



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

CITY OF WOOD DALE

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WOOD DALE POLICE TO PARTICIPATE IN ILLINOIS RAIL SAFETY WEEK

Wood Dale, IL – The State of Illinois has declared September 13th to 19th as Illinois Rail Safety Week in order to promote vehicle and pedestrian safety around railroad tracks and trains. In Illinois during 2014, there were 134 crossing collisions involving motor vehicles, which resulted in 55 injuries and 24 fatalities. In addition, there were 48 trespasser incidents that resulted in 19 injuries and 29 fatalities when people trespassed on to railroad property. During 2014, Illinois ranked 2nd in the nation in vehicle collision fatalities and 3rd in the nation in trespasser fatalities.

To promote rail safety awareness and education, the Wood Dale Police Department will be participating in Illinois Rail Safety Week. Enforcement details are planned throughout the week our railroad grade crossings and at the commuter station. In addition, police officers will be distributing literature to the public that contains information on how to be safe around trains and train tracks.

Please remember, not only is it against the law to stop your vehicle on railroad tracks, it is also against the law to stop your vehicle anywhere within the highway-rail grade crossing. Highway-rail grade crossings are typically marked by white stop lines located on the pavement in advance of the crossing, and if not marked by white stop lines, the highway-rail grade crossing extends from protective gate arm to protective gate arm.

According to Illinois Operation Lifesaver, more than 67 percent of all collisions occur at crossings with active warning devices (flashing lights, gates, and ringing bells). When crossing railroad tracks, you must always obey the law and be aware of your surroundings. For more information about Illinois Rail Safety Week, please visit www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org. For further information about the Wood Dale Police Department's enforcement efforts, please visit www.wooddale.com.

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