

Town of Menasha Police Department



2008 Annual Report



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Welcome from the Chief

I am pleased to present our 2008 Annual Report. I hope this report gives you insight into the operations and accomplishments of the Town of Menasha Police Department. We are committed to providing quality services to the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the Town of Menasha and to maintain the high quality of life our community deserves.

I am consistently proud of the wonderful work of the men and women of the Town of Menasha Police Department. Quite clearly the public also recognizes and appreciates what we do as an organization. We know this from an ongoing citizen's survey that is given to persons that have contact with the Town of Menasha Police Department.

Our major accomplishments for 2008 included our 5th annual National Night Out Rally and the creation of a chronic nuisance ordinance. NNO is an annual event that is festive in nature. The event exposes the attendees to all functions of town government. Although it is festive in nature, there is strong emphasis on crime prevention and safety issues. The highlight of the event was giving away free bicycle helmets to children.

The second major accomplishment of 2008 was the creation of an abatement program through the adoption of a nuisance ordinance. Research had shown that during the course of a year, officers had been responding to certain addresses and dealing with the same people time and time again. A vast majority of these situations involved landlord-tenant situations. As a result of this ordinance, we have been successful in getting several of these persons evicted from their residence which has in turn decreased the number of repetitive calls to that address thus, making more efficient use of police resources.

The Town of Menasha Police Department does face a challenge in the future. That challenge involves providing quality services to a growing community with limited resources to work with. There is no doubt that the state of the economy affects everyone. A significant goal of the Town of Menasha Police Department will be to find innovative ways to improve efficiency so the same quality of services town residents expect and deserve can be maintained.

Finally, I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Menasha for their continued support. It is through corroboration and cooperation that the community and the police department work together to keep our community a safe one. Although crime does occur in the Town of Menasha, one only needs to look at the Crime Clock to appreciate the safe community in which we live.

Chief Rod McCants

Working with our community



Mission Statement

The Town of Menasha Police Department exists for the purpose of providing an enhanced level of public safety in the community, protecting the constitutional rights of all people, and improving the quality of life of each citizen.

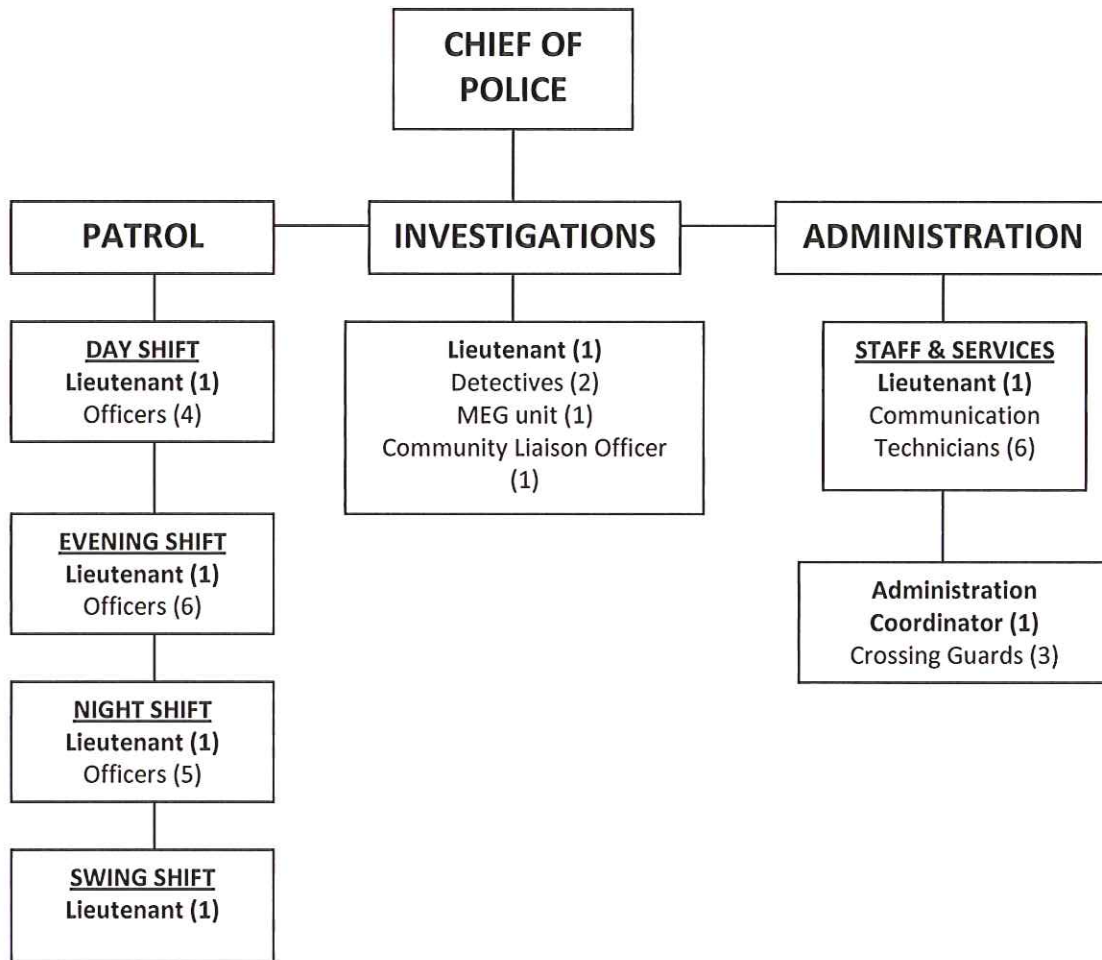
We are committed to:

