



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
Colin Meinders
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 Telecommunications Week

National Public Safety Telecommunications week is April 14-20.

This week-long event is a time to celebrate and thank the dispatchers who dedicate their lives to serving the public.

It highlights a profession that demands unique professional skills and personal attributes of people willing to make sacrifices like working weekend shifts, holidays, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

They serve our community, citizens and public safety personnel.

They are responsible for responding to telephone calls for police, fire and emergency medical assistance to help save the lives and property of those in our community.



Dispatcher Zach Ramerth

They are the unseen first responders, dealing with people in a variety of emotional states, while remaining calm and professional.

Working as a dispatcher is more than just a job; it is a challenging and rewarding career that allows them to work with the latest technology and dedicated people, while giving them the

personal satisfaction that they are making a difference in people's lives.

It's a sense of pride and personal satisfaction, knowing that their essential and often heroic work is being recognized and not forgotten.

Thanks to all our dispatchers for a job well done!

Credit: Dispatch Supervisor Nancy Veen

Animal Control
Josh Erwin

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
Jodi Mulder
Zach Ramerth
Joe Reith

K-9 Officers
Frank'ee
Mack
Winston

Severe Weather Awareness Week

It's that time of year when the weather starts to warm and the snow melts away and we think of the old saying, "April Showers Bring May Flowers", but that's not the only thing that April brings.

Although we often don't think about April and severe weather, it is a very common situation that some of our strongest storms have come in April.

This is why Minnesota has designated the week of April 8th through the 12th as Severe Weather Awareness Week and has set aside April 11th as a Tornado Drill day.

Severe weather is something that should be taken seriously.

One effective idea would be to prepare a disaster supply kit, which should be stored as close to your shelter as possible.

Some items to keep in that supply kit could be:

- A map to track storm
- A battery operated TV and/or radio and flashlights
- Shoes
- Identification
- Car keys
- Cell phone
- Fresh bottled water and some simple snacks.

Some other housekeeping tips would be to make sure you change the batteries in your radios and flashlights. A good reminder to do this would be when you change your clocks in the spring and fall.

If you should ever find yourself in a severe weather situation follow these simple rules:

- **TAKE COVER** - pick a safe place in your home. This should be away from windows, skylights and glass doors that could be broken by strong winds or hail
- Try to find items to cover yourself in case of flying debris
- If you are driving, try to safely exit the roadway and



park. Stay in the vehicle and turn on the emergency flashers until the heavy rain ends. Avoid touching metal or other surfaces that conduct electricity in and outside the vehicle.

- If you are outside and cannot reach a safe building, avoid high ground, water, tall isolated trees, and metal objects such as fences or bleachers. Picnic shelters, dugouts and sheds are NOT safe.

The good news is that you can survive most tornadoes and severe weather.

The key to survival is planning – knowing what you need to do to be safe before severe weather threatens your safety.

Credit: Dispatcher Jodi Mulder

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

Scam Alert: Fake Cancellation Scams

Recently there have been a number of fake cancellation scams going around.

In this type of scam, the victim will receive an email that appears to be from a legitimate company such as Amazon.com.

In the email, it will be stated that an order you placed was cancelled and it requires you to take some type of action to stop the order from being cancelled.

The scam will want you to either enter your account information into a link provided by the email or it will ask you to click on an email link to receive further information about the incident.

If you enter your account information into the link, the scammer will gain access to your account and any credit card information you may have stored with the company.

If you click a link attached to the email, you may unintentionally download malware onto your computer.

If you happen to receive an email like this, do not click on any links in the email.

Go to your account and check for yourself if the order was cancelled or changed.

If you are not able to find the information you



are looking for, call or email the company with your concerns.

Law Review: Handicapped Parking Permits

Recently the Worthington Police Department has been fielding a number of questions about handicapped parking.

To help answer these questions, we will look at Minnesota Statute 169.345 Parking Privilege for Physically Disabled.

This statute allows vehicles that have a handicapped parking permit or handicapped license plate to park in designated parking spaces for disabled persons.

Can I park in the handicapped parking place if the car I am driving has handicapped license plates and I am not handicapped?

You can park the vehicle in the handicapped parking space if you are actually transporting the

physically disabled person for the sole benefit of that person and when the parking space is within reasonable distance from the drop-off point.

Do I have to hang my handicapped parking permit on the rear-view mirror or can I leave it on my dash?

The handicapped permit needs to be prominently displayed so that it may be viewed from the front or rear of the vehicle by being attached to the rear-view mirror.

If you do not have a rear-view mirror or your disability prevents you from hanging the permit on the rear-view mirror, then you may display it on the dashboard of the vehicle.

Can I just leave my handicapped permit on the rear-view mirror?

Minnesota State Statute 169.71 (Windshield) generally prohibits driving or operating a vehicle with anything between the driver and the windshield.

There are several exceptions to this law, but handicapped parking permits are not one of them.

What's stopping me from just telling the cop that I have a handicapped permit? They can't prove I don't.

Actually, we can tell if you have a handicapped permit. When a police officer checks your driving records, there is a notation on your record that will tell us if you have a disability certificate or not. Nice try though!

Worthington Police

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Animal Control
(507) 329-0070

Community Service Officer
(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

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

Humor in Law Enforcement

Some of the weirdest stories you can hear in the news start with a "Florida man" and this story is no different.

Down in the Sunshine State, our hapless suspect, Douglas Kelly, allegedly purchased some methamphetamine and had a bad reaction to the drug.

Kelly believed that because of the violent reaction he had to the drug, he was sold the wrong drug.

Kelly did what seemed reasonable at the time; he contacted detectives from the Putnam County Sheriff's Office to test the drugs.

Kelly told the detectives that he wanted to "press charges" against the individual who sold him the wrong narcotic.

Detectives told Kelly to come on down to the Sheriff's Office and they would take a look at the drug.

Doing just that, Kelly showed up with the drug wrapped in aluminum foil.

The drug tested positive for meth and Kelly was walked next door to the Putnam County Jail. According to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office Facebook page: "Remember, our



detectives are always ready to assist anyone who believes they were misled in their illegal drug purchase".

Caveat Emptor – Buyer beware.

Credit: Putnam County SO
Facebook Page

Mission Statement

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

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1530 AIRPORT ROAD
SUITE 300
WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**