

Fox Crossing Police Department



2019 Annual Report

OUR MISSION

The Fox Crossing 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.

OUR COMMITMENTS



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

In 2019, The Fox Crossing Police Department went through some organizational changes in the administrative division. The patrol division had been dictating their police reports and wirelessly sending the completed dictations in to be typed by the communication technicians. The department began to experiment with a computer program that types the reports, right away, while the officers dictate them. Ultimately, using this program changed the "normal" way we did things for quite some time. The department had a vacant full-time position already in the front office along with the three-quarter time position, therefore the department was able to make better use of the hours and cost by not filling those two positions and instead creating another patrol lieutenant's position. The newly created lieutenant's position would cover for the other lieutenant's vacancy during vacations, sick leave, training, etc. That lieutenant would also work on state accreditation for our agency. Along with the additional lieutenant position, the Village and the police bargaining unit agreed upon the creation of an officer-in-charge (OIC) program, whereas, selected officers will act as an OIC during supervisory vacancies.

The Fox Crossing Police Department had been reporting crime data through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system, and had been striving for the last year to become certified in the Wisconsin Incident-Based Reporting System (WIBRS). On June 18, 2019, the Fox Crossing Police Department received a letter from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Justice, approving our agency as a WIBRS certified agency. With this certification, the Fox Crossing Police Department now plays a key role in continuing a nationwide statistical program that will enhance the quantity, quality, and timeliness of crime data collected from our community. A big thanks for this achievement goes out to our administrative assistant and others who contributed to making this a reality.

November of 2019, finally came with much anticipation for the completion of the Wis 441Tri-County Project. This massive road expansion and addition began in 2012 with the design. Real estate and utility work occurred in 2013 & 2014, and the construction began in 2014. It had been a long time coming, and now that it is complete, the 441/41corridor is a much safer highway and interchange for our community and those passing through. In May, the new interchange was named the Michael G. Ellis Memorial Interchange.

The Fox Crossing Police Department K-9 team was established in 2018, but even in 2019, local businesses continue to contribute, in the way of donations, to help the K-9 program. All of these donations are much appreciated and will help the program continue and keep the costs lower.

Sadly, in 2019, we lost a couple of former officers:

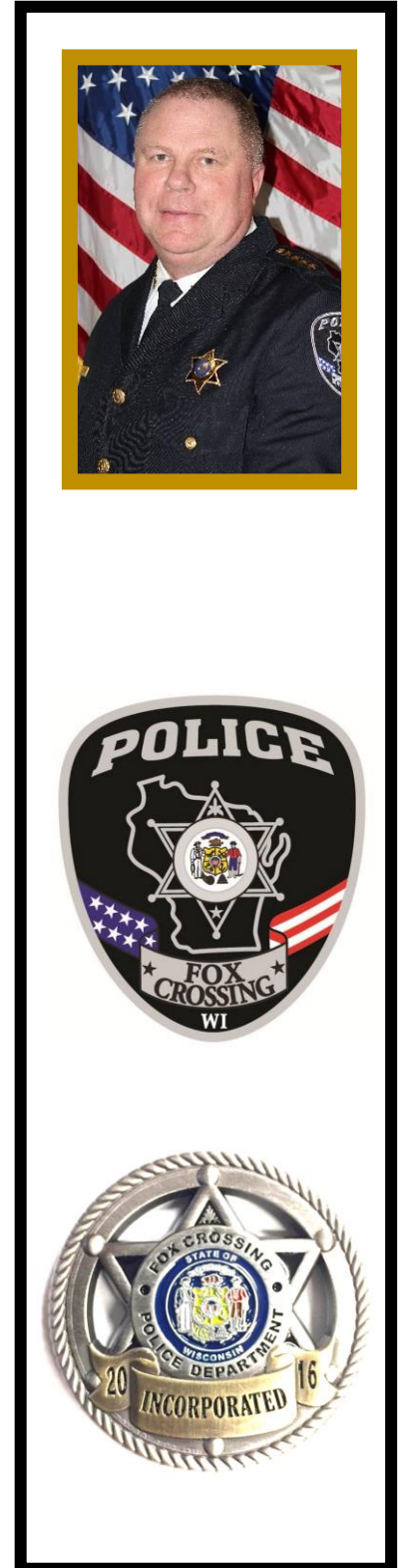
January 23, 2019, Randall Diedrich passed away. Randall achieved the rank of patrol lieutenant and worked for the Village from 1976 to 2002.

October 29, 2019, Robert Weyenberg passed away. Robert was the first constable in the Village and then became a patrolman before achieving the rank of police chief from 1972-1975) Robert was also on the Fox Crossing Police & Fire Commission for approximately 17 years. Both of these men will truly be missed.

We would again like to thank all of the citizens and businesses of the Village of Fox Crossing for their continued support. With our police department working together with the community, we can continue to make our community a safer and enjoyable place to work and live.

