

O'Fallon Police

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter – January 2020



The [O'Fallon Fraternal Order of Police](#) lodge hosted its annual **Cops & Kids** event on December 8. Thanks to the generous support of sponsors in our community, members took 42 children from 37 families shopping for Christmas gifts. We bought clothes, boots, bedding, electronics, bicycles, and LOTS of toys. Officers escorted the children on their shopping trip with a budget of \$250 each and additionally each family received a \$100 gift card.



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make OPD's annual **Breakfast With Santa** a huge success! Over 350 people enjoyed free breakfast, arts & crafts, and got their photo with Santa.



Donations collected at the event included **3 Large boxes of Toys** for "Toys For Tots" and a **Police SUV FULL of canned goods** for the O'Fallon Food Pantry! More photos can be viewed at <http://breakfastwithsanta.blogspot.com/>



Please join us in congratulating our
2019 Public Safety Employees of the Year!

Pictured left to right:

Officer of the Year - **Justin Ellis**
EMS Employee of the Year - **Nick Fensom**
Civilian Employee of the Year - **Leah Wilson**

Thank you for your outstanding contribution to our department. Most importantly, thank you for your dedication and service to our community!



Winter Driving Safety

For more tips visit:

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/winter-driving-tips#winter-driving-tips-road>

Driving safely in winter weather can be a challenge for even the most experienced driver. It's easy to forget after months of mild conditions that snow and ice demand careful driving and special preparation for your vehicle. But when 17 percent of all vehicle crashes occur during winter conditions it's clear that we could all use a refresher when it comes to making our way through a winter wonderland.

Ready Your Vehicle

Driving safely begins before you even get on the road. Regular tune-ups and maintenance are the starting point for safe driving year-round. In winter, pay special attention to your vehicle's battery, wipers, coolant, tires and other systems that can take a beating when the temperature drops. If you're using snow tires, have them installed before the snow begins to fall. When you know your vehicle is ready for the road, clear your car of snow, ice or dirt from the windows, forward sensors, headlights, tail lights and backup camera.

Ready Yourself

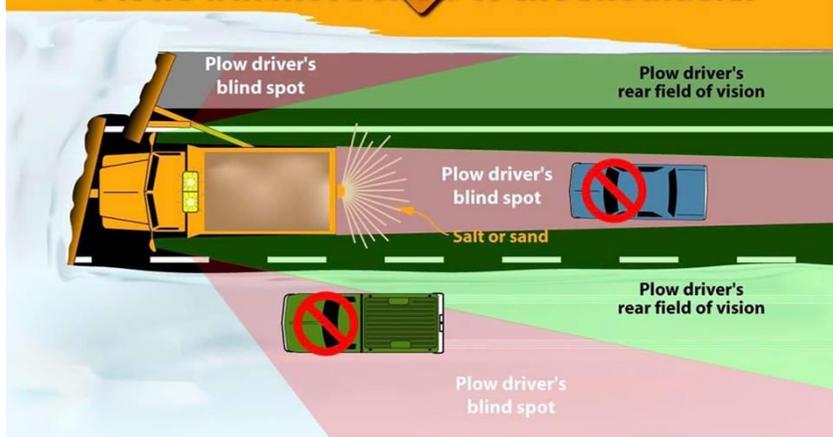
Drive slowly. It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on a slick or snow-covered road. Increase your following distance enough so that you'll have plenty of time to stop for vehicles ahead of you. Also remember that every vehicle handles differently; this is particularly true when driving on wet, icy, or snowy roads. Take the time to learn how it handles under winter weather driving conditions. Before heading out, know the weather and traffic conditions, and plan your route accordingly. Give yourself more time to get where you're going because you'll be driving more slowly in inclement weather.

Always wear your seatbelt and make sure all passengers are properly restrained. Put the phone away and keep your eyes on the road.

* Tips courtesy of www.nhtsa.gov/

**Use caution when approaching a snowplow.
Snowplows typically operate at 25-35 mph.**

**Never pass on the shoulder side of a plow.
Plows will move snow to the shoulders.**



**Don't assume plow drivers see you.
Their fields of vision are limited.**

Understanding Illinois' Cannabis Law Changes 2020

Additional useful information can be found at <https://iml.org/cannabis>

Recently there have been changes in Illinois Law pertaining to the possession and use of Cannabis.

