



Monthly Newsletter

May 2024

Who to contact about parking

What are the county's regulations regarding street parking and what can be done to deal with problem parking?

WDDNA members frequently express concern about cars parked on their streets for days or about people seen sleeping in parked cars. When can a vehicle be cited for a parking violation and when can it be towed?



Following is information from the County Department of Transportation and the Sheriff's Department.

Where is it illegal to park?

- In an intersection
- On a sidewalk or crosswalk
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant
- Where the signs say "NO PARKING" or "NO STOPPING"
- In front of a sidewalk ramp.
- In a parking place designated for disabled persons (Unless you are disabled and have a placard or special plate)
- Facing the opposite direction of traffic
- In front of a driveway
- At a red curb

In any of the above cases, a vehicle may be cited. If a car is not violating one of the above rules, it cannot be cited.

What about people sleeping in parked cars?

In California, it is legal to sleep in a car on a public street, as long as you are not violating any other laws, such as parking regulations or prohibitions against overnight camping. However, sleeping in a car on private property, such as in a parking lot, requires the permission of the property owner.

That said, our WDDNA deputies are allowed to contact people sleeping in cars to verify that they are not in distress or that they have no outstanding warrants. In the course of these contacts, the occupants are usually encouraged to move along.

To let our deputies know about such a vehicle, login to your member portal through our website, click on the Contact Patrol link, fill out the information form and submit it.

On-street vehicle abatement

By ordinance, Sacramento's County Code Enforcement Department will tow vehicles that are a public nuisance. Nuisance vehicles include abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, inoperative, unregistered (in excess of six months) and unmoved (for more than 72 hours) vehicles.

There are several ways to deal with vehicles that have not moved for days. One way is to contact the Code Enforcement office through the County Information Center at (916) 875-5656. Or you can email saccode@saccounty.gov. Code Enforcement will investigate and determine if a vehicle needs to be towed.

Another approach is to alert our WDDNA deputies to the problem through your member portal Contact Patrol link. They will check it out when they are on duty. They can flag it for potential towing and/or they can issue a citation if it is violating any parking regulations.

However, because our patrols are not available 24/7, the most direct option is to contact the Sacramento Sheriff's Department Parking Enforcement Division.

Sheriff's Parking Enforcement Division

All complaints about in-progress parking violations are handled by the Sheriff's Communications and Patrol Divisions (https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/security_services.php).

To report a parking violation, call (916)-874-5115, enter option #6 then #0.

The parking enforcement office staff does not take reports about parking problems. They primarily process parking citations after they have been issued. If you have questions about traffic citations, following is the contact information:

- 2101 Hurley Way
- Sacramento, CA 95825
- (916)-876-6642
- Public hours: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch)
- Monday-Friday (except all holidays)

How to get a no-parking sign on your street

If you are interested in getting some form of restricted parking on your street, such as a no-parking zone or no parking certain days or between certain hours, you must submit a petition to the Department of Transportation. The petition must be signed by every resident along the full length of the street. Parking restrictions that are approved and installed apply to all vehicles, including those belonging to residents and their guests.

Following is the department's contact information:

- Department of Transportation
- 4111 Branch Center Road
- Sacramento, CA 95827
- Phone: 916-874-5164



Bike Fest at William Pond Park May 18

Neighborhood residents can expect impacts on parking and traffic at William Pond Park on Saturday, May 18, as the American River Parkway Foundation once again hosts its Bike Fest event.

Scheduled festival rides will begin on the bike path at 7 a.m. and the festival itself will begin at 10 a.m.

According to the Parkway Foundation website, the festival will include an interactive Kid Zone with helmet decorating, obstacle courses, face painting, nature hikes, interactions with canine companions, sensory experiences and science experiments.

There will be live music and a variety of food and drink options at William Pond. Food trucks scheduled to participate include Pinorrito, Topsy Cheese and Chicks 500 Degrees. A beer garden will feature local breweries, including New Belgium, Two Rivers Cider, River City Brewing and Bike Dog.

There will be bike demos and bike shops, as well as safety advice from Specialized Bikes.

