

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2015**

**HOMECOMING**

As we prepare for homecoming events, it is important that children are encouraged by their parents to act in a responsible manner. Unless you are en route to or from school-sanctioned homecoming activities, you are required to comply with the Friday and Saturday night curfew enforced in the City of Marshfield.

Marshfield’s curfew ordinance is as follows:

- Children age 12 and under must be home prior to 9:00 p.m. every day of the week.
- Persons ages 13 through 15, must be home prior to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.
- Persons 16 and 17 years of age must be home prior to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and midnight on Friday and Saturday.

The only exceptions are:

- If they are accompanied by one of their parents.
- If they are engaged in necessary errands as directed by their parents.
- If they are doing something required by their jobs.
- If they are going to or returning from a school, church, or other approved activity.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2015**

**FOUND CAT IDENTIFICATION AND CLAIM PROCEDURE**

The City of Marshfield has contracted with the Marshfield Area Pet Shelter (MAPS) for the housing and care of the city’s stray cats. The MAPS cat holding facility is located at 210 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street (by the airport).

Until such a time when MAPS has scheduled open hours for the public, we ask you to contact

First, \*Ordinance Control through dispatch at 715-387-4394.  
Second, MAPS volunteer at 715-486-5140.

\*Regular hours for Marshfield Ordinance Control:  
Monday and Saturday        8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Tuesday through Friday     7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

You can contact the Marshfield Ordinance Control to see if your feline has recently been picked up or even to let us know your cat is missing.

MAPS website for lost and found animals: [http://www.marshfieldpetshelter.org/lost\\_pets](http://www.marshfieldpetshelter.org/lost_pets).

When your found cat has been identified, impoundment fees must be paid at the police department. Once fees are paid, two receipts will be provided and one receipt **MUST** be produced and turned over to MAPS prior to your cat’s release.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**OCTOBER 17, 2015**

**NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH PROGRAM:**  
**CRIME PREVENTION TIPS**

The Marshfield Police Department is seeking residents interested in participating in our local Neighborhood Crime Watch program. The purpose of the Neighborhood Watch program is to eliminate crime in our neighborhoods by watching out for each other to help deter crime, warn others of potential danger and contacting law enforcement when criminal activity is spotted.

Below is a list of activities residents need to be aware of in order to keep our neighborhoods safe.

- Someone running from a car or home.
- Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call law enforcement and report them.
- Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.
- Someone asking about past residents.
- Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through the neighborhood.
- Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.
- Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- Someone removing property from unoccupied residences.
- A stranger entering a neighbor's home which appears to be unoccupied.
- A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- A child resisting the advances of an adult.

We stress to the members of Neighborhood Watch groups that they are not taking on the job of a law enforcement officer, and if any criminal activity is observed to call the police immediately.

Those interested in starting or becoming members of a Neighborhood Watch group may contact Lead Officer Steven Meek, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, at [StevenMeek@ci.marshfield.wi.us](mailto:StevenMeek@ci.marshfield.wi.us).

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest. Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT  
“POLICE PLAIN TALK”  
OCTOBER 24, 2015**

**HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT SAFETY TIPS  
AND  
KIDS KANDY PATROL**

We are pleased to announce that the annual Marshfield Police Department’s Kids Kandy Patrol program will again take place during Marshfield’s Trick-or-Treat hours of 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2015.

The Kids Kandy Patrol program this year will involve patrol cars and a fire department squad or ambulance visiting various neighborhoods throughout the city of Marshfield for the purpose of providing Halloween candy to children in a safe environment. The squad cars and fire department vehicle will stop on the side of the streets where there are children participating in trick-or-treat activities, and the emergency lights will be turned on. The officer/firefighter will exit the vehicle and hand candy out at that time.

We would like to recognize and thank V&H Heavy Truck, the Marshfield Professional Police Association, and Marshfield Professional Firefighters Association for providing a generous donation of candy for this event.

The following are some important safety tips for children to follow when trick or treating.