Possession of Cannabis (Illinois Resident)

- 21 Years or older
- 30 grams of cannabis flower
- No more than 500 milligrams of THC contained in cannabis infused product
- 5 grams of cannabis concentrate
- Identification may be required to prove age.

Out of State Residents

- 21 Years or older
- 2.5 grams of cannabis concentrate
- 250 milligrams of THC in cannabis infused product
- 15 grams of cannabis flower
- Illinois does not recognize medical cannabis cards from other states

Under Age 21

- No one under age 21 may possess cannabis or cannabis infused products.
- A violation is a civil violation punishable by a fine.
- A person under age 21 may have his/her license suspended for possession or use of cannabis products in a motor vehicle. **NOTE:** This applies to a passenger as well as a driver

Parents / Adults

It is unlawful for a parent or guardian to allow a person under age 21 to use cannabis products in their home, vehicles or property. This is a Class A misdemeanor with a fine between \$500-2500. If the use of cannabis results in death or great bodily harm, a violation is a class 4 felony.

Possession of Adult Use

Cannabis in a Motor Vehicle

- (a) No driver may use cannabis within the passenger area of any motor vehicle upon a highway in this State.
- (b) No driver may possess cannabis within any area of any motor vehicle upon a highway in this State except in a **sealed, odor-proof, child-resistant cannabis container.**
- (c) No passenger may possess cannabis within any passenger area of any motor vehicle upon a highway in this State except in a **sealed, odor-proof, child-resistant cannabis container.**
- (d) Any person who knowingly violates subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this Section commits a Class A misdemeanor.

Growing / Cultivation

Only those with a Medical Cannabis Card may grow and cultivate cannabis plants.

Possession of Medical Cannabis in a Motor Vehicle

- Driver may not use medical cannabis within the passenger area of a motor vehicle upon a highway in this State.
- Driver and passenger may not possess medical cannabis within any area of any motor vehicle upon a highway in this State except in a sealed, odor-proof, and child-resistant medical cannabis container.

Restrictions on Use of Cannabis Products

- In **any** public place
- In any school bus, on the grounds of any preschool, primary or secondary school
- In any motor vehicle, on a roadway in this state or a public place
- In a private residence that is used at **any time** to provide licensed day care
- In any place where smoking is prohibited
- A person who has a school bus permit or CDL while on duty
- In close physical proximity to anyone under the age of 21 who is not a registered medical cannabis patient
- A property owner/manager may restrict the use of cannabis on his/her property. This includes apartment complexes and rental homes
- A driver is still subject the provisions of driving under the influence

STATUTORY REFERENCES:

Cannabis Control Act
720 ILCS 550/4

Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act
410 ILCS 705

Possession of Adult Use Cannabis
in a Motor Vehicle
625 ILCS 5/11-502.15

Driving Under the Influence
625 ILCS 5/11-501(a)(7)



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



Heating equipment is involved in **1 in every 7** home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows, and as far away** from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.



O'Fallon Fire Rescue reminds residents to exercise fire safety this winter.

For more Fire Prevention tips, visit <https://www.ofallonfire.com/fire-safety-tips> and <https://www.nfpa.org/winter>



CPR TRAINING



Get certified. Save a life. You'll be glad you did.

O'Fallon EMS offers **monthly CPR classes for anyone**, such as employees in the workplace, day care employees, babysitters, family members of patients at high risk for sudden cardiac death and others who may have a need to respond to an emergency. First Aid training teaches how to recognize and treat life-threatening emergencies such as cardiac arrest, stroke, allergic reactions in adults, children, and infant victims.

These courses are **not** intended for Healthcare Providers such as doctors, nurses, or EMS.

Visit www.ofallon.org/emergency-medical-services/pages/cpr-course-information to register for the following available dates:

01/09/20	02/06/20
03/05/20	04/02/20
05/07/20	06/04/20
07/02/20	08/06/20
09/03/20	10/01/20
11/05/20	12/03/20