

Lakefield Police Department Community Update

SEPTEMBER 2023



L.P.D. UPDATE

Stay Aware & Stay Safe

BACK TO SCHOOL

During school days, the scene around schools can be quite hectic. With school buses picking up students, children in a rush to reach school on their bikes, and parents hurrying to drop their children off before work, it is vital for drivers to be cautious. Especially before and after school, drivers need to **slow down** and pay attention when children are present. This is a critical time to ensure the safety of young pedestrians, and extra caution is necessary.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Which came first the chicken or the City ordinance?

The egg came first, and then the city created an ordinance for public safety reasons.

Eggs are expensive, so you may be considering purchasing chickens. Before you do be sure to read Lakefield's ordinance 93.20.

93.20 CHICKENS AND OTHER FOWL.

(A) **Permit required** for keeping of chickens and other fowl. No person shall anywhere in the city keep, harbor or maintain care, custody or control over any chicken without obtaining a permit issued by the city.

(1) No permit shall be granted to keep any chicken within a dwelling unit or part thereof, nor on any property containing two or more dwelling units.

(2) This section shall not apply to dogs, cats, ferrets or rabbits, nor to veterinarians or licensed pet shops or licensed kennels.

(continued)



Roger D. Pohlman



CHICKENS ARE WELCOME ROOSTERS ARE NOT

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(3) No permit shall be granted to keep any chickens on property that is currently in a condition of violation of Ordinance Chapter §90

(B) Application for permit. Any person desiring a permit under this section shall make written application to the City Code Enforcement Officer. Approval of application is subject to conditions prescribed by the city in the Appendix. Failure to adhere to conditions in the Appendix is cause for cancellation of the permit and/or may result in an administrative citation.

(C) Duration of permit. All initial permits issued shall expire on December 31 of the following year after its issuance unless sooner revoked. Renewal permits shall expire on December 31 of the second year following its issuance unless sooner revoked. Fee shall be set as the current minimum fee of a zoning permit, as established by the council in the current year fee resolution. The application fee for such permit shall be set by City Council and may be changed from time to time.

(D) Refusal to grant permit. The city may refuse a permit to keep or maintain chickens hereunder for failure to comply with the provisions of this section, and shall refuse a permit if such chickens should not be kept upon the premises described in the application or the permit. If any such permit is refused, the fee paid with the application shall be retained by the city.

(E) Numbers and types of chickens allowed.

(1) No more than TEN chickens shall be maintained at any one residence or premises.

(2) The keeping of roosters is prohibited. Keeping of roosters shall be grounds to revoke granted permit. Chickens shall not be raised or kept for fighting.

(F) Impounding of non-domesticated animals, chickens, and other fowl. Any non-domesticated animal, including chickens and other fowl, kept in violation of this section may be impounded by the city, and after being so impounded for five days or more without being reclaimed by the owner, may be destroyed or sold. Any person reclaiming such impounded animal shall pay the costs of impounding and keeping the same.

(G) Public or private nuisance.

(1) No person shall allow any chicken under his or her ownership or control to disturb the peace and quiet of the city or to otherwise become a public or private nuisance so as to annoy, injure or endanger the health, safety, comfort or repose of the public. (Continued)



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(2) Nor shall the owner of chickens maintain them in a manner so as to create a nuisance to owners of property adjacent to or in close proximity with the property on which the chickens are located.

(3) Factors to be considered in deciding whether the keeping of chickens creates a public or private nuisance include, but are not limited to, the following;

(a) The condition of any structure or building wherein any chicken and other fowl is kept.

(b) The proximity of pens, fences and other structures to adjacent property lines.

(c) The general nature and characteristics of the neighborhood.

(d) The number of chickens kept on any one parcel.

(e) The relative size of the parcel on which the chickens are kept.

(f) The type of chickens being kept.

(g) The extent to which neighboring property is protected from the effects of the chickens, e.g., solid fences, landscape screening, buffer areas, and the like.

(h) The presence of objectionable odors and/or noise.

