

Lakefield Police Department Community Update

SEPTEMBER 2022



L.P.D. UPDATE

Stay Aware & Stay Safe

SCAMS

How to Spot a Scam

1. You are contacted out of the blue.
2. They want you to pay with a gift card.
3. You are required to send money upfront in order to receive a prize.
4. You are asked to send money via a wire transfer or "reload pack."
5. You are asked to provide personal or financial information.
6. You are asked to keep it a secret.
7. You are asked to act quickly.
8. You receive payment in the form of a check or money order.
9. It sounds too good to be true.

For more information
[www.ag.state.mn.us/
consumer/scams](http://www.ag.state.mn.us/consumer/scams)

How should you respond?

1. Hang up the phone.
2. If you suffer a loss or gave out personal information contact the Lakefield Police Department.
3. Report it to the Federal

Trade Commission at
FTC.gov.



CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Crossing the Double Yellow Lines

The main street of Lakefield, is marked with continuous double center line and has diagonal parking on both sides of the street.

It has been brought to my attention by several residents that motorist traveling on one side of the street will suddenly make a turn across the double line to get the perfect parking spot on the other side of the street, which violates city ordinance.

I want to take this opportunity to educate the community about ordinance '70.03 & '70.04.

City Ordinance '70.03 Turning Restrictions.

Except at intersections, and then only if not posted otherwise, it shall be unlawful for any persons operating a motor vehicle on any street to cross the center of the street for the purpose of parking on the side of the street opposite the original direction of travel.

The City Ordinance '70.04 U-Turns Restricted.

No person shall turn a vehicle so as to reverse its direction on any street in the business district or at any intersection where traffic is regulated by a traffic control signal (which include stop signs).

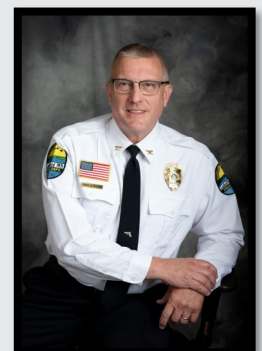
10.99 General Penalty

The penalty which may be imposed for any petty misdemeanor shall be a fine of not more than \$300.

Another Factor to Consider

It is my experience that the driver making the illegal turn is often found responsible for the crash—and for compensating the victims. To avoid a serious crash or injury go around the block.

To learn more about Lakefield's ordinances go to
www.lakefieldmn.com/ordinances



Roger D. Pohlman



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY

By Minnesota Safety Council

Help kids get a gold star in safety with these tips from Safe Kids Worldwide.

School Bus Safety

Walk with kids to the bus stop and wait with them until it arrives.

Tell kids to stand at least three giant steps back from the curb as the bus approaches.

Teach kids to wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting off.

To cross the street after getting off the bus, kids should take five giant steps in front of the bus (never walk in back of the bus), look both ways and make eye contact with the bus driver before stepping into the road.

Walking to School

- Choose the safest route and walk it with kids.
- Have kids walk facing traffic, on sidewalks or paths. Walk as far to the left as possible if there are no sidewalks.
- Make sure kids look both ways before crossing the street, and cross at designated crosswalks or at corners.
- Don't allow a child (typically under age 10) to cross streets alone. Every child is different, but developmentally, most kids are unable to judge the speed and distance of oncoming cars until age 10.
- Distraction among drivers is at an all-time high today, so remind kids to make eye contact with the driver in a stopped vehicle before stepping into the road.
- Remind kids to put down the phone and turn off volume in headphones when crossing the street.

Biking to School

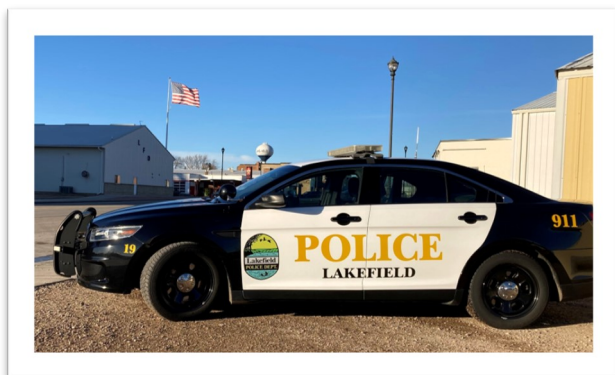
- Make sure children have the right size helmet and wear it every time when riding. Select a safe route and bike it with kids.
- Kids should ride on sidewalks (being alert for vehicles going in and out of driveways) or bike paths until around age 10.
- Kids should be able to show they know how to follow the rules of the road before cycling with traffic.
- Remind kids to stay alert to traffic and stop before crossing the street, entering a road or turning.

