



Monthly Newsletter

August 2026

WDDNA deputy prevents potential crime

Working with a WDDNA deputy, the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) unit of the Sheriff's Department recently tackled an issue on Gary Way and potentially prevented criminal activity.

The collaborative effort proved the value of our WDDNA deputies and of the POP program, which the Board of Supervisors recently saved from county budget cuts. What's more, it illustrates our deputies' commitment to crime prevention.



In recent months, some residents had reported questionable activities around a particular home on Gary Way and were concerned that illegal activities might occur. WDDNA patrol units had been aware of these reports, but scheduling and time constraints had prevented them from "staking out" the location. So, one of our deputies asked the North POP unit to help.

The Sheriff's Department POP unit is a six-person team that works with business and community groups to tackle ongoing issues that pose safety concerns. The POP unit's goal is to stop crime before it happens.

In response to the request from our WDDNA deputy, the POP team stepped in. Their target was an individual who had been staying as a guest at a home on Gary Way and was wanted on a warrant. It didn't take long for the team to get results.

"We went to the location," said one of the POP deputies. "Within 30 seconds of sitting on it, the guy with the warrant came out and took off in a vehicle. We got him on a vehicle stop. He went to jail and the car got towed. We went back to the house and talked to the homeowner. Sounds like he was letting a couple of people with questionable status stay at the house. We strongly advised him of the issues that could come with that and he said that the man in question would not be coming back."

The core goal of the Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association is to prevent crime and work with law enforcement and government officials to support the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Unfortunately, crime prevention is hard to prove. It is challenging to find ways to show that bad things DIDN'T happen because of our efforts. One thing is certain, however: WDDNA's deputies know our neighborhood and continuously look for ways to keep us safe.

This collaboration between a WDDNA deputy and the POP team could not have happened without the ongoing support of our members. Your dues, and those of the many hundreds of homeowners who have supported us over the past 20 years, help ensure the continued security and quality of life we all enjoy.

New WDDNA member portal is live

WDDNA's newly updated member portal and our new monthly membership option went live on Tuesday, July 28, right on schedule.

Among the improvements is a feature that allows you to edit your contact information and credit card data without having to contact us. We also are launching a continuous monthly payment option that may be preferred by some new or existing members.

Under that option, members can pay \$31 a month continuously using our credit card auto pay system. While members will pay a bit more using this option (the additional charge is necessary to cover credit card processing fees), some may find it more convenient than remembering to renew each fall.

The update did not cause any changes to your account. Your password is unchanged and the structure of the new portal looks similar to the previous design.

If you are interested in switching from paying your dues annually, to instead paying monthly beginning next January, please contact us **before this Nov. 1**, and we will set that up for you.

As always, if you have any questions you may email us at wilhaggindeldayona@gmail.com or you may contact Kathleen Newton, communications manager, at knewton1947@gmail.com or by phone at (916) 483-2034.

Keep pets safe at night

A WDDNA member recently reported that a coyote killed a neighborhood cat during the night at the corner of Oak Vista and Jacob Lane. The report is a reminder that, because the American River Parkway is inhabited by an array of night time predators, pet owners are advised to keep their animals indoors after dark.

Hardening your home from fire

We all love our neighborhood for its mature trees and close proximity to the American River Parkway.

That said, we cannot ignore the fact that living adjacent to the Parkway's natural vegetation may raise concerns about wildfire. Images of the 2025 Los Angeles fire are a vivid reminder that even the best fire safety infrastructure can fail.



Our neighborhood is not within a state Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ). The nearest such zone is in the American River Parkway just east of Sunrise Boulevard and in portions of Rancho Cordova.

Nevertheless, given the possibility of encampment fires in the Parkway, paired with the fuel that could be provided by the extensive tree canopy that shades our neighborhood, we believe it is worth offering suggestions for precautions you may wish to take to protect your home and family from fire.

While focused primarily on homes in fire hazard zones, CalFire also offers the following suggestions for urban homes.