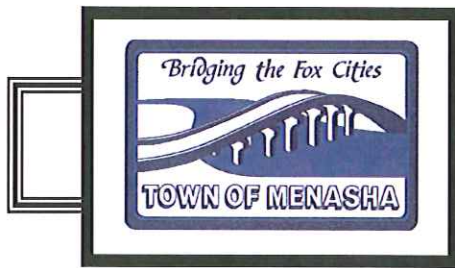
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Openness
- Planning for the future
- Providing leadership to the police profession

Working with our community



Organizational Chart





Community Profile

The Town of Menasha lies in the "Fox Cities" area of Wisconsin, near the northwest corner of Lake Winnebago, about thirty minutes southwest of Green Bay. The Town of Menasha has enjoyed steady growth for many years, and is presently the second largest township in Wisconsin with a population of over 17,000.

The Town of Menasha has a service area of 12.3 square miles that includes two major federal highways that intersect within those boundaries. Approximately 66,000 vehicles cross USH 10 each day, and another 91,000 vehicles travel on USH 41 each day. In addition, the Town of Menasha maintains approximately 100 miles of local roadways.

The agency has a variety of zoning types within its jurisdiction, ranging from industrial/commercial to agricultural/residential. The economy of the area is based upon the paper industry and the town is home to many large corporations including Pierce Manufacturing, Kimberly Clark, SCA Tissue, CelluTissue, Outlook Corp., Great Northern and many other great businesses.

The police department is a full service police department employing 26 sworn officers and 7 civilian employees with a \$2.8 million dollar budget.



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Sworn Personnel

Chief of Police	Rodney McCants
Lieutenant/Investigations	Douglas Jahsman
Lieutenant/Administrative	Tim Seaver
Lieutenant/Patrol	Scott Blashka Michael Krueger Rick Leneau Pete DeBoer
Detectives	Jerome Lingnofski Christopher Anderson Jason Feucht
Community Liaison Officer	Jason Weber
Officers	Thomas Tralongo Gary Cutler Scott Boehlen Gerard Stephanie Daniel Wiechman John Swenson Christine Williams Christopher LaSage Timothy Callan Seely Moe Christopher Brandt Megan Hickey Michael Weinberger Jeremiah Gustafson Scott Farrell



Civilian Personnel

Police Administrative Coordinator	Kathleen L. Hales
Records Tech. I	Linda L. Pagel
Communications Tech. I	Erin L. LeMahieu Angela V. Oppor Theresa M. Coenen Nicole S. Schettle Christy A. Wickert
Crossing Guards	Jacquelyn Lovejoy Harold Steffen Harland Goldschmidt Joe Nowak
Police Commission	Michael Lettier David McFadden Robert Weyenberg Joseph Reidel William Van Eeckhout



Patrol Division

The patrol division is the backbone of the police department. This division is responsible for handling a majority of the many emergency and non-emergency calls received each year, along with enforcing traffic laws on the freeways and roadways throughout the Town of Menasha.

The Town of Menasha presently has 15 officers and 4 lieutenants that are assigned to this division. These officers are then split among 4 patrol shifts, each with a lieutenant, that provide coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. At any given time there are between 3 and 5 officers working each shift, depending on the time of day.

Officers primarily conduct their patrols from police cars. The Town of Menasha utilizes six marked patrol vehicles. This has traditionally been the primary means of providing police services, but we have also initiated alternative patrol methods.

