

Article A: General Provisions

Sec. 10-1-1 State Traffic Laws Adopted.

- (a) **Statutes Adopted.** Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Code of Ordinances, the statutory provisions in Chapters 110, 194, and 340 through 349, Wis. Stats., describing and defining regulations with respect to vehicles and traffic, for which the penalty is a forfeiture only, exclusive of any regulations for which the statutory penalty is a fine or term of imprisonment or exclusively state charges, are hereby adopted and by reference made a part of this Chapter as if fully set forth herein. The statutory sections listed shall be designated as part of this Code of Ordinances by adding the prefix "10-1-" to each statute section number. Any act required to be performed or prohibited by any regulation incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Chapter. Any future amendments, revisions or modifications of the statutory regulations in Chs. 340 through 349, Wis. Stats., incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this Chapter in order to secure to the extent legally practicable uniform statewide regulation of vehicle traffic on the highways, streets and alleys of the State of Wisconsin. Any person who shall, within the Village of Elk Mound, Wisconsin, violate any provisions of any Statute incorporated herein by reference shall be deemed guilty of an offense under this Section.
- (b) **Other State Laws Adopted.** There are also hereby adopted by reference the following sections of the Wisconsin Statutes, but the prosecution of such offenses under this Chapter shall be as provided in Chapters 340 through 349, Wis. Stats., and the penalty for violation thereof shall be limited to a forfeiture as hereinafter provided in this Chapter:
- 941.01 Negligent Operation of Vehicle Off Highway
 - 941.03 Highway Obstruction
 - 943.11 Entry into Locked Vehicle
 - 943.23 Operating Motor Vehicles Without Owners Consent
 - 947.045 Drinking in Motor Vehicle on Highway
- (c) **Statutes Specifically Incorporated by Reference.** Whenever this Chapter incorporates by reference specific sections of the Wisconsin Statutes, such references shall mean the Wisconsin Statutes of 2019-2020 as from time to time amended, repealed or modified by the Wisconsin Legislature.
- (d) **General References.** General references in this Chapter to Wisconsin statutory sections or chapters describing or defining procedures or authority for enactment or enforcement of local traffic regulations shall be deemed to refer to the most recent enactments of the Wisconsin Legislature describing or defining such procedures or authorities.

Sec. 10-1-2 State Administrative Code Provisions Adopted.

- (a) **Administrative Regulations Adopted.** The following administrative rules and regulations adopted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and published in the Wisconsin

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Administrative Code, exclusive of any provisions therein relating to the penalties to be imposed, are hereby adopted by reference and made part of this Chapter as if fully set forth herein.

Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 103	Habitual Traffic Offenders
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 114	Uniform Traffic Citation
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 119	Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Alcohol Use Restrictions
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 200	Erection of Signs on Public Highways and Handicapped Parking Signs
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 304	Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 305	Standards for Vehicle Equipment
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 310	Child Restraint Standards and Exemptions
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 315	Safety Belt Usage; Physical or Medical Exemption
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 325	Motor Carrier Safety Regulations
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 326	Motor Carrier Safety Requirements for Transportation of Hazardous Materials
Wis. Adm. Code – TRANS 327	Motor Carrier Safety

(b) **Non-Compliance Prohibited.**

- (1) **Requirements.** No person shall operate or allow to be operated on any highway, street or alley within the Village of Elk Mound a vehicle that is not in conformity with the requirements of Subsection (a) or the provisions of Sec. 110.075 and Chapter 347, Wis. Stats., incorporated by reference in Section 10-1-1 of this Chapter.
- (2) **Owner Liability.** Any owner of a vehicle not equipped as required by this Section who knowingly causes or permits such vehicle to be operated on a highway or street in violation of this Section is in violation of the same as if he/she had operated the vehicle. The provisions of Sec. 347.04, Wis. Stats., relating to nonapplicability of demerit points shall apply to owners convicted of a violation of this Section.

