



Public Safety Newsletter

St. Olaf College

November 1, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 7

This Month:

- Credit Card Fraud
- Campus Weapons Policy
- Medical Amnesty
- Hunting Safety Tips
- Winter Parking Ban

Do you have a question or concern you would like to see addressed in a future newsletter?

E-Mail us at:
dpsnews@stolaf.edu

24-Hour Public Safety Dispatch:
On-Campus: 3666
Off-Campus: (507)-786-3666

Police, Fire & Ambulance 9-911
(Emergency)

Northfield Police 9-645-4477
(Non-Emergency)

Other Important Numbers:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Counseling Center | 3062 |
| Dean of Students | 3023 |
| Health Services | 3063 |
| Parking Office | 2972 |
| Safe Ride | 3666 |
| Sexual Assault Resource Network (SARN) | 3777 |
| Hope Center | 1-800-607-2330 |

Credit Card Fraud

College students are a prime target for credit card fraud. Credit card theft accounts for over 26% of all identity theft. 29% of these credit card thefts victimize persons between the ages of 18 and 29. Approximately 73% of college students have at least one credit card. Additionally, 56% of college students have 4 or more credit cards by their senior year.

Credit cards are stolen a number of ways to include sophisticated computer hacking. However, the number one method for stealing credit cards remains the low-tech theft by hand. A person physically removes the card from another person's wallet or purse. Sometimes this is a premeditated act in which a bold thief seeks out a victim and even perhaps a specific card. However, the reality is that most credit card thefts occur on college campus because the opportunity presented itself. A trusting student simply left his or her backpack, handbag, wallet, or purse unattended in an unlocked room or common area. Approximately 40% of college students regularly leave their rooms unlocked. It cannot be stressed enough, secure your valuables, secure



your room, and do not leave items of value unattended, even for a minute.

What to do should you find your card has been stolen. Follow these steps for each card:

1. Phone call to bank: cancel card, report theft, record bank representative name and date/time.
2. Report the theft immediately to Public Safety and the Police.
3. Letter to bank: cancel the card, report theft, (include name, account number, date/time card noticed missing, date of phone call to bank, and the bank representative's name).
4. Phone call all 3 credit reporting agencies and report theft.
Trans Union 1-800-680-7289
Equifax 1-800-525-6285
Experian 1-888-397-3742

Campus Weapons Policy

Possession of firearms in all campus buildings and on all campus property is strictly prohibited. This applies to all students, employees, independent contractors, and visitors, including those who have a valid permit to carry a concealed weapon. Individuals who possess a valid permit to carry a concealed weapon may, however, keep the weapon locked in the trunk or glove compartment of their vehicle in the parking lot. Students are also prohibited from possessing firearms or other weapons while operating a college vehicle or while engaging in college business.

The possession of any other weapons, such as knives, ammunition, explosives and fireworks, is also prohibited and will be subject to disciplinary action. In addition, the use or possession of any of the above weapons, as well as bows and arrows, slingshots, water balloon launchers, decorative swords and weaponry, martial arts equipment, BB or pellet guns and other potentially hazardous items, are expressly prohibited on the St. Olaf campus. Weapons and ammunition may be stored at the Public Safety office at Admin #114. **Report any suspected weapons violation to Public Safety x3666.**



Medical Amnesty: What is it?

You may have seen the 'Medical Amnesty' posters up around campus, and wondered what they mean. Medical Amnesty refers to the sanctions that would typically accompany a violation of campus policy. According to the college's Policy on Alcohol and Illicit Drugs, "If a student becomes incapacitated due to alcohol overuse, or if they are in need of medical attention, others are strongly encouraged to contact EMS (911), public safety, or the residence life staff immediately in order to protect the health and well-being of the affected student. The individual needing medical attention will not receive disciplinary sanction in these circumstances, but rather will be referred for assistance to address issues of chemical use/abuse. Students are encouraged to make the responsible choice to notify college or emergency personnel quickly." Alcohol poisoning is not something to be shrugged off, and one should not simply assume that the person can 'sleep it off' until morning.

You can read more about the campus policy at:
<http://www.stolaf.edu/stulife/thebook/general/alcohol>

Hunting Safety Tips

Hunting season is upon us. Here are some safety tips to practice while you enjoy the great outdoors:

1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.
4. Know your target and what is beyond.
5. Know your gun or the gun you are using before going out to hunt.
6. Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
7. Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
8. Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
9. Never use alcohol or over-the-counter, prescription, or other drugs while hunting.
10. Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons or children.
11. Know the weather before you go out.
12. Know where you are hunting. Carry a map and compass.
13. Never hunt alone if you can avoid it.

Important Dates for November:

November is *Drunk & Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month*

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| November 1 | Daylight Savings Ends |
| November 11 | Veterans Day |
| November 15 | America Recycles Day |
| November 16-22 | American Education Week |
| November 25-28 | Thanksgiving Break |
| November 26 | Thanksgiving Day |

Please visit our web sites at:
<http://www.stolaf.edu/stulife/safety>
<http://www.stolaf.edu/stulife/parking>

Mission Statement

Department of Public Safety

St. Olaf College

The mission of the Public Safety Department is:

"To support and advance the educational objectives of St. Olaf College by fostering and maintaining a safe, secure and stable environment for living, learning, and working."

Did you know?

There is a Winter Parking Ban on city streets in Northfield. From November 15th to March 15, it is illegal for a motor vehicle to be parked on ANY public streets from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Vehicles to be found parked illegally during this time will be ticketed by the City of Northfield and, during emergency snow removal, possibly towed. There is still some space available on campus for students, so if you meet the permit requirements and have not obtained a campus parking permit, now might be a good time to do so!