- Never go out alone.
- Always stay in a familiar neighborhood with a group that includes an adult.
- Never take a ride from a stranger or enter a stranger’s house.
- Always examine the treats before eating them.
- Always dress in light-colored costumes.
- Carry a flashlight so drivers can see you more easily.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**OCTOBER 31, 2015**

**ALL-NIGHT PARKING**

Overnight parking on city streets or in any city-owned parking lot during the months of November through April is not permitted between the hours of 2:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. There may be certain exceptions and permission will be granted at the discretion of the shift commander by calling Wood County Dispatch at 715-387-4394. However, no vehicles are permitted on city streets during a declared snow emergency.

For city-owned parking lots, a permit may be purchased at the police department to enable parking between these hours in designated areas only of specified city lots. The permit for all-night parking in a city-owned lot does NOT allow the holder of the permit to park the vehicle on the street during the night.

Parking regulations as stated above apply unless a street is otherwise signed or a snow emergency has been declared pursuant to Section 13-35(3) of the city’s municipal code.

This ordinance was created for ease of street maintenance and snowplowing.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

**ANIMAL SHELTERING**

To help your pets remain happy and healthy during these colder months, you should not assume that a cat or dog’s “fur coat” is sufficient protection. Dogs and cats should never be left outside for long periods of time without proper shelter and supervision.

If your dog is an outdoor dog:

- It must be protected by a dry, draft-free dog house that is large enough to allow the dog to sit or lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold its body heat.
- The floor should be raised off the ground a few inches and covered with cedar shavings or straw. (Rugs or rags should not be used because they hold moisture.)
- The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with heavy burlap or a rug.
- If snow collects between the dog’s toes, it should be removed.
- Always make sure your dog is given fresh drinkable water daily, as your pet will burn valuable body heat if it has to eat snow and ice because it is thirsty.

If you see or suspect animal abuse/neglect, please contact the dispatch center at 387-4394.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**NOVEMBER 14, 2015**

**THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**  
**STEPPED UP DRUNKEN DRIVING ENFORCEMENT**

During the days surrounding the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays as well as throughout the year, the Marshfield Police Department strives to prevent motorists from killing and injuring themselves and others on our roadways. Although we try to increase voluntary compliance with traffic laws—not to write more tickets or make more arrests—we will take enforcement action if voluntary compliance fails. Our goal is to reduce preventable traffic deaths to zero in Wisconsin because even one preventable traffic fatality is one too many.

If you go out to celebrate, the Marshfield Police Department recommends the following tips:

- Plan a safe way home before your celebrations begin.
- If you plan to get a ride home with someone else, designate a sober driver before any drinking begins.
- If you're impaired, use a taxi or call a sober friend or family member so you are sure to get home safely.
- If you happen to see a driver who appears to be impaired on the road, don't hesitate to contact your local law enforcement or call 911.
- If you know someone who is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

The Marshfield Police Department strongly urges the public to help keep the streets safe this busy holiday season and every day by drinking responsibly and designating a sober driver before heading to the local pub.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT  
“POLICE PLAIN TALK”  
NOVEMBER 21, 2015**

**SAFE SHOPPING TIPS  
AND  
RETAIL THEFT**

As the busiest shopping period of the year has started, you can protect yourself from the hazards related to Christmas shopping.

- Ensure that packages are out of view inside your **locked** vehicle, preferably in the trunk area.
- Protect your purse or wallet by keeping it close to your body and checking frequently for its presence.
- Do not leave unattended packages or valuables in your shopping cart.
- Notify store personnel if you see activity that is suspicious.
- Be aware of people around you. Camera phones are an easy way to photograph your credit card numbers.
- Do not leave your children unattended.

Retail theft, commonly known as shoplifting, affects all of us with higher retail costs. Retail theft includes the taking of merchandise without paying for it and/or altering, transferring or removing a price tag to reflect less than the merchant’s stated price.

In addition to criminal charges and fines, the store can sue the person in civil court for the value of the merchandise, damages up to three times the value of the merchandise, and all costs involved in the apprehension and conviction to include attorney fees.

