



Monthly Newsletter

July 2025

Patrol rate hike won't affect dues

Beginning July 1, the rate WDDNA will be charged by the Sheriff's Department to employ off-duty Sheriff's Department deputies to patrol our streets will increase by approximately 8 percent to \$121.59 per hour, up from the \$112.74 per hour we have been paying since July of last year.

The WDDNA board of directors anticipated this rate hike last year when we increased our dues for the first time in five years. If necessary, we will adjust our patrol schedule to accommodate the increased expense. So, your annual dues will not increase for 2026, but will remain at the current \$350 rate.

As in the past, you will receive WDDNA's annual dues invoice on Nov. 1. It will offer the standard early bird discount of \$25, reducing the total bill to \$325, if paid by Dec. 31.

We truly appreciate your continued support of our patrols, which are the only regularly scheduled law enforcement patrols in our neighborhood. Our experienced deputies, many of whom have been with us for years, are keenly familiar with our neighborhood and react quickly when they notice something that is not as it should be. This exceptional level of professional, responsive service would not be possible without your generous support.

Thank you for helping ensure that our neighborhood remains one of the safest in Sacramento County.

Be sure to report neighborhood crime

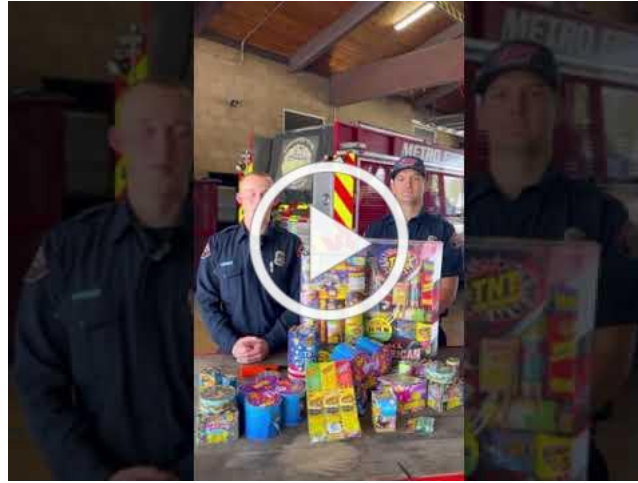
While our deputies are able to respond within minutes when they receive reports of suspicious or criminal activity, they cannot be everywhere all at once and we do not have shifts 24/7. So, deputies also rely heavily on information supplied by our members.

If you see highly suspicious activity or if you have been the victim of a crime, be sure to report it as follows:

- To provide information that will help our deputies know of particular areas to keep an eye on, you should login to the website and send your information via the "Contact Patrol Officer" link on your member page.



- If you see activity that you believe may indicate possible criminal activity, call the Sheriff's Department non-emergency phone line at 916-874-5115. (When the line answers, you can click 0 to get past the recorded messages.) If we have a deputy on duty when you call, he will be dispatched. If not, a deputy from out of the area will be alerted.
 - If you have an emergency – if your life or property is in immediate danger or if you have been the victim of a crime – CALL 911 from a landline. Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.
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Fireworks disposal safety tips

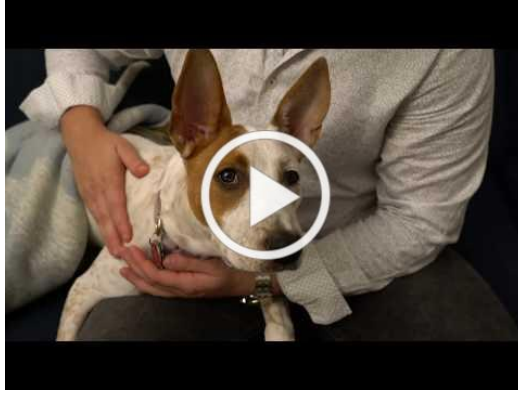
REMINDER: A new county ordinance was recently adopted imposing hefty fines on anyone who uses illegal fireworks on private property or the American River Parkway. The fine for a first offense is \$1,000 for use on your own property or \$10,000 for shooting them off within the American River Parkway.

Even if you wisely choose to use “safe and sane” fireworks for the coming holiday, following are the recommendations of [Sacramento County's Waste Management](#) officials for disposing of them when you are done:

Used or “dud” fireworks – Place used fireworks into a bucket of water for at least an hour to be sure they are cold and thoroughly saturated, then seal them into a plastic bag and place them in your garbage cart, not in the recycle bin.

Unused fireworks – If you have old or unwanted fireworks that have never been used, submerge them completely in water overnight. Then DOUBLE BAG them in plastic and dispose of them

If you have any large fireworks that you believe may be illegal, you may contact our patrol deputies at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com or call the Sheriff's Department's non-emergency number at (916) 874-5115. A deputy will pick them up and properly dispose of them.



Fireworks and your pet

According to Purina pet foods, more pets run away on the Fourth of July than any other day of the year. So, it's critical to ensure people can identify your dog and contact you if he runs off out of fear. Getting him microchipped is a smart decision. It's also a good idea to attach identification tags to his collar.