Tickets are available for both the rides and the festival, or for the festival alone. Ticket prices vary. For information or to purchase tickets, go to <https://arpf.org/events/bikefest/>.

What to do if your data was stolen

From Associated Press

Data breaches like the recent one involving millions of AT&T customers are becoming an almost regular occurrence.

As more of our lives move online, our personal data like email addresses, phone numbers, birthdates and even passcodes are becoming ever more vulnerable to theft or being mistakenly exposed.

In malicious breaches, cybercriminals can use stolen data to target people with phishing messages, or by taking out loans or credit cards in their name, a common and harmful type of identity theft.

Here are some tips to protect yourself.



Be aware

In the United States, there's no federal law compelling companies or organizations to notify individuals of data breaches, but it's standard practice for them to inform affected customers and often provide identity protection services, said Oren Arar, vice president of consumer privacy at cybersecurity company Malwarebytes.

The situation is better in the European Union, where the 27-nation bloc's privacy regulations require disclosure of certain types of breaches.

Even after a breach has been made public, cybersecurity experts say people need to remain vigilant. Be on guard for phishing and other social engineering attempts, in the form of emails or phone calls purporting to be from the hacked organization or someone offering help. Contact the company or organization involved to see if they can confirm it. But use their official website, smartphone app or social media channels - don't use links or contact details in any messages you've been sent.

Also consult the Federal Trade Commission's website for identity theft victims, [identitytheft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identitytheft), which provides step-by-step advice on how to recover from various scenarios.

Change your password

If your data has been exposed, the first thing you should do is change your password for the account involved.

Use a strong password including letters, numbers and symbols. The longer the better - some experts say it should be 16 characters. Make sure to add multifactor authentication, which adds a second layer of verification by requiring a code sent by text message or email, or inserting a USB authenticator key into your device.

And if you've been using the same or similar login information for multiple websites or online accounts, make sure to change it. The reason is that if hackers pilfer your password from one service, they can try it on your other accounts and easily get into all of them. If you find it too hard to memorize all your various credentials, consider a password manager.

"Just because your info shows up in a breach doesn't mean someone's stolen your identity or money. But it does mean you're at risk," said Arar. "That's why it's smart to watch your credit for new accounts, change any passwords that get leaked, use multifactor authentication, and have a separate 'junk' email for less important sign-ups."

Keep monitoring

Data breaches are rampant and it can be hard to keep track of them through individual notifications. There are online services that you can check, like Have I Been Pwned, a free website that shows if your email has been involved in a data breach.

Malwarebytes' Digital Footprint Portal does a similar job but it can also check whether your info has been posted on the dark web.

"When public data breaches occur, cybercriminals gather as much data as possible so they can sell it on the dark web," said Darren Guccione, CEO of Keeper Security, which makes password protection software and offers a tool, BreachWatch, that scans the dark web to see if your personal information shows up there.

Tell your bank and credit agencies

If card payment numbers were stolen, inform your bank or credit card company, explaining that your card is at risk of fraud and asking them to alert you to any suspicious activity.

They'll probably issue a new card right away. Some banking and credit card apps allow you to lock the account and freeze any transactions from the app.

You can also notify credit agencies - the three main ones are Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. They can freeze your credit, which restricts access to your credit report and makes it hard to open new accounts or issue a fraud alert, which will be a warning added to your credit report encouraging lenders to contact you before lending money.

Take extra care after telco hacks

Cybersecurity experts have warned that breaches that involve a telephone company, like the AT&T case, leave customers vulnerable to having their phone numbers stolen, or "simjacked." Thieves could then use the hijacked number to access other accounts that use that number for multi-factor authentication through text messages.

To reduce that risk, AT&T advises also setting up a unique passcode that's needed to prevent significant account changes such as porting phone numbers to another carrier. Also, delete phone bills, bank statements and other messages with personal info from your email account, so that if criminals gain access to your inbox, they won't be able to use that information to pass security checks.