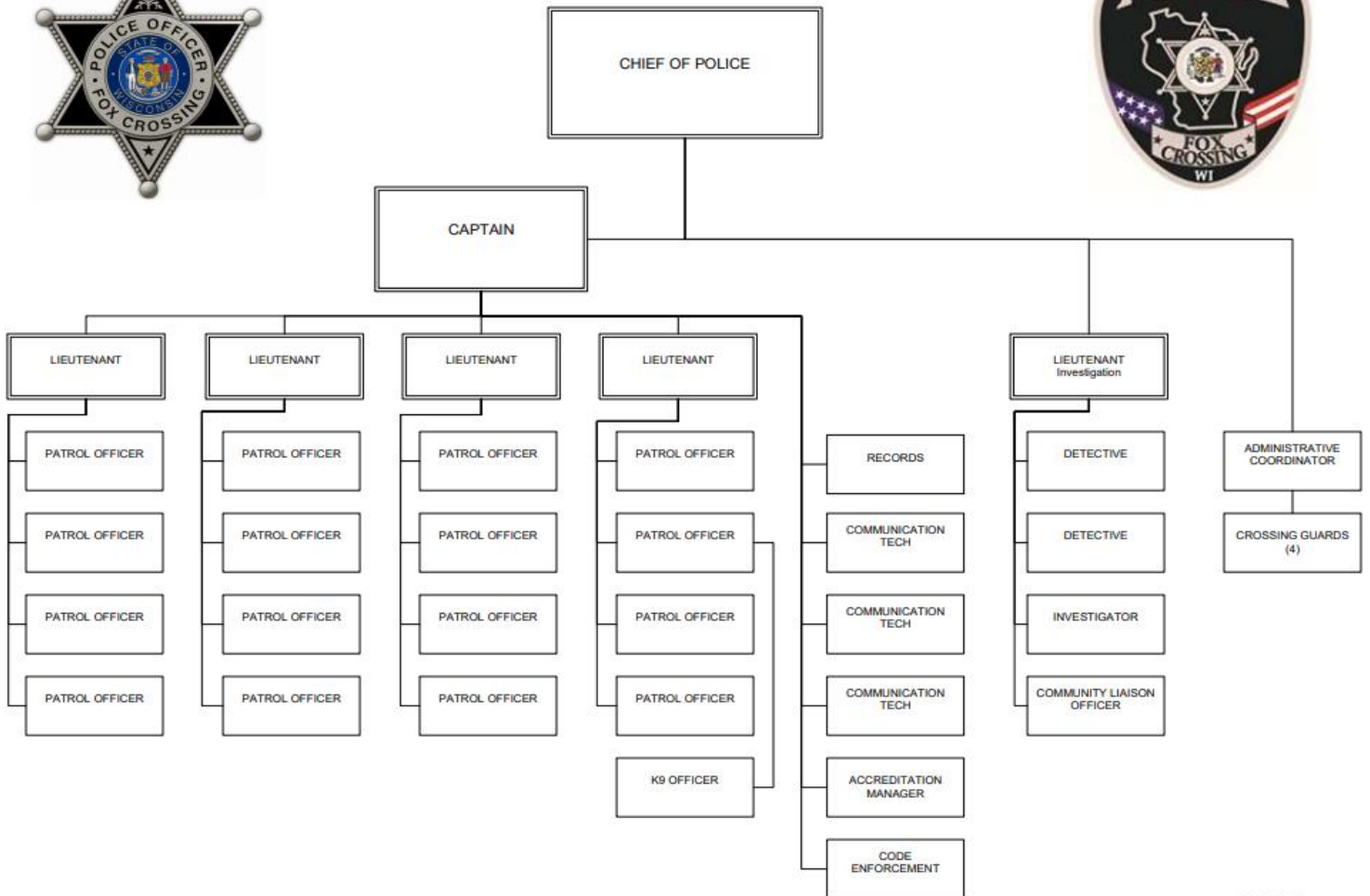


Chief Tim G. Seaver



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

FOX CROSSING POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAIN OF COMMAND



FCPD-71
Revised 11/12/2018

STAFF

SWORN

CHIEF OF POLICE

Tim Seaver

CAPTAIN

Pete DeBoer

INVESTIGATIONS LIEUTENANT

Scott Blashka

PATROL LIEUTENANTS

Rick Leneau

Gary Cutler

Jason Severson

Tim Callan

DETECTIVES

Jason Feucht

Chris Anderson (ret. 04/19)

