

THE CAMPUS ENFORCER



Mount Wachusett
Community College

444 Green Street, Gardner, MA 01440-1000

Mount Wachusett Community College Campus Police Department Newsletter

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS - POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS - POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS - POLICE LINE

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Volume 1 Issue 1

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FATAL VISION

The Fatal Vision program is an educational program designed to illustrate the issues of OUI (Operating Under the Influence). The program implements vision goggles which are specially designed to impair an individual's vision as if they were under the influence of alcohol. The vision goggles simulate a blood alcohol content of .20 or more than twice the legal limit. The effects of the vision goggles impair the participant with the feelings of sickness to dizziness.

Right: Campus Police Officer Chad Roger goes for a ride with a student who took out a safety cone while wearing the Fatal Vision goggles.

Below: Campus Police Sgt. Jeff LaFrenier gives a student wearing the goggles a standard sobriety test.



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CREDIT CARD FRAUD



What is credit card fraud?

Credit card fraud is the intentional procurement of goods, services, or money with a stolen, lost, cancelled, or counterfeit credit card. Credit card fraud is one of the most frequently committed types of white collar crime.

How is credit card fraud committed?

There are multiple methods by which criminals can obtain the information they need to perpetrate credit card fraud. Criminals could use purse or wallet theft, fake telemarketing offers, postal theft, online directories, or discarded bank statements to get a person's information. Card skimmers, which criminals have been known to place at gas station pumps, can record personal and pin information during credit card transactions.

How can credit card fraud be prevented?

Despite efforts by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), credit bureaus, credit card companies, businesses, and individuals. Credit card fraud is not entirely preventable. Here are some tips offered by the FTC to help reduce your chances of being a victim of credit card fraud:

- Tear up credit card offers that come in the mail.
- Shred bank and credit card statements before throwing them away.
- Void checks and receipts that contain errors.
- Check your monthly statements for mistakes or unauthorized activity.
- Never give out your account number over the phone unless you placed the call and know that the person on the other end of the line is reputable.
- Sign your credit cards.
- Keep credit cards in a separate holder or compartment from your wallet.
- If you lose your card, contact your credit card company immediately.
- Report billing mistakes or unauthorized activity to your credit card company right away.

For more information on this topic check out the Federal Trade Commission's Website: www.ftc.gov

HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION



AT HOME:

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended period of time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.

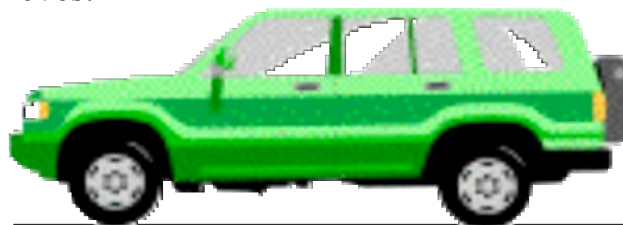
ATTENDING A PARTY:

- Have something to eat before consuming alcoholic beverages.
- Eat high protein foods that will stay in your stomach longer and slow the absorption of alcohol into your system.
- Know your safe limit.
- **NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE!!!**



DRIVING:

- Be cautious when driving alone at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- **Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.** A car can be stolen in a matter of seconds.
- Do not leave packages on the seat of your car. This creates an unnecessary temptation for thieves.



HOLIDAY DECORATION SAFETY

HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR SAFE ENJOYMENT OF CANDLES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON:

- Unlit candles are much safer than lit candles. But if you do light your candles, make sure they are placed in stable holders. Always put candles on a level surface where they cannot be easily knocked over.
- Never leave the house or go to sleep with candles burning.
- Never put lit candles on a tree.
- Glass containers can break. If you find a chip or crack, discard it. Do not allow a glass container to burn dry.
- Allow ample overhead clearance and make sure candles are not too close to a wall, combustible materials, dry greenery, draperies, lampshades, garments, or in an enclosed area.
- Keep candles out of reach of children and pets.
- Keep burning candles out of direct drafts. This includes air and heat vents, open doors and windows, and people traffic.



Unfortunately, candles aren't the only cause of house fires. Here are some safety tips for other types of holiday decorations:

OUTDOOR LIGHTS:

- Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Wires should not be warm to the touch. Replace any frayed or damaged cords.
- For outside decorations, use only those lights labeled for outdoor use.
- Use only insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Make sure lights are securely fastened to prevent wind damage.
- Bring outdoor lights inside following the holidays so they are not damaged by extended exposure to harsh weather conditions.
- Always unplug all lights before leaving home or going to sleep and don't overload electrical outlets.