For Drivers

Follow the speed limit and slow down in school zones and near bus stops.

Be alert to kids walking to or from school or the school bus.

Slow down and stop if you're driving near a school bus that is flashing yellow or red lights. This means the bus is either preparing to stop (yellow) or already stopped (red) and children are getting on or off.



The Lakefield Police Department will be stepping up traffic enforcement in school zones and bus stops to ensure the trip to/from school is as safe as possible.



YARD OF THE WEEK STARTING IN SPRING OF 2023

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

Ready, get set, and beautify!

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 for the indicating their winning yard. Also, a photo of the yard will be shared on the city's website and social media accounts.

Yard of the Month 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. Nomination 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.

Nomination(s) can be made by emailing pdchief@lakefieldmn.com.

Ready, Set, buy your bulbs!





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>



Work, School, & Community



THE GOAL: Make sure everyone in your household can receive, understand, and act on information received in an emergency.

Disasters can happen at any time. If you are away from home do you know where to find safe shelter locations? Do you know what the emergency procedures are for your child's school or for your workplace? Will people who count on you know what to do if you can't reach them? Know how to make sure you and your loved ones are safe in a disaster, no matter where you are.

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

Make sure emergency procedures are in place for your workplace or school.

Talk to your employer about emergency plans for the building where you work. Think about other places that you and family members regularly spend time, like your child's school. Talk to administrators at those places about their emergency plans as well.

WAYS TO BE SAFE AT WORK AND SCHOOL:

- Make sure evacuation routes and tornado shelter locations are marked on a map and posted in the building.
- Hold emergency training and drills.
- Help create an emergency kit for the facility.
- Know where fire extinguishers and Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) are located.



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 service. 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!". Below this, on a light beige background, are the words "HEADLIGHTS • TAIL LIGHTS • BRAKE LIGHTS • TURN SIGNALS". The "LIGHTS ON!" logo is prominent, featuring a stylized sunburst icon. To the right, it says "PARTNERING WITH" and includes the Lakefield MN Police Dept. logo.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Trunk or Treat! Come check out the Lakefield Police Department's Paw Patrol-themed trunk this year.

The date/time/location will be announced in **October**.



Stop at the Police Department's trunk first so Chase, who is on the case, can give you a treat bag on the double to help collect all the treats you will receive at the spook-tacular event.

The Lakefield Police Department's goal is to cultivate positive relationships with the community, educate children about Halloween safety, encourage youth to consider a career in law enforcement, and to build partnerships with other community organizations serving the youth.



Lakefield Police Department's Grinchmas Selfie Station Dudley's Garage

November 26, 2022 Time to be announced in November
(Bring your own camera.)

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 our communities even kinder 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 about community policing, and emergency management.
- Meet and take a selfie with the Grinch and Cincy Lou.
- Enter the KINDNESS contest: Enter or nominate an act of KINDNESS story/poem/drawing.

Do you have an act of kindness you would like to share? The L.P.D. invite youth between the ages of 5 to 12 years old to submit or nominate 'An Act of Kindness' story, poem or a drawing.

How to submit:

- Email to pdchief@lakefieldmn.com,
- Mail to Lakefield Police Department (L.P.D.) at 301 Main St., PO Box 900, Lakefield, MN. 56150.
- Hand deliver to 301 Main St. Lakefield, MN. 56150.

Nominations are open to ALL individuals who live in Jackson County Minnesota.

Your submission must include:

- Your first and last name.
- An email address (if you have one).
- Mailing address.
- Phone number.
- Your act of kindness can be expressed in a story, poem, or drawing format.



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 Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 3 p.m. The winner will be announced at December's (December 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.) City Council meeting. The L.P.D. hope is your story/poem/drawing will inspire others to lock up their inner GRINCH and promote kindness throughout the year!