Megan Hickey

Jeremiah Gustafson

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

Daniel Wiechman

PATROL OFFICERS

Scott Boehlen

Gerard Stephanie

John Swenson

Christopher LaSage

Seely Moe

Christopher Brandt

Scott Farrell

Corey Colburn

Erwin Davis

Corey Haag

Jon Evers

Shawn Glasel

Meredith Birmingham

Alec Lund

Nathan Jack

Dylan Young

CIVILIAN

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Erin LeMahieu

RECORDS TECHNICIAN

JoAnn Richards

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIANS

Angela Oppor

Christy Scott

Kelly Christman

Katrina Konetzke

CROSSING GUARDS

Jacquelyn Lovejoy

Tori Niemuth

Tara Kelbert

Rod McCants

CODE COMPLIANCE

Scott Glasel

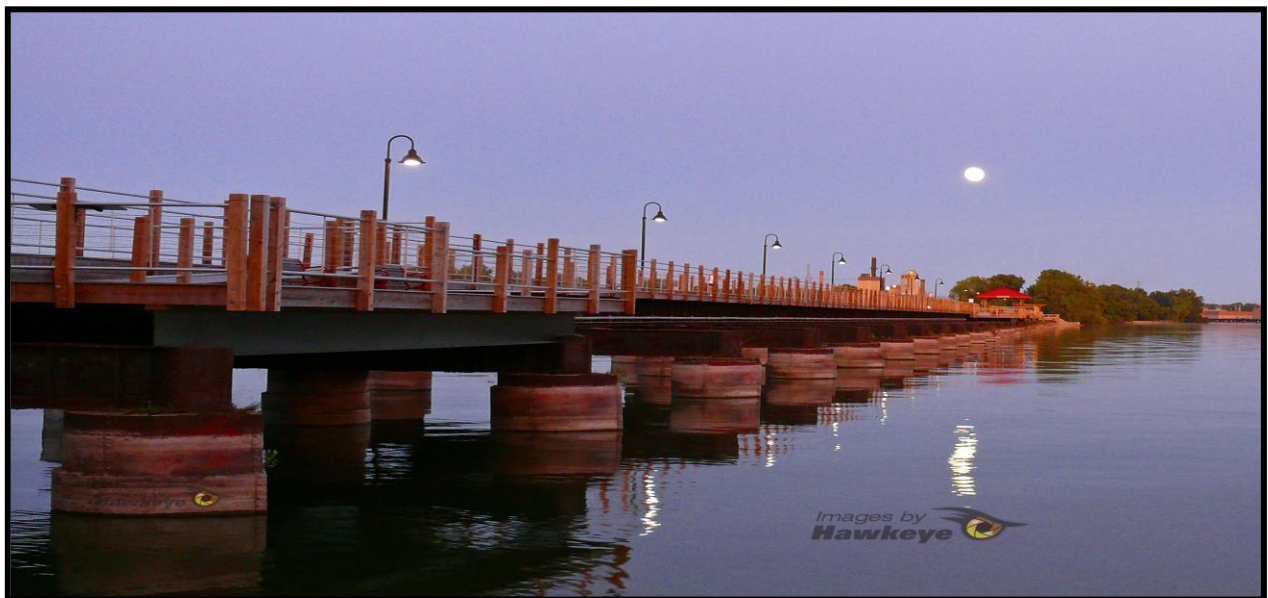
COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Village of Fox Crossing can trace its roots back to before Wisconsin was even a state. A territorial government was set up for the State of Wisconsin in 1836 and land was ceded by the Native Americans that later became the Village of Fox Crossing. In 1847, the Township of Neenah was created and organized by an act of the territorial legislature. The original township included the present day cities and towns of Neenah and Menasha, and the towns of Clayton and Vinland. Vinland and Clayton were split off and given independent statuses in 1849. By 1855, the Winnebago County Board split the remaining Town of Neenah, with its two settlements, into two parts: the Town of Neenah on the south and the Town of Menasha on the north. The more urban areas of both towns later incorporated into cities – Neenah in 1873 and Menasha the following year in 1874. In 2016 the Town of Menasha incorporated into a village and changed the name to Fox Crossing.

The Village of Fox Crossing lies in the “Fox Cities” area of Wisconsin, near the northwest corner of Lake Winnebago, about thirty minutes southwest of Green Bay. The Village of Fox Crossing has enjoyed steady growth for many years, and is presently the sixth largest village in Wisconsin with a population of 19,084.

The Village of Fox Crossing has a service area of 12.3 square miles that includes two major federal highways that intersect within those boundaries. Approximately 56,000 vehicles utilize USH 10 each day, and another 85,000 vehicles travel through on I-41 each day. In addition, the Village of Fox Crossing maintains approximately 100 miles of local roadways.

The Village of Fox Crossing 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 village is home to many large corporations including Pierce Manufacturing, Kimberly Clark, SCA Tissue, Secura, Community First CU, Clearwater, Miron Construction, Outlook Corp., Great Northern and many other great businesses.



POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The administration division of the police department consists of the chief of police, administrative assistant and the captain. This division is responsible for the coordination and direction of the department.

BUDGET

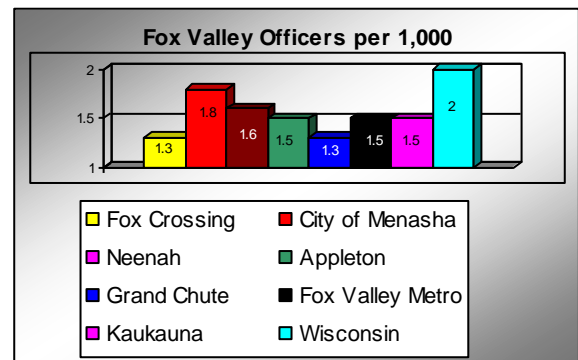
A large task of this division is budgeting and fiscal management. With the current state of economy and the need and demand for law enforcement services, this is no easy task. Through careful planning, the Fox Crossing Police Department has been able to maintain, and in some instances, increase the level of service while maintaining little to no impact on tax dollars. ***The budget established for the police department in 2019 was \$3,666,311.00.***

As the info graphic to the right shows, the largest area of our budget is personnel. The administrative division coordinates the management of personnel from recruitment to promotions and internal investigations.