(i) The relative danger the chickens would pose if exposed to the general public.

(H) Pens and yards. All chicken coops and chicken runs wherein chickens are kept or permitted to be shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, devoid of all rodents and vermin, and free from objectionable odors. Such structures shall be maintained in good condition and shall be sufficient in strength and size to allow the particular chickens being kept to move about, but also able to prevent the escape of the chickens by climbing digging, chewing, manipulating of locks, gates or any other means if such restraint is necessary to prevent the creation of a nuisance. Upon complaint of any individual, the city shall inspect any such structure or premises, and issue any such order as may be necessary to carry out the provisions hereof.

(I) Chickens within city limits; confinement. Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens must keep them confined on the premises at all times in a chicken coop or chicken run while in the city. **Chickens are not allowed to be located in any part of the home, unfenced yard and/or garage.**



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(J) Chicken coops and chicken runs.

(1) Any chicken coop and run fencing must be consistent with building and zoning codes.

(2) No chicken coop or run shall be constructed on any lot prior to the time of construction of the principal structure.

(3) Chicken coops and runs shall not be in the front or side yard.

(4) Any chicken coop or run shall be set back five feet from the property line.

(5) All chicken coops must have a minimum four square feet per chicken, must not exceed ten square feet per chicken, and must not exceed six feet in total height. Fenced-in chicken runs must not exceed 20 square feet per chicken, and fencing must not exceed six feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and may allow chickens to contact the ground.

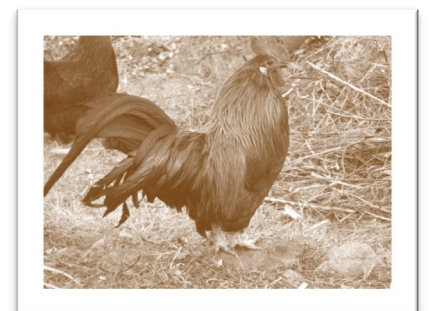
(6) Chickens must be secured in a chicken coop from sunset to sunrise each day.

(7) Chicken coops must be elevated a minimum of 12 inches and a maximum of 24 inches above grade to ensure circulation beneath the coop.

(8) Chicken grains and feed must be stored in rodent-proof containers inside a structure.

(K) Conditions and inspection. No person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens shall permit the premises where the hen chicken are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition, or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and chicken run authorized under this section may be inspected at any reasonable time by the City Code Enforcement Officer or other agent of the city.

(L) Enforcement. The City Code Enforcement Officer shall enforce the provisions of this section and may be enforced by any full-time or part-time post licensed peace officer with jurisdiction for the city.



RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE

City of Lakefield Ordinance on Recreational Vehicles

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Recreational Motor Vehicle is defined as Any self-propelled vehicle and any vehicle propelled or drawn by a self-propelled vehicle used for recreational purposes including, but not limited to trail bike, off-highway motorcycle, as defined by M.S. ' 84.787, Subd. 7, as it may be amended from time to time, or other all-terrain vehicle as defined by M.S. ' 84.92, Subd. 8, it may be amended from time to time, motorized go-carts, hovercraft or motor vehicle licensed for highway operation which is being used for off-road recreational purposes.

Recreational Vehicle Requirements:

It is unlawful for any person to operate a recreational motor vehicle:

