



**Point of interest:**

Have a traffic complaint?

You can use our website to let us know about traffic concerns in your neighborhood or other traffic violations

Go to [www.middletonpd.com](http://www.middletonpd.com)

**In this issue:**

Year Review	1
Department News	1
Winter Driving	2
Home Safety	2

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# SAFE MIDDLETON

**A Community Policing and Crime Prevention Newsletter  
from the Middleton Police Department**

## NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICER PROGRAM HAS SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Earlier this year the Middleton Police Department expanded its Neighborhood Officer Program and created new Community Policing Teams. Community Policing teams are comprised of patrol officers assigned to each of the three patrol districts within the city. These teams of officers are tasked with addressing area and neighborhood problems, such as on-going traffic and safety concerns or noise issues; and, working with members of the community, to identify and implement solutions. As always, the ultimate goal is to respond to the needs of the community.

As of this month, the Community Policing Teams have identified and addressed 24 neighborhood issues throughout the community. As traffic concerns are

generally considered some of the most prevalent problems in Middleton, it is no surprise that traffic safety comprised the bulk of the neighborhood projects. Neighborhood officers worked on twelve traffic safety projects this year, addressing such things as speeding and school zone safety issues. Public nuisance and public order projects were also addressed this year. These types of issues include chronic nuisance premises and other locations / persons that require an inordinate amount of police services. By successfully identifying and addressing these issues the Neighborhood Officers are able to improve the quality of life in the their neighborhoods and, hopefully, re-focus police services and resources to other areas where they can be more effective.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Middleton Police Department sends it best wishes and congratulations to two Neighborhood Officers who are retiring from the department this month. Officer Rob Engelhart has been with the department since 1988 and has served in many roles, including detective and patrol officer. Most recently Officer Engelhart served as the Neighborhood Officer for the Baskerville, Highland Way, and Middleton Springs neighborhoods. Officer Donna Hamilton came to the department in 2002 after serving as

an officer in California. Officer Hamilton has been a very active and effective Neighborhood Officer and has served the merchants and businesses in the Greenway Station area for the past several years. We extend our gratitude to both officers for their decades of outstanding professional service to the community and for their many contributions to the police department.

## Middleton Police Dept.

7341 Donna Drive  
Middleton, WI 53562

Emergency—Dial 911

Non-Emergency 824-7300

Administration 824-7305

Tipster 833-9991

Court 824-7370

Records 824-7360

WWW.middletonpd.com

*“Making a Difference”*



## WINTER SAFE DRIVING REMINDERS

- **Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights** - even the hood and roof - before driving.
- **Pay attention.** Don't try to out-drive the conditions. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- **Leave plenty of room for stopping.**
- **Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows.** The law requires you to slow down or move over when approaching emergency or maintenance vehicles, including snowplows, parked on the side of the road when they have their flashing lights turned on.
- **Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle.** Remember that your four-wheel drive vehicle may help you get going quicker than other vehicles but it won't help you stop any faster. Many 4x4 vehicles are heavier than passenger vehicles and actually may take longer to stop. Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle's traction. Your 4x4 can lose traction as quickly as a two-wheel drive vehicle.
- **Do not pump anti-lock brakes.** If your car is equipped with anti-lock brakes, do not pump brakes in attempting to stop. The right way is to "stomp and steer!"
- **Look farther ahead in traffic than you normally do.** Actions by cars and trucks will alert you quicker to problems and give you a split-second extra time to react

*Happy Holidays from the Middleton Police Department*

*Have a safe and peaceful holiday season*

## HOME SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Whether you are travelling out of town during the holiday season, or plan to entertain family and friends in your home, it is always important to keep basic crime prevention and safety tactics in mind.

Although home burglaries in Middleton are relatively rare, these tips can help make your home less attractive to a burglar. If you are home for the holidays, you may want to consider moving expensive or large gifts away from the windows or closing the window coverings. Leaving items in plain sight from the outside can make it more tempting for someone to break in and take what they see. Also, never leave gifts overnight in a vehicle that is parked outside, or in any vehicle that is left unlocked.

If you plan to travel away from home, be sure to take these extra steps so that you don't come home to an unwanted surprise. First, try to make your house look as though it is still occupied. Criminals know to look for signs that indicate that your house is empty, such as an absence of lights on in the evening or newspapers that are not

picked up in front of the house. Use timers on lights and televisions or radios, and make sure that you stop the mail and newspaper before you leave, or have a neighbor pick them up for you. Be sure to make arrangements to have someone clear the snow from your driveway and walks. As an added measure, turn off the ringer on your home phone before you leave. These extra steps to make it appear as though you are still home can be easily defeated by a ringing phone that goes unanswered.

Finally, always check electric holiday decorations for frayed wiring, broken bulbs, or plugs that are loose. Don't assume that everything is safe just because it worked fine last year. Cracked or worn insulation over the wiring is a good indication that its time for new lights. If you have a real tree in your home be sure that it is kept well watered and never allow it to get dry. And never place a tree near a fireplace that is to be used, or put lit candles near a tree.

Have a safe holiday season !