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

We have been fortunate to maintain steady staffing levels over the years; however, we continue to look at the future with the anticipated expansion & growth that is projected to occur now that the 441/41/10 interchange is complete.



OFFICERS PER CAPITA

The average number of officers per 1,000 people in Wisconsin in 2014 was 2.03. . In 2006, the Town of Menasha Police Department was operating at about a 1.7 officer per 1000 ratio. Now in 2019 the Village of Fox Crossing has consistently “done more with less” and are operating at our current level of 1.37 officers per 1,000 Fox Crossing citizens. This more recent decrease can be attributed to both a rise in population along with budget constraints, limiting the hiring of personnel.

The department is also looking towards the future with its current space needs. Our police department and village municipal complex was constructed in 1996 and the growth of the village as well as its staff as a whole over the past 24 years is starting to have its effect on space throughout the building.

TRAINING

The State of Wisconsin requires that sworn officers attend a minimum of 24 hours of training annually to maintain their law enforcement certification. ***Our officers attended 1,747 hours of training in 2019. This averages to almost 63 hours of training per each sworn staff member.***

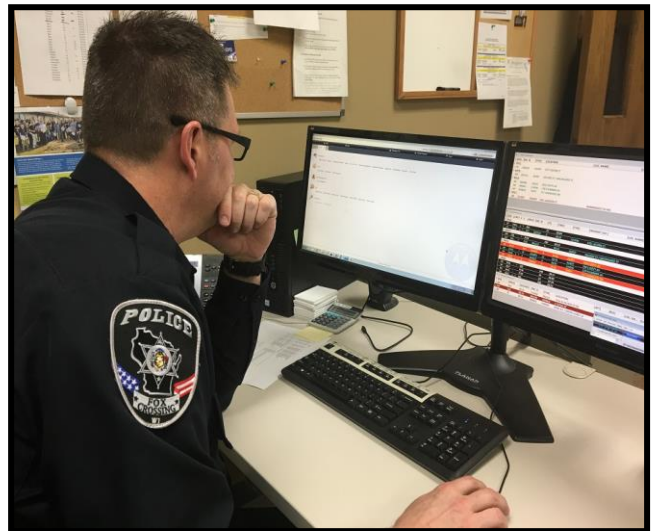
This training included firearms qualification - which occurred twice this year, along with annual legal updates on new laws and court rulings. Officers also attended a variety of specialized training such as: Law Enforcement Emergency Response to an Active Shooter, Overdose Death Investigations, LE Response to Sexual Assaults, Leadership in Policing, Basic SWAT, and many more.



ACCOUNTABILITY

As outlined in our mission statement and commitments, the Fox Crossing Police Department takes great strides to ensure that we maintain a high level of service to our residents, businesses and visitors. The police department maintains several methods of receiving and processing comments and/or concerns regarding staff performance.

This can be done by speaking with a supervisor on the phone, completing an online survey, filling out a form at the police station, emailing the department, through direct contact with any supervisor, or by contacting the Fox Crossing Police and Fire Commission. When a report is filed that may indicate a possible violation of department policy, the complaint is referred to the supervisor of the employee. The supervisor will gather information regarding the circumstances of the complaint and ensure that it follows through the chain of command. Regardless of the outcome, the complainant will be contacted and advised of the findings.



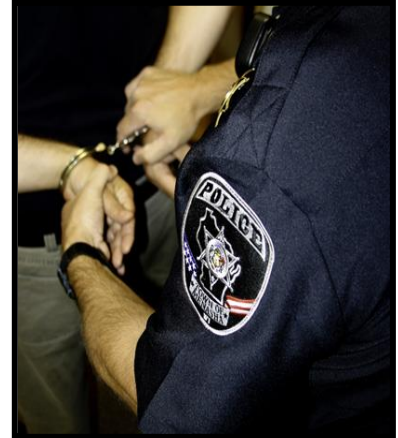
In 2019 there were four citizen complaints filed against Fox Crossing police staff. After investigations of these complaints, all four incidents were deemed fraudulent or unfounded.

USE OF FORCE

The Fox Crossing Police Department requires an officer to complete a Use of Force report each time an officer uses any type of force, such as: empty hands, intermediate weapon (baton, OC spray, TASER) and lethal force.

The Fox Crossing Police Department had **37** documented uses of force incidents in 2019. Because most use of force incidents happen during arrests, it is important to consider the number of use of force incidents in relation to the number of arrests made. This translates to the police department using force in only 7% of all arrests, and totaling 0.304% of all police contacts with the public this year.

There are several options of force that an officer has available to them ranging from the use of hands to deadly force. In 2019, all use of force incidents were investigated and found to be justified.