- (A) On private property of another without specific written permission of the owner of the property; (Written permission may be given by a posted notice of any kind or description, so long as it specifies the kind of vehicles allowed, that the owner, occupant or lessee prefers, such as by saying @ Recreational Vehicles Allowed, @ Trail Bikes Allowed, @ All-Terrain Vehicles Allowed or words substantially similar.)
- (B) **On publicly-owned land, including school, park property, playgrounds, recreation areas and golf courses, except where permitted by this chapter;**
- (C) In a manner so as to create a loud, unnecessary or unusual noise which disturbs, annoys or interferes with the peace and quiet of other persons;
- (D) On a public sidewalk or walkway provided or used for pedestrian travel;
- (E) At a place while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs;
- (F) At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all the surrounding circumstances or **not to exceed 25 mph;**
- (G) At any place in a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property or to cause injury or damage thereto;
- (H) On any public street, highway or right-of-way unless licensed pursuant to Minnesota law;
- (I) To intentionally drive, chase, run over or kill any animal, wild or domestic;
- (J) By halting any recreational motor vehicle carelessly or heedlessly in disregard of the rights or the safety of others or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property or in excess of 25 mph on publicly-owned lands;
- (K) Within 150 yards of any public recreational area or gathering of people. This provision does not apply to the occasional use of recreational motor vehicles on private property for the purpose of loading or unloading it from a trailer or for mechanically checking it; and/or
- (L) On the streets set forth in Chapter 74, Schedule IV of this code, so prohibited.
Penalty, see ' 10.99



LOUD MUFFLERS & SQUEELING TIRES

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It's important to be considerate of others when it comes to loud noises, especially during odd hours. Remember that people sleep at different times of the day, so we should be mindful of our actions. For instance, a parent may have just put their baby down for a nap, a shift worker may have just finished a night shift, or a neighbor might be struggling with an illness that affects their sleep. To be a good neighbor, let's avoid making loud and unnecessary noises like squealing tires, sudden braking, and loud mufflers.

SOMEONE IS SLEEPING

No matter the time of day
someone is sleeping, so be
considerate.



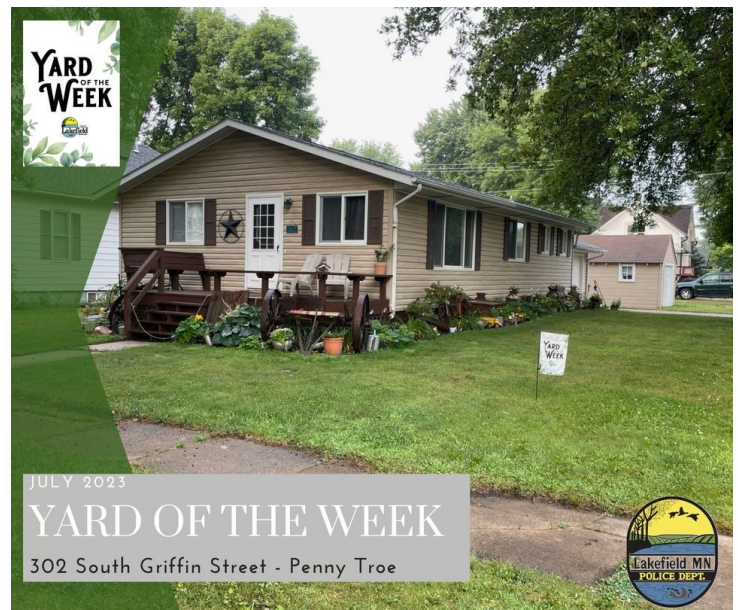
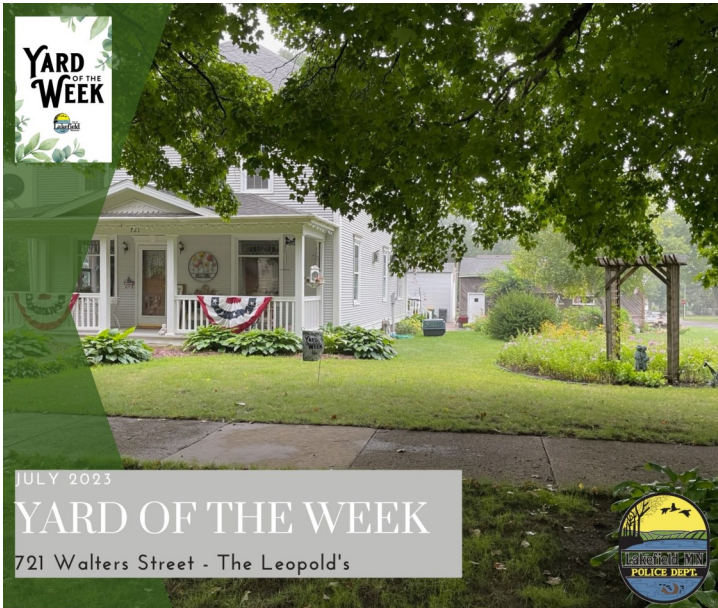
YARD OF THE WEEK - AUGUST RECIPIENTS