On and around the Fourth of July, the ASPCA [Animal Poison Control Center \(APCC\)](#) sees an increase in calls concerning pets who have ingested fireworks or are having issues due to the loud noises they make. The organization offers these tips:

If your pet has a fear of or aversion to loud noises

- Turning on some soft music and moving your pet into an interior room with no windows can be helpful.
- If you and your veterinarian decide that anti-anxiety medication is warranted, give a practice dose of the medication before the big night to see how your pet responds to it. Second, never share the medication with another pet or give more than the recommended amount.
- While noise phobias are not as common in cats, they can and do happen. Fortunately, cats tend to hide when frightened. Checking in on your cats, having some quiet music on and keeping them indoors during the height of the fireworks is always a good idea.

Some dogs will eat anything — including fireworks! Fireworks contain several types of chemicals and heavy metals. So, if you set off fireworks at home, make sure you thoroughly clean up the area before letting your dog have access to it.

Purina also has offered tips to help your dog weather the frightening sound of fireworks.

- **Keep Him Inside:** Even if your dog spends most of his time outdoors, bring him inside during firework displays. This will prevent him from running away.
- **Create a Safe Space:** If your dog is crate-trained, make his crate available, as that's probably already a safe space for him. If not, put him in a bathroom or other small room with music or white noise to help drown out the boom of fireworks. Bringing his bed, blankets and toys into the room can make him feel more comfortable.
- **Try a Calming Wrap:** Calming wraps, vests and shirts apply light, constant pressure. Many dogs find this soothing and calming.

Grill safety tips

Before starting your grill for the Fourth of July celebration, there are several safety precautions Sacramento Metro Fire suggests you keep in mind to prevent possible gas explosions or fires.

Many accidents occur after the grill has been unused over a period of time or after a grill's LP gas container has been refilled and reattached.



SAFETY CHECKS FOR THE GRILL

- 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 (CO) and fire hazards. 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, such as 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 connecting, 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.

To download a copy of a gas grill safety brochure, [CLICK HERE](#).

Real ID scams

As you know, if you want to use your driver's license to fly, you'll need a REAL ID. If you don't have one yet, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is the only place to go.

However, there are reports that some scammers are pretending to be the DMV or other government agencies. These "officials" are sending messages saying you can skip the line if you pay or give them information.



Here's how that scam works so you can avoid it. You get an unexpected text or email from someone who says they're from the DMV or the Department of Homeland Security. They say you can skip the line and expedite your application for a REAL ID. You just have to click a link to share your information and pay, they say.

This is a phishing scam designed to steal your money or your personal information.

To avoid a scam like this:

- **Remember that the only way to obtain a REAL ID is by going to the DMV in person.** You cannot submit an application online or in the mail. Nobody can expedite the process for you.
- **Don't click links in unexpected texts or emails** and don't respond to them. If you think the message could be legit, contact the DMV directly.

If you get an unwanted message, use your phone's "report junk" option or forward unwanted texts to [7726 \(SPAM\)](tel:7726) and unwanted emails to your email provider.

And if you spot a scam, report it to the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov).

Avoid travel website scams

From the Federal Trade Commission

Some scammers have been setting up websites advertising free or cheap travel deals. Learn to spot these sites and other schemes designed to steal your money and personal information.

As you're searching online, look for these signs of a scam: Offers for a "free" vacation – but you have to pay fees or taxes to get it. Or a site advertises premium vacation packages at deeply discounted prices you can't find anywhere else.

As you're checking emails, know that scammers send phishing emails with travel offers that look like they're from an airline or hotel you recognize, hoping you'll click and visit their website. If you click through, scammers will ask for your personal information in exchange for details about their "great" deals. If you share your information, they could steal your money or use your accounts to buy things.

To avoid scam travel websites:

- **Do some research.** Look up the name of the travel site, plus words like “scam,” “review,” or “complaint” before you take their deal.
- **Don’t click on links in unexpected emails or texts.** Even if a travel deal looks like it’s from an airline or hotel you recognize, look carefully at the URL before you click. Instead, check the real company’s website directly to see if the deal is real. But type in the URL yourself; don’t click the link.
- **Pay attention to how they require you to pay.** Don’t pay with wire transfers (like Western Union or MoneyGram), gift cards or cryptocurrency. Any travel site that demands you pay in one of these ways is a sign of a scam.

Learn more at ftc.gov/TravelScams. Spot a scam? Tell the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

Member Q&A

Q: What regulations govern curbside fruit vendors such as the one who often sets up on American River Drive?

A: WDDNA interviewed a variety of county officials, who provided the following information:

- There is no requirement that transient roadside fruit vendors obtain a business license and the county does not issue such licenses.
 - There are no zoning regulations specifically addressing the issue of street-side fruit vendors and code enforcement officials are not tasked with monitoring or abating them. The only exception would be in the case of vendors who set up on and block a public right-of-way.
 - The primary agency charged with overseeing food safety through permitting and inspection of retail food vendors is the [Sacramento County Department of Environmental Management](#). Vendors are required to obtain a permit from the EMD and adhere to various food safety regulatory requirements. Such regulations are enforced by EMD inspectors. For information, go to the EMD website or call (916) 875-8484.
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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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US

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