Retail theft increases over the Christmas holiday shopping season. Stores add extra security personnel and are monitoring areas by surveillance cameras. Save yourself time, money, and embarrassment—don’t shoplift.

The Marshfield Police Department wishes all of you a very safe and happy holiday season.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**NOVEMBER 28, 2015**

**511: ROAD REPORT/TRAVEL CONDITIONS**

Dialing 511, using your landline and cell phone, provides you with free real-time road report and travel conditions. You can also access the 511 internet site at: [www.511wi.gov/](http://www.511wi.gov/).

Below is a listing of other free three-digit resource numbers offered that you may want to keep posted next to your phone or on your cell phone directory.

- 211 United Way’s Information Resource & Referral
- 411 Telephone – Directory Assistance
- 511 Road Report/Travel Conditions
- 711 Wisconsin Relay Text Telephone (deaf to speech)
- 811 Digger’s Hotline
- 911 Emergency – Police, Fire & EMS

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**DECEMBER 5, 2015**

**SNOW EMERGENCY**  
**SIDEWALKS CLEAR OF SNOW AND ICE**  
**CITY SAND BOXES**

**Snow emergency:** A “snow emergency” exists whenever there is an accumulation of snow of three or more inches during a 24-hour period, and such accumulation interferes with the ability of vehicles to travel safely in the City of Marshfield. A snow emergency continues in effect for 48 hours after the snowfall has ended and until the snow has been removed from the streets or until the emergency is cancelled by the director of public works.

During this time, parking on city streets and lots is prohibited, with the exception of the following locations but only after they have been plowed:

- Central Avenue from Harrison Street to 16<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Maple Avenue from Arnold Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Chestnut Avenue from Arnold Street to 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets from Chestnut Avenue to Maple Avenue.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Chestnut Avenue to Central Avenue.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets from Chestnut Avenue to Cedar Avenue.

Violations can result in a parking ticket and the towing of your vehicle. This ordinance allows our street maintenance crews to remove the snow safely and efficiently.

**Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks:** City ordinance states that it is the responsibility of owners of property abutting or containing public sidewalks to keep these sidewalks free from snow and ice accumulations at all times. The owner is responsible for removing or having removed all accumulations of snow and ice from the entire paved width and length of the sidewalks within 48 hours after snow or ice has fallen or accumulated thereon. In the case of drifting snow or of ice accumulating due to melting and refreezing, the owner shall keep all sidewalks sprinkled with sand or salt.

If the owner fails to comply, the city’s street superintendent may arrange for prompt removal or treatment of the ice and/or snow accumulations and may repeat removal or treatment procedures as often as necessary to maintain such sidewalks in a safe and usable condition. Any costs and expenses for removal or treatment shall be charged to the property owner.

**City sand boxes:** For your safety, the Marshfield street department provides sand, at no charge, to people residing within the city limits. These sand boxes are located at the following intersections:

Fig/Upham  
Upham/Walnut

5<sup>th</sup>/Columbus  
5<sup>th</sup>/Oak

St. Joseph/Upham  
Becker/Peach  
Doege/Peach  
Blodgett/Central

7<sup>th</sup>/Chestnut  
8<sup>th</sup>/Peach  
17<sup>th</sup>/Felker

Please use the sand economically by taking only the needed amount. A five-quart ice cream pail is recommended to transport the sand to your driveway and sidewalks.

When taking sand, you need to park your vehicle in a legal and safe parking area. (Sand is no longer available for pick up at the street department.)

### **TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2015**

**PASSING SNOWPLOWS AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES**

There are no state laws that prohibit you from passing a snowplow. However, it is illegal (state statute 346.915) to follow a snowplow closer than 200 feet upon any highway having the posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour if the snowplow is engaged in snow and ice removal. This does not apply when overtaking and passing a snowplow. But if the operator of any vehicle upon a highway, having a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour, follows the snowplow more closely than 200 feet for one mile or more or follows more closely than 200 feet when the snowplow is moving at the maximum speed limit of the roadway, this is convincing and legal evidence that the operator of such following vehicle is violating this law.