Protect your roof

- Keep your roof clear of debris and vegetation.
- Fill in gaps between the roof covering and the sheathing to prevent the intrusion of embers and flame.
- Ensure openable skylights have a noncombustible metal mesh screen not exceeding 1/8 inch and have multipaned glazing with one layer of tempered glass.
- Install metal flashing around exposed wood frame skylights.
- Seal off gaps or penetrations in the roof from the installation of a roof attachment like a solar panel.
- Ensure that roof attachments have enough space underneath them so that debris does not accumulate.

For more CalFire tips, [CLICK HERE](https://www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening) <https://www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening>

[MySafe:LA](#), a Los Angeles community organization, suggests the following low-cost things you can do to harden your home:

1. **Clear dead vegetation to within five feet of your home.** This is your first line of defense. Remove dry leaves, dead plants and flammable mulch immediately around the house.
2. **Replace mulch in the five-foot zone with non-combustible alternatives.** Rock, gravel or decomposed granite are safer than bark or shredded wood mulch.
3. **Install gutter guards or clean gutters regularly.** Clogged gutters filled with dry debris are ember magnets. Install inexpensive metal guards or keep them clean.
4. **Seal gaps and cracks.** Use fire-resistant caulk or expanding foam to seal siding, foundations and eaves gaps. Even a pencil-width gap can let in embers.
5. **Cover vents with 1/8" mesh screening.** Fine metal mesh screens prevent embers from entering attic and crawlspace vents.
6. **Move flammable items away from structures.** Store firewood, trash cans, patio furniture and flammable doormats at least five feet away from your home or garage.
7. **Trim tree branches overhanging the roof.** Branches should be cut back at least 10 feet from your roofline or chimney.
8. **Replace or repair damaged weather stripping.** Gaps under doors and around windows are ember entry points. Replace worn rubber or vinyl weather stripping.
9. **Use metal mesh covers on chimneys.** Install spark arresters on chimney openings to reduce the risk of ejected embers starting fires.
10. **Install hose bibs or fire-resistant hoses at all corners.** Access to water at multiple corners of your home allows for quicker suppression of minor flare-ups.

Summer food safety

[Sacramento County Public Health \(SCPH\)](#) and the [Sacramento County Environmental Management Department \(EMD\)](#) are urging residents to follow safe food handling practices as summer temperatures, activities and subsequent foodborne illnesses are on the rise.

Food Safety Best Practices:

- Thoroughly cook all meats, especially poultry. Poultry should be cooked to reach a minimum internal temperature of 165°F. If you are served undercooked poultry in a restaurant, send it back for further cooking.
- Wash hands before preparing food and immediately after handling any raw poultry or meat.
- Avoid cross-contamination by carefully cleaning all cutting boards, countertops and utensils with soap and hot water after preparing raw poultry or meat and prevent juices from raw meats from dripping on other foods.
- Make sure that other foods, such as fruits or vegetables, do not come into contact with cutting boards or knives that have been used with raw poultry or meat.
- Always refrigerate meat products. Never leave raw meat at room temperature.
- Avoid unpasteurized milk and soft cheeses and untreated (not chlorinated or boiled) surface water or stream water.
- Wash hands well with soap and water after using the bathroom, changing diapers or handling pets, including animals at petting zoos. Make sure children wash their hands well after going to the bathroom or handling pets.



This reminder follows a recent increase in [Campylobacter](#) infections in Sacramento County. Campylobacter is one of the most common bacterial causes of foodborne illness in the United States.

Campylobacter infections can result from eating undercooked poultry, consuming unpasteurized dairy products, drinking contaminated water or allowing raw meat and poultry juices to contaminate ready-to-eat foods. Symptoms often include diarrhea, stomach cramps, fever, nausea and vomiting.



Tell data brokers to DROP you

The State of California is launching a new program that will allow you to block data brokers from using and selling your personal information. This new service is called [DROP](#), the acronym for Delete Request and Opt-out Platform.

According to the DROP website, this new service gives you more control over your data. By using it, you can tell data brokers to delete and not sell your personal information.

Data brokers collect a wide range of your personal information, which may include your social security number, data about your children and search history. According to the

DROP site, signing up for the service will prevent your data from being sold and stop unwanted texts, calls or emails.

In addition, DROP's goal is to decrease your risk of identity theft, fraud, AI impersonations or allowing your data to be leaked or hacked.

