



“Expect Excellence”

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Media Release

Subject: Public Safety Alert-Pokemon Go Phone App.

Date: July 13, 2016

With the sudden popularity of the recently released mobile phone application/game called “Pokemon Go” the Auburn Police Department would like to remind the public, using common sense when playing the game should be paramount above everything else.

Those playing the game need to remember the following:

- Do not use the application when you are operating a motor vehicle or bicycle**
- Do not trespass on private property when trying to “catch” a Pokemon**
- Be aware of your surroundings when walking and do not stare down at your phone not knowing hazards around you, like roadways, drop-offs, waterways, etc.**
- Use caution when sharing your location as strangers can see your location information**
- Travel in groups in public/well lit locations**

Yesterday evening, July 12, 2016 at approximately 10:44pm the Auburn Police Department responded to a motor vehicle accident in the area of 144 Owasco Street involving injury to the driver who crashed his vehicle into a tree. The driver admitted to actively playing the “Pokemon Go” game while driving causing him to become distracted

and run off the roadway into a tree. *See attached photo of the accident.* Luckily the driver was not seriously injured but this is an example of how easily accidents can occur when someone is engaged in the game and not paying attention. The accident investigation is on-going.

Have fun but be smart!!

Prepared by: Chief Shawn I. Butler