The majority of crashes involving snowplows and vehicles happen when a snowplow is rear ended or hit while being passed. Snow plows have wing plow blades that can extend anywhere between two (2) and ten (10) feet beyond the width of the truck. This wing plow blade is often not seen because of the snow cloud being kicked up by the snowplow. These wing plows can often weigh as much as a compact car.

There are three safety rules that are worth following:

1. Give snowplows plenty of room to work. They are big and hard to see around.
2. Don't pass a working snowplow—they can throw up a cloud of snow that could cause a whiteout and disorient you.
3. Also, it is tough for snowplow drivers to see you. Don't crowd the plow. Make sure when behind a plow that you can see the driver's mirrors so he can see you. Remember, it is the law that you stay at least 200 feet behind a working snowplow.

One of the major hazards emergency workers and road crews face is being struck by passing motorists while the workers are performing their duties, and their emergency vehicle/machinery is parked with its flashing lights activated.

Wisconsin law states that the operator of any vehicle which approaches an emergency vehicle, such as a police squad, ambulance, fire truck, tow truck, or road machinery must do one of the following:

- Move into another lane if the roadway has at least two lanes, or
- Reduce speed until completely past the vehicle or machinery if there is only one lane or if it is unsafe to change lanes.

You can keep emergency workers and road crews safe by reducing speed and allowing as much room as possible as you pass.

For a state-wide road report call 511 or check the internet site <http://www.511wi.gov/web/>



## **TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**DECEMBER 19, 2015**

**RESPONSIBLE DRINKING**

During the holidays, we urge everyone to drink responsibly. Two out of five people will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives. If you have had too much to drink, coffee or cold showers won't sober you up. Only TIME can do that. To protect yourself and others, control your drinking by using the following tips:

- Eat to slow alcohol's effects. Avoid carbonated drinks—they speed up the effects.
- Alternate alcohol with non-alcoholic drinks.
- Alcohol is alcohol, no matter what form. A 12-ounce beer has as much alcohol as a 5-ounce glass of wine or a 1-1/2 ounce shot of hard liquor.
- If you drink, don't drive.
- Have a sober designated driver.

Use common sense when drinking. An evening's celebration is not worth the risk of injury or a costly drunken driving arrest.

Have a happy and safe holiday season.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous and being eligible for a cash reward.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crimes Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**DECEMBER 26, 2015**

**CITIZENS’ POLICE ACADEMY**

The Marshfield Police Department has revamped its citizen’s police academy program. We will be holding classes on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for six (6) consecutive weeks, starting April. Class size is limited to 15 adults.

The goals of the citizens’ police academy are:

- To provide citizens a working knowledge of law enforcement operations, including support staff.
- To strengthen law enforcement/community relations.
- To obtain valued feedback from the community through citizen participation.
- To increase citizen knowledge about police functions.
- To enhance employee’s instructor training skills.

The above objectives are met with the use of hands-on interactive experiences in areas such as crime scene investigations; SWAT tactics; utilization of police department firearms at the police range; and observe firsthand how the K-9 unit performs its duties.

If you are interested in participating, please call Peggy at 384-0800 between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**JANUARY 2, 2016**

**VEHICLE WARMING DANGERS**  
**WINTER DRIVING TIPS**

A common Wisconsin practice is to allow vehicles to run during the coldest winter months, even when no one is in them. While it is advisable to warm the vehicle enough to clear the windows of frost and snow, there are dangers associated with doing this.

- Running an unlocked vehicle invites some people to not only steal your vehicle, but any valuables you may have inside it as well. We recommend you use a second set of keys or keyless entry (if equipped) to keep your vehicle secure at all times.
- Poisonous carbon monoxide gases can leak into parked vehicles and affect the driver and passengers without any warning.
- Never leave a vehicle running in a garage. Back completely out and close the garage door. This is the only way to ensure that carbon monoxide does not enter your home.

Motorists are reminded that during the winter months you need to remove snow and frost from your vehicle before driving. This includes brushing the snow away from the windows, headlights, rear taillights, and license plate area. Failure to do this is not only unsafe, but illegal and could result in a citation.

