

CHAPTER 7
TRAFFIC CODE

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7.01 STATE TRAFFIC LAWS ADOPTED.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Chapter, the statutory provisions in Wis. Stats. Chs. 340 to 348, describing and defining regulations with respect to vehicles and traffic, exclusive of any provisions therein for which the statutory penalty is a fine or term of imprisonment, are adopted and by reference made a part of this Chapter as if fully set forth herein. Any act required to be performed or prohibited by any statute incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Chapter. Any future amendments, revisions or modifications of the statutes incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this Chapter in order to secure uniform statewide regulation of traffic on the highways, streets and alleys of the state.

7.02 PARKING REGULATIONS.

(1) NO PARKING EXCEPT FOR AUTHORIZED VEHICLES. No person shall stop or park any vehicle in any County-owned area designated for vehicular parking except as authorized by the Facilities Department. Maps designating the parking areas shall be on file at the Facilities Department.

(2) NO PARKING AREAS. Parking is prohibited in the following areas:

- (a) County Trunk B from a point .184 miles west of County Trunk M to a point .089 miles south of Marking Road.
- (b) On the west side of County Road B (Bainbridge St) from a point .052 south of Elm St to a point .09 south of Elm St.
- (c) On the west side of County Road B (Bainbridge St) from a point .044 north of County Road BW (Goddard St) to the intersection of County Road B and County Road BW.
- (d) On the west side of County Road B (Bainbridge St) from a point .024 north of Clinton St to the intersection of County Road B and Clinton St.

(3) PARKING METERS AND LOTS.

(a) Definitions.

1. Committee. The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee or any subsequent County Committee with jurisdiction over the subject of this Chapter.

2. Parking Meter. Any electronic mechanical device or meter not inconsistent with this section placed or erected for the regulation of parking under this section and which accepts payment by coins or other method to pay for the parking use.

3. Parking Meter Space. The space in which a vehicle may be parked, which is indicated clearly by painted lines or otherwise and adjacent to which a parking meter is installed near the front line of such space.

(b) Operation of Meters.

1. When any vehicle is parked in a parking meter space between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, the owner, operator or driver of such vehicle shall, upon entering such space, deposit a proper coin of the United States of America or make other payment as authorized in the parking meter as indicated thereon for the parking time desired. Failure to deposit such coin or make other authorized payment shall constitute a violation of this section.

2. The fact that the timing device on any parking meter is not in operation shall be presumptive evidence that the owner or driver of the vehicle then parked in the space regulated by such parking meter failed to deposit or cause to be deposited the required coin or coins or make such other authorized payment in such meters; and the mechanical indication by such meter of a "violation" shall be presumptive evidence of unlawful parking.

3. No person shall permit a vehicle registered in his name to remain in any parking space while the parking meter shows a violation.

4. The Facilities Department shall direct the installation of such parking meters within County-owned parking lots as it deems fit and proper, shall determine the time limits of such parking, and shall make such other regulations in relationship thereto as from time to time it deems necessary. The County Board of Supervisors shall set the parking meter charges from time to time.

(c) Position of Parked Vehicles.

1. Vehicles shall be parked wholly within the parking meter spaces as marked.

2. Where the parking meters are placed in front of parking meter spaces, the radiator of a parked vehicle shall be as near as possible to the meter; and where the parking meters are placed beside such spaces, the front fender or front wheel of a parked vehicle shall be as near as possible to the meter.

(d) Purpose of Metered Parking. The coins required to be deposited or other authorized payment as provided herein are for the purpose of regulating parking for the convenience and protection of the public and to cover part of the cost of such regulation.

(e) Vandalism of Meters; Slugs. No person shall deface, injure, tamper with, willfully break, destroy or impair the usefulness of, or open without lawful authority, any parking meter. No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited in any parking meter any slug, device or substitute for the proper coin or coins of the United States of America.

(3) ENFORCEMENT. The enforcement of this section shall be accomplished by issuing a citation to the registered owner of the vehicle, where the citation is affixed to a conspicuous place upon the vehicle.

7.03 MOTOR VEHICLES ON PEDESTRIAN WAYS AND OVERPASSES. No person shall operate or park any motor vehicle on any pedestrian way or pedestrian overpass within the County except County or town maintenance vehicles.

