *Be able to safely meet your basic needs during an electrical outage.*

We count on electricity for heat, food, and medical needs. Many gas appliances even need electricity to run. A power outage is an emergency that often follows another emergency—like a hurricane, tornado, or winter storm. That makes it even more important to be prepared in advance.

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

Acquire and learn how to safely use a portable generator.

Using a properly connected generator of adequate size during a power outage will reduce or almost eliminate the impact a power outage has on your life. Before you buy a generator, talk to an electrician about the size and type you need. Think about what you want your generator to run. Generators can be used to keep food cool, provide lights and electricity for phones and television, power furnace blowers and pumps.

Always run generators outside. Never use a generator inside a house, in a basement, or garage. Never use a cord from a generator to backfeed a circuit in your house.

The best way to use a portable generator is to connect it to your home using a transfer switch installed by a licensed electrician. This will keep the power from overloading the wiring in your home. It will also keep the power from your generator from traveling back into the power lines, which can injure or kill people working on power lines, or can unexpectedly re-energize downed power lines near your home. You may also connect equipment directly to the outlets on the generator, but be sure that any extension cords are of the proper length and gauge to handle the power requirements.



Have flashlights ready in an easily accessible place and check batteries in flashlights and radios.

When the lights go out, the safest way to provide emergency lighting is with flashlights or battery-powered lanterns. Keep flashlights with fresh batteries in several places throughout your home and check them for proper operation regularly. Always keep a supply of extra batteries. Think about buying a rechargeable flashlight. Batteries might be hard to find in a disaster.

Power Outage Safety

- Discard food if the temperature in your refrigerator exceeds 40 degrees for more than 2 hours.
- Stay away from downed power lines and anything they are in contact with such as fences or buildings.
- Never drive over downed power lines; they may be energized.
- Never use charcoal or gas grills inside a structure. You may be overcome by carbon monoxide.
- If you must use candles, be sure to use them safely. Never leave candles burning unattended.

Create a power outage plan – decide what you can do before, during and after a power outage to minimize the effect on your household.

BEFORE THE POWER GOES OUT:

- Fill empty space in freezer with containers of water. Frozen water will displace air and keep food cold longer. Remember to leave space in containers for ice to expand.
- Have at least one phone with a handset cord in your home. Many cordless phones will not work in a power outage.
- If you have an automatic garage door opener, learn how to use the manual release and open your garage door manually.
- Try to keep your car's gas tank at least half full. Many gas stations will not be in operation during a power outage. Fill up your tank if a major storm is predicted.
- Make sure you have a car or lighter plug cord for your cell phone.

- If you use special healthcare equipment like oxygen generators or dialysis equipment, notify your power company.

AFTER THE POWER GOES OUT:

- Unplug major appliances and electronics. When the power comes back on, there may be power spikes that can damage large appliances or delicate electronics.
- Do not open refrigerators or freezers any more than necessary. An unopened refrigerator will keep food cold for approximately 4 hours, an unopened freezer will keep food frozen for approximately 24 hours.
- Use a battery-powered radio to stay informed.



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

An advertisement for a free car bulb replacement program. The top half has a dark red background with the text "FREE CAR BULB REPLACEMENT" in white, followed by "Burned-out light? We can help!" in smaller white text. Below this, on a light beige background, are the words "HEADLIGHTS • TAIL LIGHTS • BRAKE LIGHTS • TURN SIGNALS" in a small font. The "LIGHTS ON!" logo is prominent, featuring a stylized sunburst icon to the left of the text "LIGHTS ON!" in a bold, dark red font, with "A PROGRAM OF MICROGRANTS" in a smaller font below it. To the right of the logo is the text "PARTNERING WITH" above the Lakefield MN Police Dept. logo, which is a circular seal with a sun and the text "Lakefield MN POLICE DEPT.".