(c) **Safety Checks.**

- (1) **Operators to Submit to Inspection.** When directed to do so by any law enforcement officer, the operator of any motor vehicle shall stop and submit such vehicle to an inspection and such tests as are necessary to determine whether the vehicle meets the requirements of this Section or that the vehicle's equipment is in proper adjustment or repair. No person, when operating a motor vehicle, shall fail to stop and submit such vehicle to inspection when directed to do so by any law enforcement officer as herein provided.
- (2) **Authority of Officer.** Any Village of Elk Mound or other law enforcement officer is hereby empowered whenever he or she shall have reason to believe that any provision of this Section is being violated to order the operator of the vehicle to stop and to submit such vehicle to an inspection with respect to brakes, lights, turn signals,

steering, horns and warning devices, glass, mirrors, exhaust systems, windshield wipers, tires and other items of equipment.

- (3) **Vehicle to be Removed From Highway.** Whenever, after inspection as provided by this Section, a law enforcement officer determines that a vehicle is unsafe for operation, he or she may order it removed from the highway and not operated, except for purposes of removal and repair until the vehicle has been repaired as directed in a repair order. Repair orders may be in the form prescribed by the secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation under Sec. 110.075(5), Wis. Stats., and shall require the vehicle owner or operator to cause the repairs to be made and return evidence of compliance with the repair order to the department of the issuing officer within the time specified in the order.

(d) **Penalty.**

- (1) Penalty for violation of any provision of this Section, including the provisions of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, incorporated herein by reference, shall be as provided in Section 10-1-50, together with the costs of prosecution and applicable penalty assessment.
- (2) The Wisconsin Administrative Code sections adopted by reference in Subsection (a) above shall be designated as part of this Code of Ordinances by adding the prefix "10-1-" to each statute or Wisconsin Administrative Code section number.

Sec. 10-1-3 Official Traffic Signs and Control Devices; Prohibited Signs, Signals and Markers.

- (a) **Duty of Public Works Department to Erect and Install Uniform Traffic Control Devices.** Whenever traffic regulations created by this Chapter, including a State of Wisconsin traffic regulation adopted by reference in Section 10-1-1, require the erection of traffic control devices for enforcement, the Public Works Department, in cooperation with the Police Department, shall procure, erect and maintain uniform traffic control devices conforming to the Uniform Traffic Control Device Manual promulgated by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, giving notice of such traffic regulation to the users of the streets and highways on which such regulations apply. Whenever State law grants discretion to local authorities in erecting or placement of a uniform traffic control device, devices shall be erected in such locations and in such a manner as, in the judgment of the Village Board, Public Works Department and Police Department, will carry out the purposes of this Chapter and give adequate warning to users of the streets and highways of the Village of Elk Mound.
- (b) **Code Numbers to be Affixed to Official Traffic Control Devices.** The Public Works Department shall cause to be placed on each official traffic control sign a guide board, mile post, signal or marker erected under Subsection (a), a code number assigned by the

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Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and shall also place or direct the placing of code numbers on all existing official traffic control devices as required by the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

- (c) **Prohibited Signs and Markers in Highways.** No person other than an officer authorized by this Chapter to erect and maintain official traffic control devices or his or her designee shall place within the limits of any street or highway maintained by the Public Works Department any sign, signal, marker, mark or monument unless permission is first obtained from the Public Works Department, where applicable, the State Highway Commission. Any sign, signal, marker, mark or monument placed or maintained in violation of this Subsection shall be subject to removal as provided in Subsection (d).
- (d) **Removal of Unofficial Signs, Markers, Signals and Traffic Control Devices.** The Public Works Department may remove any sign, signal, marking or other device which is placed, maintained or displayed in violation of this Chapter or state law. Any charge imposed against premises for removal of a prohibited or illegal sign, signal, marking or device shall be reported to the Village Board for review and certification at its next regular meeting following the imposition of the charge. Any charge not paid on or before the next succeeding November 15 shall be placed upon the tax roll for collection as other special municipal taxes.
- (e) **Unauthorized Removal or Possession.** It shall be a violation of this Section, subject to the penalty provisions of Section 1-1-6, for any unauthorized person or party to remove or possess any official traffic sign or control device.

State Law Reference: Secs. 346.41 and 349.09, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-1-4 Registration Record of Vehicle as Evidence.