Don't drive your vehicle until the windshield, side windows, and rear window are snow and frost free so that you have a clear view of the road. Your own child, friend, or relative may be the person you fail to see if your car windows are not clear.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.



**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**JANUARY 9, 2016**

**ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD RECOGNITION WEEK**  
**JANUARY 11 – 17, 2016**

Each day dedicated adult crossing guards in our city show up at their assigned crossings to assist students in their journeys to or from school. The City of Marshfield honors our adult crossing guards for their commitment to child pedestrian safety during School Crossing Guard Recognition Week.

Adult school crossing guards play a critical role in keeping students safe as they walk to and from school each day. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, approximately 1,000 children between the ages 5 and 9 are killed each year in pedestrian accidents. Adult school crossing guards place the children’s safety above their own by ensuring all traffic is stopped before students enter the roadway while facing speeding motorists, cell phone users and others disregarding traffic signals.

As part of the week-long celebration parents, students, teachers and school administrative staff are encouraged to give thank you cards, or simply say “THANK YOU” to school crossing guards who live by the moto “Safety is First with Us Every Day.”

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**JANUARY 16, 2016**

**AUTOMOBILE WINTER SURVIVAL KIT**

Winter travel, especially by vehicle, is serious business. You should always carry a survival kit. Your kit can be as extensive as you want, but you should include those items which would allow you to survive 12-24 hours without the benefit of the vehicle heater. A recommended list might include:

- One sleeping bag, or two or more blankets for every person in the automobile.
- Three-pound coffee tin, which can be used to melt snow. **NOTE:** *Many of the items on this list can be stored in the car.*
- Matches and candles (a blanket over your head, body heat, and the heat from a single candle can prevent freezing).
- Flashlight and extra batteries—good for signaling help.
- Winter clothing to include cap, mittens, heavy socks, boots, gloves, coveralls, etc.
- First aid kit, including any special medications for you and your travelers.
- Bottled water will probably freeze, so allow expansion room in the container.
- Bright piece of cloth to tie to antenna.
- High protein/carbohydrate nonperishable items such as granola bars, high energy bars, peanut butter, etc.
- Kitty litter, sand, or ashes for vehicle traction.
- Travel shovel.
- Jumper cables.
- Cell phone.
- Tow rope.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.

**MARSHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**“POLICE PLAIN TALK”**  
**JANUARY 23, 2016**

**TAX-RELATED IDENTITY THEFT**

Tax-related identity theft occurs when someone uses a stolen Social Security number to file a tax return to claim a fraudulent refund. A taxpayer’s SSN can be stolen through a data breach, a computer hack or a lost wallet. Although identity theft affects a small percentage of tax returns, it can have a major impact on victims by delaying their refunds.

Here are some tips to protect you from becoming a victim and steps to take if you think someone may have filed a tax return using your name and Social Security number:

Tips to protect you from becoming a victim of identity theft:

- Don’t carry your Social Security card or any documents that include your Social Security number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).
- Don’t give a business your SSN or ITIN just because they ask. Give it only when required.
- Protect your financial information.
- Check your credit report every 12 months.
- Review your Social Security Administration earnings statement annually.
- Secure personal information in your home.
- Protect your personal computers by using firewalls and anti-spam/virus software, updating security patches and changing passwords for internet accounts.
- Don’t give personal information over the phone, through the mail or on the internet unless you have initiated the contact or you are sure you know who you are dealing with.

**TEXTING TIP LINE**

The Marshfield Police Department, Wood County Crime Stoppers, and the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth have created the “Texting Tip Line”. The texting tip line gives children and adults the ability to text in tips of possible alcohol, drug, and criminal violations while remaining completely anonymous.

Just dial **274637** (CRIMES) and begin your text message with the key word **WCCS**. There is the potential of receiving a reward if the information proves credible and results in a successful investigation or arrest.

Wood County Crime Stoppers has also created a page through Facebook. Please “Like” Crime Stoppers and refer back to get the latest news and to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects of various crimes.