7.035 INTENTIONAL EXCESSIVE NOISE OR DISPLAY BY MOTOR VEHICLES.

(1) No person shall make excessive or unreasonable noise with a motor vehicle by squealing tires or by excessive or rapid acceleration of the vehicle on any public or private way within La Crosse County. Prima facie evidence of excessive or unreasonable noise shall be an unreasonable squealing or screeching sound emitted by the tires or throwing of sand or gravel by the tires of said vehicle, or both. Prima facie evidence of excessive or rapid acceleration of the motor vehicle shall also be fishtailing, power turns, power slides and the like. This section shall not apply to farm machinery or vehicles participating in bona fide events at race tracks or go-cart tracks.

(2) No Engine Braking in Designated Urban Areas.

(a) No person shall use an engine braking system within designated urban areas in La Crosse County which is in any way activated or operated by the compression of the engine of any such motor vehicle or any such unit or part thereof, except in cases of emergency or necessary for the protection of persons and/or property. Such braking system is commonly referred to as compression braking or a "jake brake."

(b) The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee may designate urban areas in the County where engine braking is prohibited and signs shall be conspicuously posted in such areas stating: "No engine braking except in emergency" or its equivalent.

7.04 SPEED LIMITS.

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(1) 25 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 25 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from a point .04 miles North of Bainbridge St to a point .03 miles East of Washburn St
- (b) County Trunk "B" from Village of Bangor Line to a point .28 miles West of Meadow View St
- (c) County Trunk "BW" from CTH "B" to a point .06 miles South of Breezy Point Rd
- (d) County Trunk "C" from a point .08 miles North of Industrial Rd to STH 16
- (e) County Trunk "D" from Main St to a point .17 miles East of 2nd Ave
- (f) County Trunk "D" from a point .28 miles West of CTH C to CTH C
- (g) County Trunk "DE" from CTH C to a point .16 miles East of Lions St
- (h) County Trunk "GI" from County Line to STH 35
- (i) County Trunk "J" from a point .04 miles South of Water St to a point .14 miles North of CTH "U"
- (j) County Trunk "MW" from County Property Line to CTH "M"
- (k) County Trunk "SN" from a point .03 miles Southeast of Pinecrest Avenue to Main St
- (l) County Trunk "V" from Main St to a point .21 miles North of Juniper Ln
- (m) County Trunk "XX" from a point .18 miles North of Holland Dr to a point .22 miles North of Old NA

- (n) County Trunk "Z" from a point .20 miles West of Forest Dr to a point .24 miles West of Elm St
- (o) Fanta Reed from CTH "BW" to a point .11 miles East of Western Ave
- (p) Cottage Lane from CTH "ZB" to CTH "ZN"
- (q) County Trunk "B" East from STH 16 to La Crosse City limits

(2) 30 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 30 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "ZM" from CTH "Z" to CTH "OT"
- (b) Country Trunk "C" from a point 250' north of Harvey Lane to 250' north of North Street

(3) 35 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 35 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from Fanta Reed to a point .04 miles North of Bainbridge St
- (b) County Trunk "B" from a point .03 miles East of Washburn St to La Crosse City Limits
- (c) County Trunk "B" from La Crosse City limits to a point .04 miles West of Wolf Ridge Ct
- (d) County Trunk "B" from CTH "M" to a point .04 miles East of Vera Ln
- (e) County Trunk "B" from a point .15 miles East of Mill St to a point .73 miles East of Mill St
- (f) County Trunk "BW" from a point .06 miles South of Breezy Point Rd to Nelson Park
- (g) County Trunk "C" from a point .18 miles West of Linden Ln to a point .08 miles North of Industrial Rd
- (h) County Trunk "DD" from a point .07 miles South of CTH "T" to CTH "T"
- (i) County Trunk "F" from Briarwood Ave to a point .07 miles East of Trailer Park
- (j) County Trunk "F" from a point .22 miles West of Nolop Rd to STH 33
- (k) County Trunk "K" from CTH 35 to a point .03 miles west of County Line

