



TOWER LAKES POLICE DEPARTMENT

In This Issue

Message from the Chief

New Laws for 2012

New Officers

Winter driving safety

Tips for driving in the snow



A Message from the Chief

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. 2011 ended with a low volume of crime in Tower Lakes, and as always I would like to thank everyone for working with the police department in helping us solve crime.

This year I am also introducing our police department's quarterly newsletter, "THE BLUE LINE". I am hoping that this newsletter will be informative to all. The BLUE LINE will have crime prevention information, crime news, new laws,

officer introductions and Bio's, etc. If you have any recommendations or input, please don't hesitate to contact me. The BLUE LINE can also be found on-line at "<http://www.villageoftowerlakes.com>" located under Village information, Police, Fire, 911.

New Laws take effect for 2012



BUCKLE UP, BACK SEAT RIDERS

As of Jan. 1, adults riding in the back seat of a vehicle without being buckled in could be ticketed and fined. House Bill 219, sponsored by [the late State Rep. Mark Beaubien, Jr.](#) (R-Barrington Hills), states that [failure to comply with the new law could result in a fine of up to \\$25](#). Prior to the law, only the front-seat passenger and driver were required to buckle up. Illinois is the 26th state to approve such a law.

Gov. Pat Quinn approved the law in

June alongside another piece of legislation which makes it illegal for passengers to ride in trailers, wagons and other similar vehicles being towed on highways.

DISCARD ELECTRONICS WITH CARE

The state's newly expanded Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act, approved in August, goes into effect at the start of the year, a law that outlines 13 electronic products that are illegal to throw out in a landfill.

As ABC Chicago reports, outlawed products [include televisions, laptops, digital converter boxes, printers, computer keyboards, DVD players and digital music players](#). First-time offenders face a \$25 fee.

SCHOOLS CAN TAKE ON WEB BULLYING

House Bill 3281, sponsored by state Rep. Dwight Kay (R-Glen Carbon) goes into effect Sunday and allows school boards and administrators to suspend or even expel a student who

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”

William James

New Laws take effect for 2012 (continued)

threatens another student or a school employee via the Internet.

"Bullying no longer takes place only at school," Kay told the Belleville News-Democrat of the new law. "Bullies use the Internet to follow their victim home and harass them through social networking. This bill gives school boards and administrators a way

to deal with online threats from students towards other students, faculty or anyone else."

RUN A RED LIGHT, BIKERS? YOU'RE OK

Motorcycles and bicycles, often not heavy enough to trigger sensors that switch traffic lights from red to green, will now be allowed to legally pass through that light after waiting

two minutes.

Previously, the riders would have had to wait for another vehicle to arrive at the traffic light to set off the sensor, as WJBC reports. The measure was sponsored by State Rep. Dan Beiser (D-Alton).

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE 214 NEW LAWS IN ILLINOIS FOR 2012. GO TO WWW.ILGA.GOV TO VIEW ALL 214 NEW LAWS IN ILLINOIS

New Officers



Officer John Kedzie joined the Tower Lakes Police Department in September of 2011. Officer Kedzie retired from the Glendale Heights police department after 31 years of dedicated police service. He has served in all aspects of policing and brings a wealth of information and credentials along with him.

Investigator Robert Agnes

joined the Tower Lakes Police Department in November 2011. Retired as a Police Sergeant from Cook County, Investigator Agnes brings with over 30 years of professional law enforcement, management and investigative experience.



Winter Driving Safety

TOWER LAKES POLICE
400 N. State Route 59
Tower Lakes, IL 60010

Sam Sinacore
Chief of Police

(847) 526-0444
Administration
Fax (847) 526-0489
Emergency 911



Avoid driving while you're fatigued. Getting the proper amount of rest before taking on winter weather tasks reduces driving risks.

Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.

Make certain your

tires are properly inflated.

Never mix radial tires with other tire types.

Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-up.

If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather.

Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).

Always look and steer where you want to go.

Use your seat belt every time you get into your vehicle.

Tips for driving in the snow

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- Drive slowly. Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, and turning - nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.
- The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to ten seconds. This increased margin of safety will provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.
- Know your brakes. Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold breaking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.
- Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible.
- Don't stop going up a hill. There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some inertia going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.
- Stay home. If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.

