

# 09/2025

SEPTEMBER

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La Crescent Police Department

# LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## THIS ISSUE:

- Traffic Safety Campaign
- Ask a Cop - Bicycle Equipment
- AED Program - Crucifixion School
- Event Highlight - National Night Out
- Reserve Review
- Calls for Service Report

## TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Over the last few weeks, the La Crescent Police Department has been taking part in a targeted traffic safety campaign. This multi-day targeted enforcement campaign was started as a means to proactively enforce the many sections of Minnesota's traffic law that apply most directly to the overall safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and other motorized traffic.

The timing of the campaign was strategic, as it fell in the weeks leading up to and including the first week of school for the La Crescent-Hokah Elementary and Middle/High Schools. This campaign comes one year after the City of La Crescent implemented posted School Zone Speed Limits. These limits, which reduce the speed in designated areas around town from 30 miles per hour down to 20 miles per hour when children are present, were imposed to further protect the city's children and those motorists who frequently travel around the school zones.

While the campaign is still ongoing, over the last month more than 150 traffic stops have been made by La Crescent Police Department Officers for a number of violations, including speed, failure to stop for a STOP sign, passing on the right, and other equipment or driving status violations.

In addition to the focus on motorized traffic, La Crescent Police Department made a, and continues to make, a concerted effort to listen to the requests of the public and enforce Minnesota's laws surrounding e-bikes and e-scooter operation. Since the onset of this traffic campaign, a number of juveniles have been stopped and their parents subsequently contacted to be reminded of the law. In most instances, the parents have been required to come to the scene of the stop to pick the juvenile and their mode of transportation up.





## ASK A COP - BICYCLE LAWS

Ask a Cop: My child is going to be riding their bicycle to and from school and other school events, what are the laws for bicycle riding?

Great question! In Minnesota, bicycles are treated much like other vehicles on the road, and riders must follow most of the same traffic laws. That means yielding at stop signs and stopping for traffic lights, riding on the right side of the road, and using hand signals when turning. Kids may ride on sidewalks except in the downtown business district, but they must yield to pedestrians and give a signal (like using a bell or saying “on your left”) when passing.

Only one rider is allowed per bike unless it has a proper child seat or trailer. Riders shouldn’t carry anything that prevents them from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars. At night, bikes must have a white front light, a red rear reflector (or light), and reflective pedals or side material.

Bottom line: ride predictably, be visible, and remember, on the road, a bicycle has essentially the same rights and responsibilities as a car. (NOTE: These recommendations and laws are for pedal bicycles).

- Officer Weinfurter



## EVENT HIGHLIGHT: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - 08/06/2025

National Night Out was hit this year!

Thank you to all of you who showed up and hung out with us! The weather was about as good as you could ask for in Southeast Minnesota and, thanks to the help of the La Crescent Lions Club and our other volunteers, the hot dogs were coming off the grill hot.

This year, like many years before, we were able to raffle off a large number of prizes for both children and adults. We were able to do this thanks again to all of the generous donors.

We sincerely hope everyone who was able to attend had fun and we look forward to seeing you all again next year!

## AED PROGRAM - CRUCIFIXION SCHOOL

Cassie Buehler and I had the pleasure of presenting Crucifixion School with their new (gently used) AED.

The University of Minnesota runs an awesome program that repurposes AEDs no longer in use by first responders, making them available to area schools, daycares, businesses, and other organizations.

Cassie and I are both proud members of La Crescent’s HeartSafe Committee. Our mission is to help keep La Crescent healthy and ensure lifesaving tools are available when emergencies arise.

We’re proud of the work being done by The HeartSafe Committee, The La Crescent Fire Department, The La Crescent Police Department, and the City of La Crescent.

Let’s all work together to continue to help and keep one another safe.

-Investigator Darin Daveau

# AUGUST CALLS FOR SERVICE

437 Total Calls for Service

Notable Call Types:

911 (Hang Ups and Open Lines) - 13  
Accidents - 4  
Alarms - 6  
Animal Complaints - 16  
Assist Other Agency -21  
Child (Calls Involving) - 5  
Civil Matter - 5  
Community Policing - 9  
Damage to Property - 1  
Death - 4  
Domestic - 2  
DWI - 2  
Extra Patrol - 5  
Foot Patrol - 1  
Found Property - 8  
Fraud - 1  
Harassment - 3  
Juvenile (Calls Involving) - 5  
Lost Property - 4  
MAARC Report - 1  
Medical - 29  
Missing Person - 1  
Motor Vehicle Unlock - 6  
Motorist Assist - 4  
Noise Complaint - 1  
Open Door - 1  
Ordinance Violation - 1  
Parking Complaint - 8  
Public Assist - 6  
Public Hazard - 2  
Pursuit - 2  
Scams -3  
Suspicious - 25  
Theft - 1  
Traffic Complaint - 17  
Traffic Stop - 152  
Trouble With Party - 7  
Welfare Checks - 11



## RESERVE REVIEW

Although there was no formal training session this month, our Police Reserves have remained active and engaged in keeping La Crescent safe. Reserves continue to provide a visible presence at community events and dedicate time on weekends to proactive patrol.

On top of their dedicated work helping our officers, Reserve Sergeant Shane Landrath was brave enough to ride the lightning at National Night Out's Taser 10 demonstration. Sgt. Landrath was used to display the Taser's ability to cross-connect from one leg to another to avoid the soft, sensitive tissues of the lower back while still achieving the level of incapacitation law enforcement has come to know from typical taser deployments.

This, and many other opportunities are available with the City of La Crescent Police Department's Police Reserve Unit. If you're interested in a spot with this Unit, please call our police department's phone number at 507-895-4414 and ask to talk to Corporal Roth Clark.