TRAFFIC PURSUITS

Vehicle pursuits can expose citizens, law enforcement officers and fleeing violators to the risk of serious injury or death. Officers must weigh the safety of the public and themselves against their law enforcement duty to apprehend violators of the law when determining whether or not to engage and continue in a pursuit. The Fox Crossing Police Department reviews all pursuits in which officers are involved to ensure that officers follow policy and minimize the risk of pursuit related crashes.

In 2019 there were 2 pursuits that village officers were involved with. Both pursuits were terminated shortly after initiating them. One driver was never identified, and the other involved a suspect in another jurisdiction's stolen vehicle investigation.



PATROL DIVISION

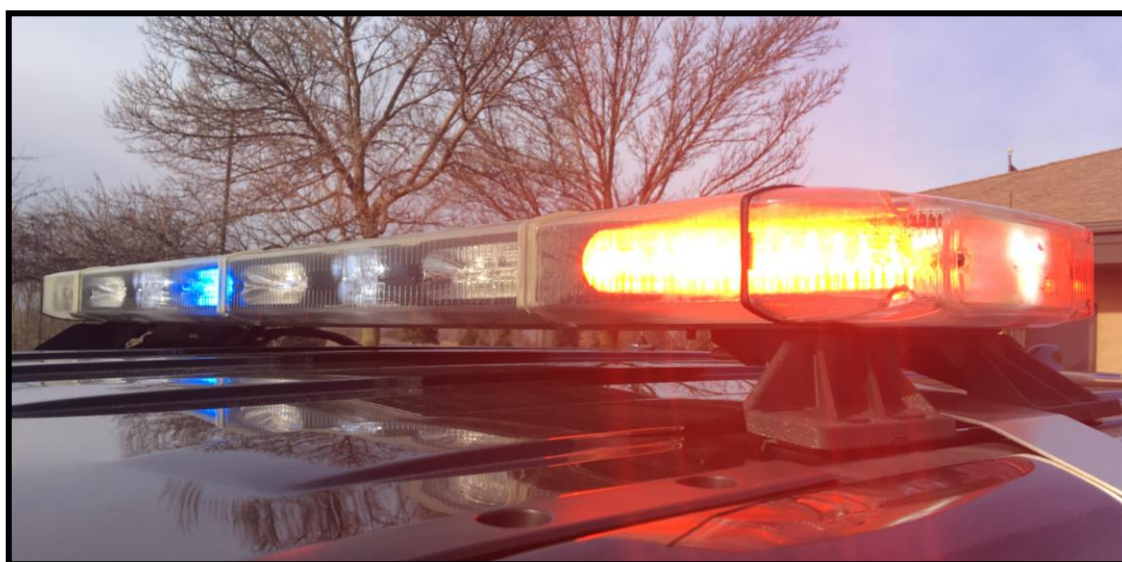
The patrol division is the backbone of the police department. This division is responsible for handling a majority of the many emergency and non-emergency calls received each year, along with enforcing traffic laws on the freeways and roadways throughout Fox Crossing.

The Village of Fox Crossing has 16 patrol officers and 4 patrol 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 police department utilizes six 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 patrol certain areas of the village on foot. These efforts afford the officers the opportunity to interact more freely with the residents outside the “confines” of a patrol car. Officers are periodically assigned to a specialized directed patrol as well. This places officers in certain areas of the village due to a high call volume.

This past year proved to be another busy year for our patrol officers. In addition to responding to calls for service, our patrol officers enforce traffic laws on over 100 miles of village roads in addition to USH 10/441 and I-41. As many of you are all too familiar with, the construction along I-41 and STH 441 has been challenging and now that it is complete, should make travel much easier on all of us.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

In Fox Crossing, calls for service are received in a variety of ways. Emergency calls are typically placed through 911 calls which are answered and dispatched through the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. In addition to these emergency calls, citizens can either report crimes in person at the police department or by calling the non-emergency number. These calls are fielded 24 hours a day by a police communication technician at the police department or the Winnebago County Dispatch Center. Lastly, officers on patrol can self-initiate calls for service should they encounter something on their patrols.

CALLS FOR SERVICE				
2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
8,000	7,687	7,871	6,694	7,144

Select Incident Types	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Abandoned Vehicles	30	32	22	16	26
Alarm	240	152	155	106	105
Animal	367	283	287	152	177
Civil	55	55	50	25	24
Damage to Property	62	92	71	63	42
Death	21	27	19	24	16
Disturbance	307	229	231	170	220
Domestic	75	80	87	80	92
Emergency Committal	25	36	31	25	42
Fraud	25	26	23	19	13
Harassment	60	74	85	74	76
Junked Vehicles	260	156	177	154	127
Juvenile	225	214	213	140	101
Lost/Found Property	83	92	106	84	127
Missing Person	4	15	5	3	6
Noise	175	168	171	87	91
Open Door	15	30	41	31	34
Runaway	25	28	24	12	35
Sex Offenses	14	20	11	7	19
Suspicious Incident	201	208	262	172	190
Trespass	10	15	23	14	19
Warrant Arrests	125	170	170	113	189
Weapon	11	3	2	4	5
Welfare Check	453	418	401	192	198

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Traffic safety and enforcement is one of the main complaints and concerns that we receive from community members. Officers routinely conduct proactive traffic enforcement during their shift as calls for service allow.

