

HELP POLICE MEMORIAL PARK!



Now that summer is here and school is out, the police have received more complaints than ever regarding inappropriate behavior at Memorial Park located at the corner of Benton and Main. There have been several reports of vulgarity, profanity, and other actions that detract from the family setting the Village works hard to maintain. While the Village is not out to drive these young adults from the park, the park was intended for safe place for all ages, and that is what we intend to restore.

Officers have been directed to spend more time patrolling the park and speaking with both parents and kids about what type of behavior is and is *not* acceptable at a community park. Vulgarity and profanity will not be tolerated, nor will aggressive or threatening actions towards others. Officers will also focus on enforcing the park closing time of 10:30 pm. We encourage parents and other young adults to report such actions at the park by immediately walking across the street and informing the Village Office or calling the Police Non-Emergency Line of 815-282-2600. When an officer or member of the police department staff is available, somebody will come speak to those who cannot conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at the park.

However, we cannot be at the park 24/7, and that is why we need your help. If you feel comfortable speaking to those who are behaving inappropriately, inform them that this is a community park and meant for children to enjoy. Tell them that their actions are detrimental to the other children playing. Do not yell, swear, or threaten, and never let the confrontation get physical. If you do not feel comfortable speaking to them, please notify somebody at the Village Office immediately. It is not our intention to solely arrest, to cite, or to threaten, but to teach the young adults proper park etiquette.

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