INDOOR LIGHTS:

- Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up.
- Wires should not be warm to the touch. Replace any frayed or damaged cords.
- Always unplug all lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe.
- Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet.
- Do not overload electrical outlets.
- Do not leave holiday lights on unattended. Be sure to unplug all lights before going to sleep or leaving the house.



TREE ORNAMENTS:

- All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat sources.
- Put decorations high enough on the tree so that your child or pet can't reach them. Children can choke or cut their mouths on ornaments, ornament hangers or tinsel. They also can be poisoned by older, painted ornaments that contain lead.



WREATHS AND GREENS:

- Do not place greens near a fireplace, candles or any other open flame or heat source.
- Do not go near a holiday tree or greens with an open flame such as candles, cigarettes, lighters or matches.
- Holly and mistletoe are poisonous. **Keep them away from children!!!**
- Poinsettias can cause severe stomachaches if swallowed.

*****Make sure that you have working smoke detectors in your home. Test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times.**

CAMPUS POLICE SERVICES



If you are in need of a jump start or if you have locked yourself out of your motor vehicle call us at 978-630-9150 from your cell phone or come locate us in the Campus Police Office (Room 034). We are located in the basement level, next to the loading dock.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

ON CAMPUS DIAL 111

When you need **Emergency Assistance**, please locate a telephone and **DIAL 111**.

Be prepared to give the operator the following information:

1. YOUR NAME
2. LOCATION (Floor & Room Number)
3. NATURE OF EMERGENCY
4. REMAIN ON THE TELEPHONE UNTIL THE OPERATOR ACKNOWLEDGES YOUR MESSAGE.



PARKING TICKET & KEY REQUEST INFORMATION

PARKING TICKET INFORMATION:

The Campus Police Department issues parking tickets to individuals that are in violation of campus parking rules and regulations. There have been questions about how to pay a ticket, what happens if you decide not to pay a ticket, or how to dispute a ticket. The ticket may be returned by mail, personally hand-delivered. A hearing will be granted upon the written request of the registered owner. The City of Gardner Parking Department and the Campus Police Department have a form called a *DEPOSITION FORM*. This form is utilized to dispute a parking ticket. The Deposition Form can be filled out at the Campus Police Department or The City of Gardner Parking Department. The form must be completed by the disputing party. After completion, a copy will be on file with the City Parking Clerk, Campus Police Department, and a copy will be returned to the vehicle owner.

~Campus Police Officer Jason Hayden.

Any questions or concerns about a parking ticket please contact:

Mount Wachusett Community College
Campus Police Department
Room 034
444 Green Street
Gardner MA 01440
978-630-9150

OR

City of Gardner
Parking Department
Room 217 (City Hall)
95 Pleasant Street
Gardner MA 01440
978-632-3810



KEY REQUEST INFORMATION (*M.W.C.C. FACULTY AND STAFF*):

The Campus Police Department Locksmith issues keys through a KEY REQUEST FORM POLICY. The form must be filled out in its entirety. The form must have signatures from: The applicant, Cost Center Manager or Grant Director, appropriate Dean, Locksmith, Chief of Public Safety & Security, Executive Vice President, etc. The applicant signing the Key Request Form agrees that upon termination of employment with Mount Wachusett Community College, the applicant is responsible for turning over all keys issued to the Department of Human Resources and Affirmative Action during an exit interview.

After the Key Request Form is filled out in its entirety and the appropriate signatures are acquired the form should be submitted to the Campus Police Department. Allow (5) business days for all orders. Completed forms can also be mailed to:

Department of Public Safety and Security
Attn: Locksmith
Mount Wachusett Community College
444 Green Street
Gardner MA 01440

If you have any questions or concerns about requesting keys you can contact *Campus Police Sgt. Artur Gaspar* at 978-630-9150.



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!!



If you have any comments about this issue or have any ideas for the next issue of *The Campus Enforcer* please contact Campus Police Officer Melissa Garneau at mgarneau@mwcc.mass.edu or by calling 978-630-9150.

Education for a Changing World

Mount Wachusett Community College seeks to provide equal educational and employment opportunities and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, physical or mental disability, sex, national origin or ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information or veteran status.