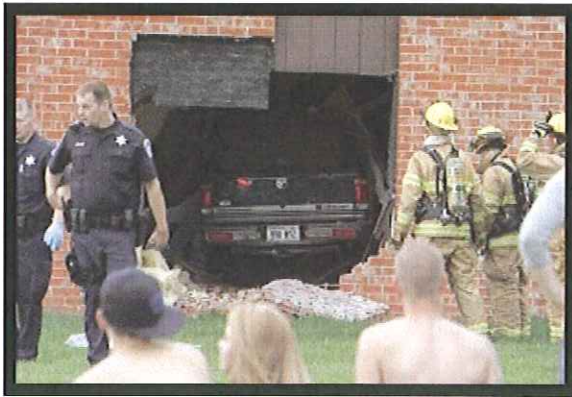
Our officers also get out of their patrol cars and will either patrol certain areas of the town on bicycle or foot. These efforts afford the officers the opportunity to interact more freely with the residents outside of the "confines" of a patrol car. Officers are also periodically assigned to a specialized directed patrol. This places officers in certain areas of the town due to a high call volume.



Working with our community

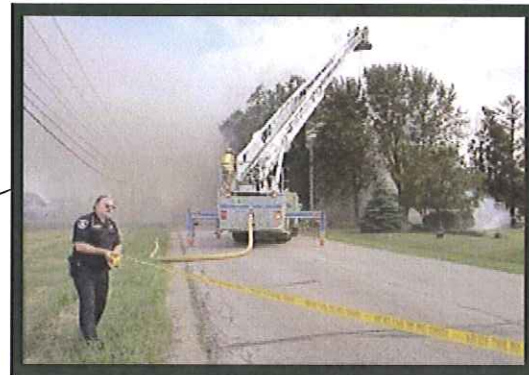


Patrol Division



August 3, 2008 4:43pm

Officers respond to a vehicle that lost control, driving through an apartment building, nearly striking the resident.



June 19, 2008 5:57pm

Officers respond to a fire that destroyed a century old building.



October 1, 2008 9:20am

Officers respond to an accident involving a semi truck and vehicle.



July 31, 2008 6:47pm

Officers make several drug arrests in a community policing project to cleanup a local apartment complex.

Working with our community



Investigation Division

Criminal investigations are an important aspect of the services that we provide. Each Town of Menasha police officer has received training to conduct thorough and complete investigations. Officers routinely conduct investigations and frequently resolve the issue with no additional assistance. Those investigations that require additional or technical assistance are forwarded to the Investigation Division.

The Town of Menasha Police Department Detective Division consists of 1 lieutenant, 2 detectives and 1 MEG drug unit investigator. The department also has an officer that is trained as an evidence technician to provide forensic assistance in these investigations. The Investigation Division is responsible for investigative follow-up and criminal case preparation related to the prosecution of persons suspected of committing crimes and arresting persons suspected of committing crimes.

The Investigation Division works closely with the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office as well as many other agencies both locally and nationally. Our investigators meet regularly with other Fox Valley agencies to share and obtain information regarding criminal activity in and around the Town of Menasha.

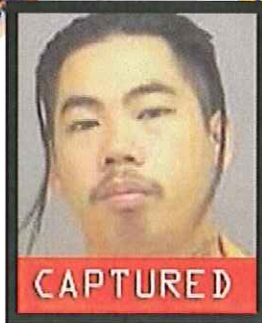
The Town of Menasha Police Department strives to conduct thorough investigations and as a result, maintains a clearance rate above that of the state and national average.



Working with our community



Investigation Division



July 30, 2008

On September 21, 2006 Chuckie Vang fires 5 rounds from a handgun into a hotel room, striking 3 victims hiding in fear and flees the area.

Detectives begin diligently searching down leads trying to locate Vang. Vang was ultimately profiled on America's Most Wanted in April 2008 and was captured in Fresno, CA on July 30, 2008 with the assistance of the FBI and Fresno PD.

Vang was brought back to Wisconsin to face 3 charges of attempted 1st degree homicide. Vang pleads guilty and receives a lengthy prison sentence.

March – July 2008

Fox Valley law enforcement agencies saw a rash of business burglaries, between March and July, including 3 in the Town of Menasha. Detectives throughout the Fox Valley begin comparing notes and develop leads on possible suspects. These suspects were arrested in Northern Wisconsin in August for another burglary.