If you choose to use the system, you first will be asked to verify that you are a California resident by filling out a form and responding to a standard verification process. In some cases, you also may submit a DROP request for someone else, such as your child or an elderly relative.

You may want to be prepared to provide additional information that you can gather in advance to maximize the benefit of the service. These optional items include your:

- Mobile advertising ID (MAID)
- Connected TV ID
- Vehicle identification number (VIN)

To learn how to find that information, visit [Unique identifiers](#)

Check your status

Starting in August, data brokers will process deletion requests at least every 45 days. You can check your DROP request status after that.

DROP statuses include:

- Deleted — Data brokers have deleted your data and will no longer sell your information. However, they are allowed to keep some information because that is exempt by law.
- Exempted — Data brokers are allowed by law to keep the information they have about you because it is all exempt. This data can include public records or certain health information, but it may still be protected under other laws.
- Opted-out — Data brokers couldn't make an exact match based upon the information you provided. For now, these data brokers still have your data, but can no longer sell it.
- Record not found — Data brokers may not have information about you or could not locate you based on the information you provided.
- Pending — Data brokers haven't processed your deletion request yet. Under the law, data brokers may take up to 90 days to report back how they processed your request.

For more information, go to <https://privacy.ca.gov/>

Microplastics and your health

Stanford Medicine has published an article about the potential health risks of the vast amount of microplastics in our environment, including our food, water, clothing and the air we breathe.

According to [Desiree LaBeaud](#), MD, a pediatric infectious diseases physician at Stanford Medicine who co-founded the university's interdisciplinary [Plastics and Health Working Group](#), "microplastic particles have been found in multiple organs and tissues, including the brain, testicles, heart, stomach, lymph nodes and placenta. They've also been detected in urine, breastmilk, semen and meconium, which is a newborn's first stool. "We're born pre-polluted," LaBeaud said."

The article further stated that "evidence is growing that this exposure could be harmful. Studies show that microplastics make fish and birds more vulnerable to infections. Animal and cellular studies have linked microplastics to biological changes including inflammation, an impaired immune system, deteriorated tissues, altered metabolic

function, abnormal organ development, cell damage and more. A recent large-scale review of existing research by scholars at the University of California, San Francisco, concluded that exposure to microplastics is suspected to harm reproductive, digestive and respiratory health and suggested a link to colon and lung cancer."

The article notes that microplastics are so ubiquitous that they are unavoidable. However, exposure can be reduced by making changes in daily life. "All of us need to stop using plastic as much as we can to protect our health, especially single-use plastics," LaBeaud said.

"She suggests avoiding nonstick and plastic cookware, wearing clothes made of natural fibers, and seeking out plastic-free toiletries and cosmetics. She opts for peanut butter and beverages in glass jars and cooks at home as much as possible; when ordering out, she asks restaurants to put food in a glass container she brings along. She recommends foil instead of plastic wrap and metal or wooden toys for babies and small children.

"Heat likely increases leaching, so hand-washing plastic items and not using plastic containers to reheat food in the microwave is encouraged. Wear and tear may also increase exposure to particles, so it is considered wise to not reuse degraded plastic items.

"Living a healthy lifestyle, including adequate sleep, a balanced diet and reducing stress, may also help. "Just because you have a little plastic in you doesn't necessarily mean doomsday," Meister said. "Giving your body the best shot to deal with whatever might come along is the best you can do."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article.

Member Q&A

Q: Is there some way I can contact our patrol deputy by telephone?

A: Unfortunately, no. Because our deputies come from stations all around the county, it is difficult to provide them with a single dedicated cell phone. Instead, log into the website, go to the "Members Only" menu, click on the "Contact Patrol Deputy" link, then fill out the form and send your message. If a deputy is on duty, he or she will see it. If there is no deputy on duty at the time, it will be seen by the next deputy who comes on duty.

If your concern is immediate – for instance if you see someone behaving suspiciously – you should contact the Sheriff's Department non-emergency line at (916) 874-5111. To circumvent the phone's recordings, dial zero (0) as soon as the number answers. If you feel you are in imminent danger, call 911 immediately.

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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