

Households Called on to Help in Search for Suspect's Vehicle

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The Dane County Sheriff's office knew where to look for the vehicle but needed the public's help in the search, so it contacted more than one-thousand households last night.

Reverse 911 calls you. Investigators say it has worked in the past, and finding this vehicle was a high priority.

"The Dane County Sheriff's Department is requesting your assistance in locating a vehicle involved in a fatal hit and run," the message begins.

Dane County's 911 center sent out the message to more than one-thousand homes.

"Please check your land and crop fields for a 1994 black Chevy S10 Blazer with a grey hood," the message goes on to say.

"Our detectives obviously weren't able to talk to everyone in Black Earth and Mazomanie. This was another way for us to get message out to people," Elise Schaffer with the Dane County Sheriff's Office says.

Investigators used Dane County's reverse 911 system in hopes of finding a vehicle suspected of being involved in a deadly hit and run on Sunday.

"It's a big piece of the puzzle," Schaffer says.

The crash killed 20-year-old Gregory McCullick. They say the Mt. Horeb man was struck from behind while walking down Dairy Ridge Road in the Town of Springdale.

Investigators arrested Justen Brock in connection with the case but still needed to find his vehicle.

"He did not reveal to us where the vehicle was," Schaffer says.

Schaffer says a resident discovered Brock's vehicle in a wooded area of Black Earth shortly after the 911 center activated the recorded message.

"It's a fantastic tool to have in your arsenal," J. McLellan with Dane County Emergency Management says.

Investigators talked with neighbors earlier in the day but wanted a more widespread alert.

"If a message is 30 seconds long, we can do 80 calls a minute," McLellan says.

McLellan also says reverse 911 has an advantage over what many people associate with an emergency alert, outdoor warning sirens.

"We have the ability to say, here's the issue, here are some of the actions you should take."

Investigators confirm the suspect's mother lives near where they found Brock's vehicle.

They also say damage to it is consistent with a vehicle involved in a pedestrian crash.