Town of Menasha detectives interviewed these suspects which led to charges in 13 burglaries throughout Winnebago and Outagamie counties.

April 2008

A Town of Menasha business reports that some of their product has surfaced on an internet auction site without their knowledge.

Detectives begin an investigation that leads to the discovery of approximately \$80,000 worth of product missing from the business over the course of several years.

Through their investigation, detectives were able to charge an employee with these thefts.



Communication & Records

The Town of Menasha Police Department's Communication and Records Division serves the citizens in a variety of ways. This division is open to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This division is generally the first point of contact the public has with the police department. Communication Technicians are those employees who receive the public's phone calls and greet those that come into the lobby.

In addition to serving the citizens of the Town of Menasha, the Communications and Records Division provides support to our sworn personnel. The division monitors cameras placed in and around the municipal complex, and routinely provides searches of Federal, State, and local databases to assist officers with locating information that is pertinent to their cases and investigations.

In addition to searching these databases, the Communications and Records Division is responsible for maintaining the information that is entered into these systems. Information is entered into local, State, and Federal databases, and must be done so in accordance with various laws and system regulations. These entries include missing persons, stolen and recovered articles and vehicles, and arrest warrants. In order to ensure a high standard of accuracy, routine audits are conducted on these systems.

The Communications and Records Division is also responsible for typing all of the officers' dictated reports. Any incident that involves an officer's response and investigation typically will require that officer to dictate a report. These reports are then filed electronically and any attachments are filed in cabinets.



Community Relations

Although a major function of the police department is responding to calls for service and investigating those crimes that are committed, the Town of Menasha Police Department firmly believes in being actively involved in the community.

The police department works collaboratively with other agencies in programs such as:

- **TRICOM** – a Winnebago Countywide coalition of citizens who represent businesses, civic organizations, and schools who work in cooperation with the law enforcement agencies of Winnebago County.
- **S.A.L.T. (Senior and Law Enforcement working Together)** – The police department actively participates in the Northern Winnebago County S.A.L.T. groups' monthly meetings and community presentations.
- **Winnebago Countywide Crime Stoppers** - This is a coalition made up of citizens and businesses whose vision is to encourage community involvement in solving crimes. Crime Stoppers encourages people to assist police in solving crimes by offering rewards.

The Town of Menasha Police Department is also actively involved in the schools and with the youth of our community in programs such as:

- **G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) & CHOICES** – These training programs are aimed at middle school students and focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid using delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. In addition to the school based program, the police department, along with the Neenah and Menasha police departments, sponsors a summer G.R.E.A.T. program.
- **Officer Friendly** – This is another school based program aimed at elementary school students. A police officer visits individual classrooms throughout the year providing safety messages and a positive interaction with the students.

Working with our community



Community Relations

The Town of Menasha Police Department works with the community in a variety of ways. Some of those are highlighted below.

- **Special Olympics** – The Town of Menasha Police Department has been an active supporter of the Special Olympics, routinely participating in the Lock up a Cop and Cops & Lobsters fundraisers. On June 5, 2008, the police department, as it has in the past 3 years, hosted the Fox Valley portion of the Torch Run. Chief McCants participated in this event by bicycling all the way to Waupaca!
- **Neighborhood Watch** – The Town of Menasha presently has 24 neighborhood watch groups. These groups meet throughout the year in a variety of ways. This past year, the police department instituted a “virtual block watch” which is an internet and email based watch whereby information such as crime alerts, newsletters, and prevention information is disseminated to many businesses and residents.
- **National Night Out rally** – For the past five years, the police department has sponsored a town wide “night out” celebration to raise awareness of local anti-crime programs and to also highlight some of the many services that are available to residents. This past year’s event was held on August 4, 2008 and although the weather was not cooperative, we attracted over 500 people!
- **Station tours** – Every year the police department receives many requests for station tours from groups such as daycares and scout organizations. This past year was no different, and patrol officers provided many tours to these groups.
- **Public appearances** – Over the course of 2008, officers spoke to many civic organizations on a variety of law enforcement and prevention topics. Officers also made appearances at several local businesses hosting safety days or grand opening celebrations.
- **Brewer and Packer cards** – For almost 20 years, the police department has been partnering with local businesses in distributing Milwaukee Brewer and Green Bay Packer cards to the youth of our community.

