

# April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Blotter Bits

## Junk and Debris Ordinance Refresher

As a part of a continuing effort to keep Winnebago a clean and safe community, officers will be strictly enforcing the Junk and Debris Ordinance this summer. Village staff will be looking for properties that present a "Public Nuisance" in their appearance.

The ordinance states, "It shall constitute a public nuisance to maintain private property in all districts in such a manner so as to cause a detrimental effect to adjacent properties, by causing to have stored on the exterior of the premises construction and demolition debris, debris, garbage, junk, refuse, rubbish, or trash, except such of the aforesaid items that are placed outside the premises for the customary regularly scheduled pick up by a contracted waste hauler, provided the same is picked up in a timely manner by such waste hauler, as well as any of the following:

Material and items stored in a haphazard or unorganized manner, so as to present an objectionable visual appearance or a nuisance; but not to include stacked firewood for use on the premises or compost material for use on the premises;

Yard maintenance equipment including, but not limited to, lawn mowers, garden tractors, snow blowers, garden tools, and similar items, which are stored outside in a haphazard, unorganized, or unprotected manner, past the season of the reasonable use of such equipment;

Material or items brought on the premises for planned improvements such as landscaping, construction, and similar purposes, including but not limited to, fill dirt, mulch, and building materials, and which are not used for said improvements within 90 days of being brought to the premises, or which merely constitute outdoor storage of said materials or items,

Recreational equipment, or parts thereof, including, but not limited to, bicycles, motorcycles, boats, jet skis, and snowmobiles, which are stored on the exterior premises outside of the normal season, of usage, and which are stored in a haphazard, unorganized, or unprotected manner;

Household, commercial, and industrial objects and materials which are not ordinarily found in residential districts, stored for more than two (2) weeks on the exterior premises visible from adjacent properties or public right-of-way."

Those properties that are in violation of the ordinance will be contacted via letter and given a period of time to abate the nuisance. Failure to abate the nuisance within the given time frame may result in fines ranging from fifty (\$50) to two hundred (\$200), plus attorney and court fees. Each day is a separate violation.

If you wish to report a public nuisance pertaining to the Junk and Debris Ordinance, please contact the police department via email at

[office@bagopolice.com](mailto:office@bagopolice.com).

All reports will be kept anonymous with names and pertinent information removed before the report is forwarded to the employee designated to follow through with all complaints.