Preventing fires at county parks

Sacramento County has announced it is taking the following steps to reduce fire danger in and around regional parks due to increased vegetation resulting from our recent rainy season:

- Firebreaks – A combination of mowing, soil discing and targeted herbicides will be used where appropriate to create perimeters around open fields, along fence lines and behind neighborhoods. This work is scheduled to be completed by the end of June.
- Ladder Fuel Hand-Crews – In limited, hard-to-reach areas, hand-crews will remove vegetation that allows the potential for a fire to climb up or move into urban areas.
- Grazing – There are hundreds of acres of undeveloped or protected land in our Regional Parks. Goats and sheep are ideal for vegetation management and are great at eating down weeds, bushes and grass that manned crews cannot get to. Grazing is expected to occur through the end of June.

Visitors to Sacramento County Regional Parks should be aware of the following regulations:

- Open flame fires are NOT allowed and barbequing is only permitted in designated

- picnic areas.
- Smoking is only allowed in developed picnic areas, asphalt surfaces, golf courses and levee tops along the American River Parkway.
- If you see a fire burning in or around a park, call 911.

Grill safety tips from Sac MetroFire

As the weather warms, many of us will be preparing for outdoor grilling. Before starting the grill, there are several safety precautions to keep in mind.



Grill safety checks

- At least once every year, check the Venturi tube for blockage by insects, spiders or food drippings. Clear any blockage, either with a pipe cleaner or with a wire. Push any blockages through the tube to the main part of the burner.
- Check the grill's hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks. Make sure there aren't sharp bends in the hose or tubing.
- Make sure hoses are as far away from the hot surface as possible. Make sure to keep hoses away from areas where grease could drip on them. If you can't move hoses, have a heat shield installed.
- Check for LP gas leaks whenever you reconnect the grill to the LP gas container or if you smell gas. To check for leaks, open the LP gas supply valve fully and apply a soapy solution (one part water, one part liquid detergent) with a brush at connection points. If bubbles appear, there is a leak. Turn off the LP gas and tighten the connection. If this does not stop the leak, close the container valve and take the grill to your LP gas dealer or a qualified appliance repair person.
- If a leak is detected, don't attempt to light the grill until the leak has been repaired. If you are using the grill, turn off the LP gas.

Tips for safe grill use

- Make sure there are no lighted cigarettes, matches or open flames near a leaking grill.
- Never use a grill indoors due to carbon monoxide and fire hazards. And use the grill at least 10 feet away from your house or any building. Do not use the grill in a garage, breezeway, carport, porch or under a surface that will burn.
- Always follow the instructions that accompany the grill.
- Never leave a grill unattended.
- Keep children away from the grill. The outside surface of the grill can get hot and burn when touched.
- Keep a kitchen fire extinguisher nearby.

LP gas container tips

When storing:

- Always keep containers upright.
- Never store a spare LP gas container under or near the grill.
- Never store or use flammable liquids, like gasoline, near the grill.
- Never use or store an LP gas container indoors.

When transporting:

- Transport the container in a secure, upright position.
- Never keep a filled container in a hot car or car trunk.

When refilling:

- Have the container refilled only by your LP gas dealer or by a qualified service station operator. **DO NOT FILL THE CONTAINER YOURSELF.**
- Consider using a cylinder exchange.

When connecting:

- Remove the container valve plug from the container valve.
- Thread the container connector securely into the container valve outlet (turn counterclockwise).
- Tighten, but do not use excessive force.
- After connected, check for leaks.

When Disconnecting:

- Before disconnecting, turn off the grill's burner and container valve.
- Disconnect the container (turn clockwise).
- Place the container valve plug securely into the container valve outlet.

Member Q&A

Q: Is the Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association a homeowners association (HOA)?

A: No, WDDNA is a non-profit neighborhood association, not an HOA. A homeowners association is an organization that makes and enforces rules and guidelines for a residential subdivision, planned community or condominium building. In most cases, residents within an HOA are required to become members, agree to follow the HOA's rules and pay HOA fees and assessments.

WDDNA is a voluntary membership nonprofit organization with no authority over any of the properties within our service area. Our sole reason for existence is to hire off-duty deputies to patrol our streets and to provide our members with safety and security information. Our patrols are paid for by voluntary membership dues. And the number of patrols we are able to engage is limited by the number of homeowners willing to join our association. In short, WDDNA is an example of neighbors helping neighbors.

HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.
- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.

2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via **EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com**.

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