Working with our community



Community Relations

The Town of Menasha Police Department undertook a project this past year to address the nuisance activity that is repeatedly occurring at the same property. This was a multi-faceted approach which included:

- **Chronic Nuisance Ordinance** –initiated a chronic nuisance ordinance to be used as a tool to address these problem properties.
- **Landlord Training** –developed a landlord assistance guidebook and also participated with several other agencies and organizations in a landlord training class.
- **Marketing Campaign** – developed posters and erected a billboard to send a message that criminal activity will not be tolerated.
- **Increased Communication** – initiated a “virtual block watch” program whereby the police department communicates via email/internet to residents, businesses, and landlords about crimes occurring in the area.
- **Cooperation with other agencies** – worked with several law enforcement agencies to form a Fox Valley Abatement team. Also work closely with MEG drug unit and probation and parole agents.
- **High intensity patrol & enforcement** – coordinated a multi-agency operation at a local apartment complex overrun by criminal activity.

As a result, the police department saw a decrease in complaints investigated over the past year and a significant decrease in calls for service at a local apartment complex.

The Wisconsin Association of Community Oriented Policing recognized the Town of Menasha Police Department Police Department as a finalist for the 2008 Sir Robert Peel award.

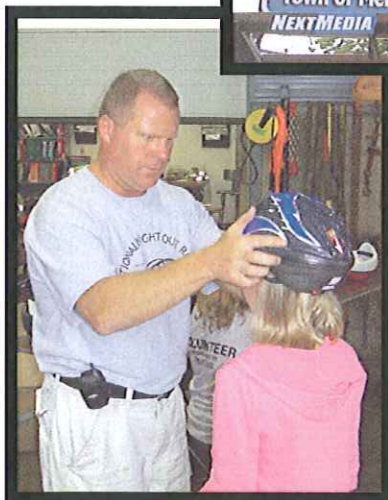
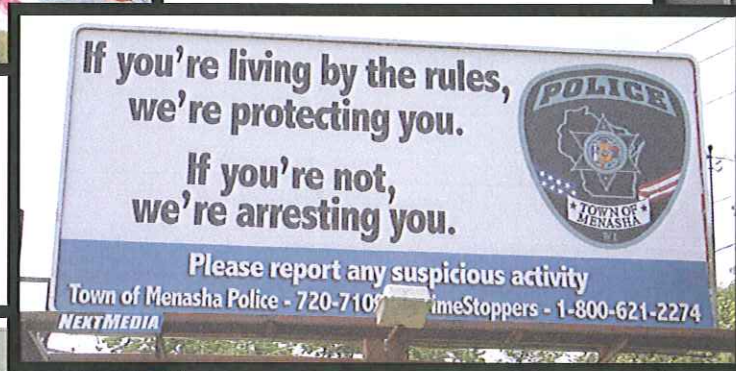


Sir Robert Peel Award

Working with our community



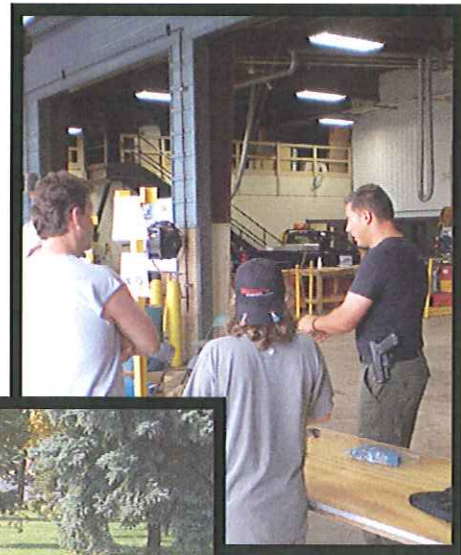
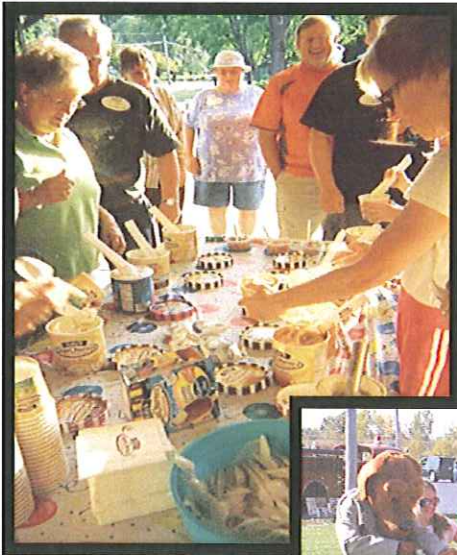
Community Relations