When any vehicle is found upon a street or highway in violation of any provision of this Chapter regulating the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles and the identity of the operator cannot be determined, the owner, as shown by the ownership registration of the vehicle supplied by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, or a comparable authority of any other state, shall be deemed to have committed the violation for purposes of enforcement of this Chapter and specifically Section 10-1-1 and shall be subject to the applicable forfeiture penalty; provided the defenses defined and described in Sec. 346.485(5)(b), Wis. Stats., shall be a defense for an owner charged with such violation.

Sec 10-1-5 School Bus Warning Lights.

- (a) **Use of Bus Flashing Warning Light.**
 - (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sec. 346.48(2)(b)2., Wis. Stats., adopted by reference in Section 10-1-1 to the contrary and except as provided in Subsection (b)

below, school bus operators shall use flashing red warning lights in residential and business districts when pupils or other authorized passengers are to be loaded or unloaded at locations at which there are no crosswalk or traffic signals so that pupils must cross the street or highway before being loaded or after being unloaded.

- (2) The operator of a school bus equipped with flashing red warning lights shall actuate such lights at least one hundred (100) feet before stopping to load or unload pupils or other authorized passengers and shall not extinguish such lights until loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the street or highway are safely across.
 - (3) The operator of a school bus shall use the flashing red warning lights when loading or unloading passengers from either side where the curb and sidewalk are laid on one (1) side of the road only.
 - (4) The operator of a school bus shall use the flashing red warning lights when loading or unloading passengers in a residential or business district when the passengers are to be loaded or unloaded at a location at which there are:
 - a. No traffic signals;
 - b. Sidewalk and curb are laid on both sides of the street or highway; and
 - c. Such persons must cross the street or highway before being loaded or after being unloaded.
 - (5) The operator of a motor vehicle which approaches from the front or rear of any school bus which has stopped on a street or highway when the bus is displaying flashing red warning lights shall stop the vehicle not less than twenty (20) feet from the bus and shall remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights. The operator of a school bus, which approaches the front or rear of another school bus that has stopped and is displaying red warning lights, shall stop not less than twenty (20) feet from the other bus, display its red warning lights and remain stopped with red warning lights actuated until the other bus resumes motion or the other operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights.
- (b) **Prohibited Use of Bus Flashing Lights.** Pursuant to Sec. 349.21(2), Wis. Stats., the use of flashing red warning lights by school bus operators is prohibited when pupils or other authorized passengers are loaded or unloaded directly from or onto the school grounds or that portion of a right-of-way between the roadway and the school grounds designated by "school" warning signs as provided in Sec. 118.08(1), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-1-6 Blue Warning Lights on Police Vehicles.

- (a) **Blue Light Use Authorization.** Pursuant to Sections 346.03(3), 346.94(14), 346.95(3) and 347.25(1), (1m)(a) and (b) and (4), Wis. Stats., a marked police vehicle under

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Sec. 340.01(3)(a), Wis. Stats., operating in the Village of Elk Mound may be equipped with a blue light and a red light which flash, oscillate or rotate.

- (b) **Useage.** If the vehicle is so equipped, the lights shall be illuminated when the operator of the police vehicle is exercising the privileges granted under Sec. 346.03, Wis. Stats. The blue light shall be mounted on the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light shall be mounted on the driver side of the vehicle. The lights shall be designed and mounted so as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of five hundred (500) feet during normal sunlight and during hours of darkness. No operator of a police vehicle may use the warning lights except when responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm or when necessarily parked on a highway in a position which is likely to be hazardous to traffic using the highway.

Sec. 10-1-7 Accident Reports.

The operator of every vehicle involved in an accident shall, immediately after such accident, file with the Village of Elk Mound Police Department a copy of the report required by Sec. 346.70, Wis. Stats., if any. If the operator is unable to make such report, any occupant of the vehicle at the time of the accident capable of making such report shall have the duty to comply with this Section. Such reports shall be subject to the provisions and limitations of Sections 346.70(4)(f) and 346.73, Wis. Stats., specifically that accident reports filed with this Section shall be for the confidential use of the Police Department and shall not be open to public inspection except as permitted by Sec. 346.73, Wis. Stats.

State Law Reference: Sec. 346.70, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-1-8 and Sec. 10-1-9 Reserved for Future Use.