

Did You Know...

By Chief Matthew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



The Vernonia Police Department would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! In soliciting

topics for my article I was asked to talk about children causing damage to property with their bicycles. In particular, riding across or on someone's property damaging grass, landscaping, or other items. A citizen told me they repeatedly asked the children not to ride on the property where there was newly planted grass. They did and damage was done.

This is actually the crime of Criminal Mischief and possibly

even Trespassing, but moreover, this is a lack of respect for another's property and their wishes. This citizen chose not to file a report but was disappointed in the lack of respect for the kids and parents. I think we all need to respect our neighbors and their property. Accidents and damage can happen, but it is another matter when damage is done purposely out of disrespect.

The new year brings with it a

number of new laws. Here are a few highlights of some of the new laws. For a more exhaustive list check the VPD website:

- SB 78 requires all drivers to submit accident reports to the Dept. of Transportation not to law enforcement.

- HB 2361 allows for permanent license suspension for felony DUII convictions and other convictions.

- SB 76 allows a parent or guardian of a person under 18

to request cancellation of driving privilege.

- SB 568 increases fines and suspension for persons who exceed the speed limit by more than 30 mph or persons convicted of driving 100 mph or greater.

- SB 1067 expands Telephonic Harassment to include email and text messaging.

There are additional new laws pertaining to Driving Privilege
See page 27

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