Working with our community



Community Relations



Working with our community

Appendices

Working with our community



Calls for Service

Activity Report 2006 – 2008 Comparison

Incident Type	2008	2007	2006
Complaints	3630	3916	3741
Services & Assists	3758	3499	3135
Traffic Stops	4053	4153	3830
Total	11441	11568	10706

Calls for Service breakdown 2006 – 2008 Comparison

Incident Type	2008	2007	2006
Abandoned Vehicle	23	46	58
Alarm	174	135	159
Animal	205	215	228
Civil	25	36	23
Emergency Committal	90	69	70
Damage to Property	134	186	188
Death	27	24	23
Disturbance	240	225	188
Domestic Disturbance	62	72	69
Drugs	63	57	47
Fraud	45	41	44
Harassment	127	110	87
Juvenile	144	134	170
Lost/Found Property	83	110	80
Missing Person	9	9	7
Noise	136	156	131
Open Door	13	14	43
Ordinance	250	290	226
Runaway	36	36	24
Sex Offenses	14	9	21
Suspicious Inc./Veh./Person	204	246	241
Trespass	7	15	17
Warrant Arrests	170	160	178
Weapon	3	6	7
Welfare Check	108	103	73

The chart above compares the total police activity for 2006 - 2008.

- **Complaints** indicate the number of police reports and investigations done by officers.
- **Services & Assists** indicate the number of times officers have assisted citizens, motorists, other agencies, etc. Many times these incidents do not generate a police report.

The chart to the left is a breakdown of some of the types of complaints officers have investigated.



Crimes & Arrests

Wisconsin Unified Crime Report of Index Offenses Town of Menasha 2004 – 2008 Comparison

	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Violent Crime					
Murder	0	0	0	1	0
Forcible Rape	3	3	4	4	2
Robbery	4	1	3	0	0
Aggravated Assault	17	8	11	7	5
Total Violent	24	12	18	12	7
Clearance Rate	83%	91%	72%	100%	85%
Property Crime					
Burglary	47	55	51	54	44
Theft	185	188	154	138	177
Motor Vehicle Theft	18	8	15	15	9
Arson	0	0	0	1	0
Total Property	250	251	220	208	230
Clearance Rate	38%	29%	31%	46%	24%
Total Index	274	263	238	220	237

This chart compares the crimes reported and cleared (solved).

The statewide clearance rates for 2007 were: 46% for violent crimes and 23% for property crimes.

Arrest Report 2006 – 2008 Comparison

	2008	2007	2006
Prosecution Requests	259	236	254
Juvenile Referrals	68	99	71
Town Summons	385	555	457
Total	712	890	782

This chart outlines the types of arrests made by officers.

- **Prosecution requests and juvenile referrals** are requests to the district attorney's office for state charges.
- **Town summonses** are local ordinance violations.



Traffic Enforcement

Traffic Citations 2006 – 2008 Comparison

	2008	2007	2006
Speeding citations	495	766	485
Non-speeding citations	1382	1392	1181
Parking citations	714	938	866
OWI	106	100	82
Total	2697	3196	2214

Traffic Warnings 2006 – 2008 Comparison

	2008	2007	2006
Speeding warnings	1266	1276	1221
Non-speeding warnings	1327	988	961
Vehicle defect warnings	455	509	504
Total	3048	2773	2696

ACCIDENTS 2006 – 2008 Comparison

	2008	2007	2006
Accidents Investigated	287	199	165

The top charts show the amount of traffic enforcement in the Town of Menasha. It compares the number of citations to the number of warnings issued by officers.

The bottom charts shows the breakdown of the traffic accidents reported.



Crime Clock

Town of Menasha Crime Clock

The Town of Menasha continues to be one of the safest cities in Wisconsin and the Fox Valley. The Town of Menasha experienced a crime rate of only 14 crimes per 1,000 people in 2008.



However, crimes still occur, even in the safest of cities. This chart shows the frequency of crimes in the Town of Menasha as compared to the U.S. and Wisconsin.

Crimes	U.S. One every	WI One every	Town of Menasha One every
Violent Crime	22 sec.	32 min.	15 days
Homicide	31 min.	2 days	0 days
Rape	6 min.	8 hours	4 months
Aggravated Assault	37 sec.	90 min.	21 days
Robbery	1 min.	56 min.	3 months
Property Crime	3.2 sec.	3.3 min.	32 hours
Theft	4.8 sec.	19 min.	2 days
Burglary	14.4 sec.	4 min.	8 days
Auto theft	26.4 sec.	39 min.	20 days