TRAFFIC CITATIONS			
	2019	2018	2017
Speeding	764	392	479
Non-speeding	1,653	1,747	1,816
Parking	545	935	535
OWI	58	57	72
Total	3,020	3,122	3,233

TRAFFIC WARNINGS			
	2019	2018	2017
Speeding	1,342	1,315	1,296
Non-speeding	937	975	832
Vehicle defect	735	646	543
Total	3,014	2,936	2,671



ACCIDENTS

State reportable crashes in Wisconsin are those crashes which are defined by one or more of the following criteria: property damage in excess of \$1,000, or any sustained injury. All other crashes which do not meet these criteria are considered as a non-reportable crash.

ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATED			
2019	2018	2017	2016
350	313	308	300

Note: These numbers do not reflect accidents that occur on I-41, USH 10, or STH 441 as those freeways are the responsibility of the Wisconsin State Patrol and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. However, a few crashes in these locations may be documented here as with mutual aid agreements in place, occasionally we are asked to assist and take an accident report if the primary agency is busy on other calls.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT

In June of 2008, the police department was facing a spike in calls for service; many being repeat calls to the same property for nuisance type of activity. These chronic nuisance calls affect the quality of life in neighborhoods and can include offenses such as loud noise, disorderly people, fighting, damage to property, drug offenses, and the list goes on. The police department began researching this problem and developed a chronic nuisance program and an ordinance aimed at not only reducing these calls, but increasing our communication with landlords and property owners and working collaboratively to resolve many of these concerns.

The ordinance allows for three nuisance calls resulting in an arrest or citation on a property within a year. The police department will notify property owners and landlords of these calls and begin working ahead

Abatement Type	2019	2018	2017	2016
Drugs	0	2	0	3
Nuisance	5	2	2	6

of time to curb future calls. If a property were to receive three such calls, we will meet with the property owner to explain the concern and the need for assistance in combating the problem(s). If the property owner fails to or refuses to provide any assistance, the police department can issue a citation for maintaining a public nuisance and bill the property owner for any future nuisance calls to that property. For example, one owner-occupied property had reached the three call threshold in 2016 and had two calls afterwards, resulting in further citations and bills for village services in the amount of \$349.83.

ARRESTS

Arrest data is taken from the Uniform Crime Reports and, for their purposes, a juvenile is identified as a person younger than eighteen. However, presently in Wisconsin, a seventeen year-old is treated as an adult for criminal purposes. There are also different types of arrests that a law enforcement officer can make.

Type	2019	2018	2017	2016
Adult State Charges	401	478	617	606
Juvenile Referrals	105	87	72	57
Village Summons	278	320	276	263

- **Prosecution requests** are requests to the district attorney's office for state charges, which can result in a punishment of incarceration in jail or prison, probation and/or monetary fines.
- **Juvenile referrals** are requests to the juvenile authorities for charges which can result in a punishment of incarceration in a secure detention facility and/or juvenile supervision through a case worker.
- **Village summons** are local ordinance violations which can result in a punishment of community service or monetary fines.

INVESTIGATION DIVISION



Criminal investigations are an important aspect of the services that we provide. Each Fox Crossing 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 Fox Crossing Police Department Investigation Division consists of one lieutenant, two detectives, one MEG drug unit investigator and one community liaison officer. The Investigation Division is responsible for investigative follow-up and criminal case preparation related arrest and prosecution of 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 Village of Fox Crossing. The information shared at these meetings has proven invaluable and has directly resulted in crimes being solved not only here in the Village but throughout the Fox Valley.

	2019	2018	2017	2016
	Violent Crime			
Murder	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	6	8	1	0
Robbery	2	1	1	4
Aggravated Assault	17	11	14	15
Total Violent	43	20	16	53
Clearance Rate	88%	83%	96%	89%
	Property Crime			
Burglary	22	31	26	54
Theft	132	137	158	147
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	20	14	8
Total Property	161	187	198	209
Clearance Rate	40%	38%	30%	29%

In comparison, the United States clearance rates (for 2017) were: 44.8% for violent crimes and 15.5% for property crimes.

CRIME REPORTING

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, which began in 1929, collects information on the following crimes reported to law enforcement: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The UCR Program also maintains a database of arrests and clearance rates of law enforcement agencies. Clearance rates reflect the percentage of those cases that are cleared or solved. A new system of categorizing and tracking crime rates, called Wisconsin Incident-Based Reporting System (WIBRS) is being actively utilized by our agency, and we continue to be a leading agency in the state for prompt compliancy.

PROPERTY STOLEN/RECOVERED

Property crimes have accounted for over 80% of the crimes reported to the Fox Crossing Police Department. Property crimes include residential and commercial burglaries, theft and auto theft.

