



Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Kevin Flynn

Sergeants

Tim Gaul
Nathan Grimmus
Josh McCuen
Dustin Roemeling
Brett Wiltrout

Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Randy Liepold
Micah Mesman
Tyler Olson
Jacob Refsland
Mark Riley
Lucky Sayveo
Gabe Vander Veen
Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing
Dave Hoffman
Joe Joswiak
Brandon Peil

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

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National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week

Every year, one full week in April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as Public Safety Telecommunicators.

They are the single vital link for police officers, paramedics, and fire fighters by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information, and ensuring their safety.

Emergencies can occur at any time and they are dependent on the quality and accuracy of information that is obtained from the citizens who call into the dispatch center.

A work day can have periods of boredom and then turn into chaos in a moment's notice.

Dispatchers are the first contact with the public, obtaining critical information from callers who may be



Dispatchers Joe Reith & Hannah Huls

hysterical, angry, intoxicated, or unable to express what they need.

It is up to the dispatcher to get the correct information to the units in the field, to ensure the safety of those responders, as well as the general public.

A 9-1-1 Dispatcher must be able to take control of a situation that may be chaotic, heart wrenching, stressful, or confusing.

They have the ability to think quickly, evaluate the situation, and establish priorities to resolve matters. It can be stressful at times, but they are dedicated to serving the public and making it a safer place.

Next week, April 8th to April 14th, is set aside to celebrate and say thank you to all the dispatchers for their service and dedication.

We appreciate the job you do!!!

Animal Control
Virgil Veen

Community Service
Myra Onnen

Reception
Barb Hussong

Records
Shari Droll
Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT
Gary Gerdes

Dispatch Supervisor
Nancy Veen

Dispatch
Tonya Aanenson
Stephanie Evers
Hannah Huls
Jodi Mulder
Joe Reith

K-9 Officers
Frankee
Mack
Winston

Severe Weather Awareness Week

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness week is April 9-13th.

The week is designed to refresh, remind and educate everyone about the seasonal threats from severe weather and how to avoid them.

Severe weather normally refers to any dangerous weather event with the potential to cause the loss of life or injuries, significant damage to structures, or any serious disruption to communities.

Forms of severe weather events vary, but all types can be potentially hazardous.

Storms, including tornadoes, high winds, hail, lightning, or excessive precipitation are the most common types in Minnesota.

Severe weather can include excessive heat and drought conditions as well.

While severe weather can't be prevented, there are some simple steps everyone can take to stay safe and protect themselves and their homes whenever severe weather threatens.

Lightening kills about 100 Americans each year, which is more than tornadoes, and



causes about 300 injuries.

While not every thunderstorm produces a tornado, every thunderstorm produces lightning!

What can you do to protect yourself from lightning and tornadoes?

See page 3 and find out!

DON'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH

Text confidential tips to the

Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force

100% Anonymous



BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

Dispatch Podcast – Within the Trenches

For anyone interested in a behind the scenes look at what emergency dispatchers face on a day to day basis, I would recommend listening to the podcast “Within the Trenches”.

This podcast is hosted by current and former dispatchers and tells the stories of real life dispatches. These stories cover all types of experiences from the funny, to the scary, to the downright heartbreaking.

While I would recommend this podcast, please listen with care as the stories told by the dispatchers can be extremely troubling to listen to and are not suited for all audiences.

Lightning Safety Tips

No place outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area. If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you!

If you hear thunder, immediately move to safe shelter; a substantial building or an enclosed metal-topped vehicle with the windows up.

Stay in a safe shelter for at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges, or peaks.

Never lie flat on the ground or shelter under an isolated tree.

Immediately get out and away from ponds, lakes, and other bodies of water.



Stay away from objects that conduct electricity such as barbed wire fences, power lines, and windmills.

If walking in large groups, spread out. While this could increase the chance someone is struck by lightning, it greatly reduces the chance of mass casualties and increases the chance someone is nearby to help.

Tornado Safety

Vehicles are extremely dangerous in a tornado. If the tornado is visible, park the car as quickly and safely as possible off the traffic lanes. Get out and seek shelter in a sturdy building.

If you are in the open country, run to low ground away from the car which may roll over on you. Lie flat and face-down, protecting the back of your head with your arms.

Avoid seeking shelter under bridges, which can accelerate the wind while offering little protection against flying debris.

If you are outdoors, seek shelter in a sturdy building. If not, lie flat and face-down on low ground, protecting the back of

your head with your arms. Get as far away from trees and cars as you can since they may be blown onto you in a tornado.

We are fortunate to live in an age and country where our technology can now communicate with us almost anywhere and give us advanced warning on impending hazards or other important information.

Knowing where and how you can receive the warnings and what to do when you get them can mean the difference between life and death!

The annual statewide tornado drills are scheduled for Thursday, April 12th at 1:45 p.m. and 6:45

p.m. to test the warning sirens.

We encourage everyone to make a plan, build an emergency kit, and practice drills so you are prepared for weather related hazards.

Stay Safe!!!



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Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.ci.worthington.mn.us

Humor in Law Enforcement

It's a common sight to see vehicles in the ditch around here.

Every winter the police department, sheriff's office, and state patrol respond to call after call of vehicles off the roadway or what we commonly refer to as a "VOR".

What started off as just another call of a VOR, had a strange twist for officers of the Vest Oppland Police District in Norway.

At around 6:00 a.m. one morning, officers were called to check on a vehicle in the ditch. When officers arrived on scene, they found a 10-year-old boy and his 18-month-old sister in the car.

It turns out the 10-year-old wanted to visit grandma and grandpa in town that was about 60 kilometers away and snuck out of the house while his parents slept.

The boy had gone about 10 kilometers before going in the ditch and getting stuck.

Needless to say, the children's parents were shocked when they woke up and found the children and their car missing.



The parents were even more shocked when they learned the 10-year-old tried to pass himself off as "a dwarf who forgot his license".



Mission Statement

**Serving Worthington with honor and integrity
by working WITH the community
to provide exceptional public safety.**

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
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WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**