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



321 WEST MENAGE AVE—THE BUSCH'S

507 BELMONT STREET—THE OLMEM'S



721 WALTERS STREET—THE LEOPOLD'S

302 SOUTH GRIFFIN STREET—THE TROE'S



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!



SCAM “ ‘I’ve got your package, where’s your house?’

By AARP

‘I’ve got your package, where’s your house?’ New package delivery scams include texts and phone calls purportedly from a professional-sounding delivery driver who can’t find your house. Didn’t order anything? They may try to convince you someone’s sent a gift. Or you may receive an email about rescheduling a drop-off or a fake “package - delivery attempt” sticker on your front door. Their goal? To get you to provide personal information or simply click on a link they provide. That link then downloads malware that will harvest passwords and account info from your computer.

How to stay safe: Contact the seller or delivery service using a verified phone number, the FCC recommends. Don’t use numbers or links provided by potential scammers.





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>



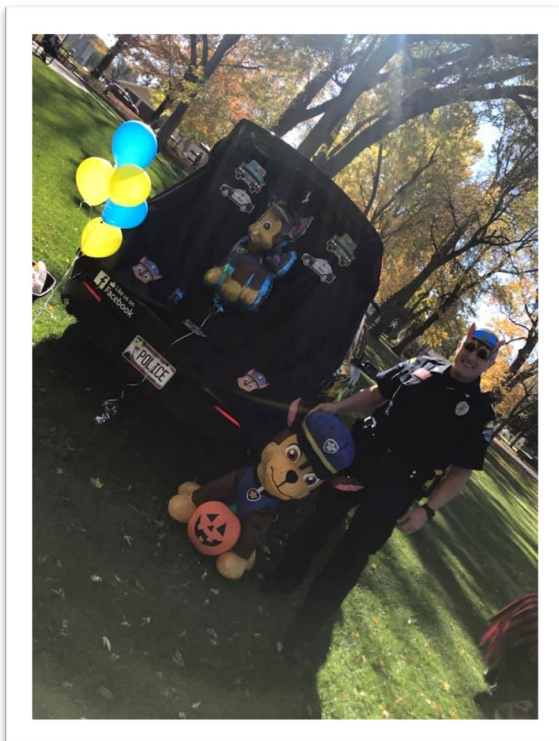
UPCOMING EVENTS

The Lakefield Police Department is excited to announce our participation in Immanuel's Oktoberfest and Trunk or Treat events. We will be distributing gun locks and offering a door prize at Oktoberfest. Additionally, at Trunk or Treat, we will be giving away treat bags to attendees. We look forward to seeing you there!



OKTOBERFEST

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2023
Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: North City Park



TRUNK OR TREAT

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023
Time: TBA
Place: North City Park



Come to a complete STOP when you see this sign.



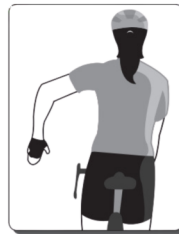
Also means right turn



After checking behind you, hold your right arm straight out from your side.



Slow down, look right, look left and proceed slowly.

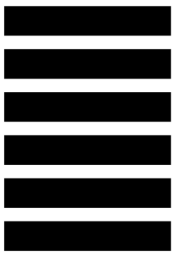


Stop



After checking behind you, bend your elbow, pointing your arm downward in an upside down "L" shape and come to a stop.

CROSSWALK



Stop. Get off your bike. Look left - right -left . Walk your bike across street.



Right turn



After checking behind you, bend your elbow, holding your arm up in an "L" shape, and ride forward slowly.



Left turn



After checking behind you, hold your arm straight out to the left and ride forward slowly.