Property crimes generally have very few witnesses. As a result, those cases have limited investigative leads and low solvability rates. This is usually reflected by a low clearance rate. In addition, a majority of our property crimes occurred with no force, meaning that the property (home, business, and car) was left unsecured or had an unlocked door.

Due to advances in technology and information sharing, a greater percentage of stolen property is being recovered and returned to the rightful owners. Pawn shops and second hand retailers are now entering property taken in by their stores into a database that is accessible and regularly searched by BOTH patrol & detectives.

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS

Many of the people arrested indicate that the reason for committing property crimes is to support their drug habit. Major drug investigations in the village are conducted by the Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG). The MEG Unit consists of 13 officers from police and sheriff's departments in Winnebago, Outagamie, Calumet and Fond du Lac counties. We have had one officer assigned to this unit since it formed in 1988.



Drug offenses are a unique category for statistical comparison. Possession offenses typically result from the initiative and investigation of an officer at another incident, oftentimes a traffic stop. Arrests for drug sales generally stem from investigations conducted by the Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit as a result of a tip or investigative lead, which is an agency that operates separately from Fox Crossing PD. Their investigations and arrests that occur within our jurisdiction are not represented in this data.

2019 DRUG TYPE ARRESTS	SALES	POSSESSION
Marijuana	0	33
Opium or Cocaine and their Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine, etc.)	2	7
Synthetic Narcotics – Manufactured Narcotics (Demerol, Methadones, etc.)	0	0
Other – Dangerous Non-narcotic Drugs (Barbituates, Benzadrine, etc.)	1	4

COMMUNITY POLICING

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

Community policing is a concept that saw its origins in England back in the early 1800's. Sir Robert Peel, known as the "Father of Modern Policing," is credited with establishing the modern concept of the police force. He realized that a partnership must exist for the success of the community and the police. Participation by all facets of the community is critical for real problem solving that leads to lasting solutions. A famous quote from Peel is "the police are the public and the public are the police".



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Last year our community liaison officer participated in MANY opportunities of community outreach such as special events and presentations on a variety of topics including visits to Fox Crossing schools, businesses and organizations. Topics of these safety presentations ranged from scams, active shooter response, emerging drug trends and robbery prevention.

In response to several active threat incidents in the United States and here in Wisconsin we have been working proactively with area business, schools and churches to assist them with crisis planning and offering suggestions to improve the security at their buildings. This has become a collaborative project with other Fox Valley law enforcement agencies and the community liaison officers work as a team when conducting these free security and risk assessments. In 2019 the group completed several risk assessments for area businesses including many here in the village.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is a program designed to assist neighborhood members in working together and in partnership with the police department to reduce crime through the reporting of suspicious activity to police as well as sharing that information with their neighbors. The purpose of Neighborhood Watch is to have as many neighbors watching after each other's property as if it were their own. Neighbors are asked to be the extra 'eyes and ears' for the police, as they know what is normal for their neighborhood and what isn't and who belongs and who doesn't.

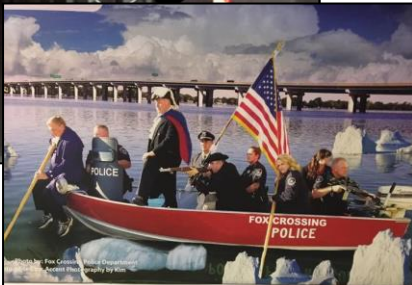
Neighborhood Watch has shown to be the most successful anti-crime tool and the least expensive program in the country to help create safe, pleasant and livable communities. There are many registered Neighborhood Watch groups in Fox Crossing; however, there are only 2-3 organized neighborhoods that meet and communicate regularly.



FALL SAFETY DAY

In September, we held a Public Safety Day event in conjunction with the Fox Crossing Fire Department. Hundreds of people attended this free event and were treated to great weather, along with a variety of activities.

2019 was another amazing year of Community Outreach at Fox Crossing PD..... and here is a small sampling of photos to prove it!



JULY							2019	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30	31					



MEDIA - TRADITIONAL AND SOCIAL

Even though we would much rather connect with the community through public events and presentations we understand the value of and power of traditional media and social media to reach an incredibly large audience.



For a number of years, the police department has maintained a great working relationship with the local media. In 2019 we continued our

relationship with several local television morning news programs, hosted some live broadcasts, and also worked on proactive and preventative stories with not only the local television stations, but also print and radio outlets too.

We also maintain an active presence on social media with pages on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Social media helps assists the department in distributing timely and emergent information to the public; is a tool used to solve crimes; and helps the department connect with the community by promoting conversation. The use of social media has been a great relationship building tool and has allowed the department to connect with others in a way that we had not been able to.

Facebook was a great crime fighting tool for us in 2019. There were several instances where we had shared surveillance photos of suspects in thefts and were able to identify them through the help of our followers. Our Facebook presence is also steadily growing with great posts that our audience is sharing. In 2019 alone, our followers grew from 12,636 to 14,118...an increase of 11.7%!

PRESCRIPTION PILL AND DRUG DISPOSAL

Through a grant from the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators, we installed a drug disposal box in the police department lobby in 2012. Since that time, we have collected over 1 ton of unused medication! 2019 yielded over 500lbs of medications alone!

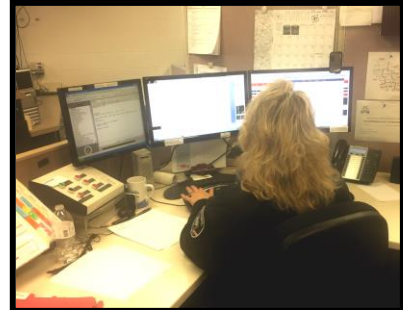
We are grateful for the assistance of the Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit and the WI Department of Justice for the aiding us in properly disposing of these unused medications.



SUPPORT SERVICES

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

The Fox Crossing Police Department's Communication and Records Division serves the citizens in a variety of ways. This division is open to the public typically from 6AM to 6PM, Monday - Friday. 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 village, 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.

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 aiding with the information entered into our new Records Management System, including the scanning of any attachments to a report. Any incident that involves an officer's response and investigation typically will require that officer to generate a report. In 2019, the Fox Crossing PD generated 2,803 complaints requiring an incident report.

EMERGENCY DISPATCH

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department is responsible for answering 911 emergency calls and dispatching emergency services throughout Winnebago County. The 911 Communications Center is located on the second floor of the Sheriff's Office. The 911 Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. There are three shifts per day with five or six dispatchers on duty each shift.



SWAT

The Fox Crossing Police Department has partnered with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department to provide assistance for any tactical situations in our community. We have two officers that are assigned to the Winnebago Sheriff's Department SWAT team.

HONOR GUARD

In 2010, the department formed an honor guard to represent not only the police department, but the community at formal events both here in the Village and around the state. The unit added another officer in 2016 and is comprised of one lieutenant and seven patrol officers. The Honor Guard jointly trains with other agencies as well, since many events are attended by all area departments.



In 2019 the honor guard attended several events such as the annual village meeting, Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony and funerals for retired officers in the area.



CODE COMPLIANCE

Over the years we have conducted a survey that addresses the level of problems in the community. As we review those surveys we routinely find that the areas that tend to be marked at a higher level involve quality of life issues such as junked vehicles, traffic problems, and blighted properties. When compared to other concerns that are marked lower such as gangs and drugs, one can surmise that 'life is pretty good'.





However, these quality of life issues are encountered daily in neighborhoods and can become frustrating. One thing that we can all practice is to be considerate of one another and maintain our property so that it does not become unsightly and to keep our noise at an acceptable level. Property maintenance goes a long way to reducing crime on our property. There is a crime theory called “Broken Windows” that compares lack of property maintenance to increased criminal activity and mischief. The theory is that if you leave one window broken, over time that will invariably lead to other windows broken.

The code compliance officer is responsible for the enforcement of most of the Village municipal codes. There were **260** cases that the code compliance officer investigated in 2019. A majority of these cases were for junked motor vehicles and unsightly debris.

HOW SAFE ARE WE?

CRIME TRIANGLE

Crime trend research indicates absence creates opportunity and can lead to a higher rate of victimization. In 1979 in the American Sociological Review, Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felton wrote, “Most criminal acts require a convergence in space and time of likely offenders, suitable targets and the absence of capable guardians against crime.” Their research laid the foundation for the development of the Crime Triangle.

The Crime Triangle theorizes that in order for a crime to occur, **3** elements must be present: ***an offender with the ability to commit the crime; a desired victim or target; and the opportunity to commit the crime.*** Based on this theory, crime can be reduced by removing any one of the three elements. Most crime reduction strategies utilize a combination of approaches to achieve this goal. The easiest way is to reduce the opportunity. Often something as simple as locking our car door or garage door can deter the potential criminal.



HOW DO WE COMPARE?

There are ways to compare a community to another in terms of frequency and likelihood of crime. Mathematical formulas are used to break down the numbers and put communities on a level playing field (typically per 1,000 residents) which allow us to compare different sized areas such as Fox Crossing and its surrounding Fox Valley police agencies.

FOX VALLEY CRIME RATES (2019 UCR statistics)			
Community	Population	Violent Crime ¹ Rate per 1,000	Property Crime ² Rate per 1,000
Wisconsin	5,822,434	2.89	19.30
Appleton	74,832	2.43	24.92
Neenah	26,248	1.71	17.48
Grand Chute	22,550	3.59	35.03 ³
Fox Crossing	19,084	1.31	13.57
Menasha	17,865	2.6	18.97
Kaukauna	16,556	0.91	8.99

- ¹ *Uniform Crime Reporting Standard for Violent Crime: Homicide/Manslaughter, Rape, Aggravated Battery, & Robbery*
- ² *Uniform Crime Reporting Standard for Property Crime: Simple Assault, Burglary, Larceny, Vehicle Theft, Arson, & Human Trafficking*
- ³ *Grand Chute PD is a major retail-oriented jurisdiction, which is evident in their much higher property crime rate.*



CREDITS

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STATISTICS

Wisconsin Department of Justice
Fox Crossing Police Dept.
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

PHOTOS

Fox Crossing Police Dept.