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- (l) County Trunk "M" from a point .14 miles South of CTH "O" to CTH "O"
- (m) County Trunk "M" from a point .02 miles North of W. Elm St to STH 16
- (n) County Trunk "MH" from CTH "XX" to CTH "HD"
- (o) County Trunk "MM" from STH 14 to a point .59 miles East of Trailer Park
- (p) County Trunk "O" from a point .02 miles West of Fox Hollow Dr to CTH "M"
- (q) County Trunk "OT" from a point .10 miles South of Corporate Dr to CTH "XX"
- (r) County Trunk "S" from a point .08 miles North of Koss Rd CTH "SN"
- (s) County Trunk "SN" from CTH "S" to a point .03 miles Southeast of Pinecrest Avenue
- (t) County Trunk "T" from a point .55 miles East of CTH "DD" to a point .29 miles West of CTH "DD"
- (u) County Trunk "U" from a point .30 miles West of Manke Hesselberg Rd. to a point .09 miles East of Huhn Rd
- (v) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZB" to a point .18 miles East of Northshore Ln
- (w) County Trunk "ZB" from CTH "Z" to CTH "Z"
- (x) County Trunk "ZN" from CTH "ZB" to CTH "Z"
- (y) County Trunk "ZN" from a point .16 miles West of Lumber Pl to CTH "OT"
- (z) County Trunk "ZZ" from CTH "ZN" to CTH "Z"
- (aa) Fanta Reed Rd. from a point .11 miles East of Western Ave to CTH "B"/Dawson Ave
- (bb) County Trunk "FA" from a County Trunk "F" to a point 1.69 miles north at the termini.

(4) 40 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 40 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from Gillette St at La Crosse City Limit to STH 16
- (b) County Trunk "OT" from CTH "XX" to STH 35

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- (c) County Trunk "C" from a point 0.2 miles south of CTH "Q" to .01 miles west of McIntosh Road

(5) 45 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portion of streets shall be 45 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from a point .04 miles West of Wolf Ridge Ct to CTH M
- (b) County Trunk "D" from a point .17 miles East of 2nd Ave to a point .04 miles East of Granum St
- (c) County Trunk "F" from a point .07 miles East of Trailer Park to a point .22 miles West of Nolop Rd
- (d) County Trunk "M" from a point .48 miles West of Russlan Coulee Rd to a point .14 miles East of CTH "O"
- (e) County Trunk "M" from CTH "O" to a point .02 miles North of Logging Rd
- (f) County Trunk "M" from STH 16 to a point .12 miles South of Hidden Valley Rd
- (g) County Trunk "MM" from a point .59 miles East of Trailer Park to STH 14
- (h) County Trunk "O" from CTH "B" to a point .02 miles West of Fox Hollow Dr
- (i) County Trunk "OA" from a point .14 miles South of Drectrah Rd to CTH "O"
- (j) County Trunk "OT" from CTH "SN" to a point .10 miles South of Corporate Dr
- (k) County Trunk "V" from a point .21 miles North of Juniper Ln to a point .27 miles North of Keppel Rd
- (l) County Trunk "XX" from a point .22 miles North of old NA to STH 35
- (m) County Trunk "YY" from a point 1.35 miles South of CTH "M" to CTH "M"
- (n) County Trunk "Z" from Dump Turnaround to a point .20 miles West of Forest Dr
- (o) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZM" to a point .08 miles West of CTH "ZM"
- (p) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZB" to a point .20 miles east of Elm Drive
- (q) County Trunk "NN" from CTH "M" to STH 162

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(6) 50 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 50 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "M" from a point .12 miles South of Hidden Valley Rd to a point .16 miles North of Southern Rd
- (b) County Trunk "XX" from CHT "OT" to a point 0.04 miles North of Remus Rd
- (c) County Trunk "ZN" from CTH "Z" to 0.9 miles east of CTH "Z"

(7) Speed limits on park and campground roads shall be posted as authorized by the Facilities Department.

(8) TEMPORARY SPEED LIMITS IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES.

(a) Pursuant to s. 349.11(10), Stats., the La Crosse County Highway Commissioner or his/her designee, may impose temporary speed limits for the safety of highway construction and maintenance workers, pedestrians and highway users, if the highway is being constructed, reconstructed, maintained or repaired and the highway is under the jurisdiction of the county or any state trunk highway upon which the county performs maintenance pursuant to s. 84.07, Stats.

(b) Such temporary speed limits shall be posted for the duration of the construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair period and may be posted with signs on portable supports in accordance with state regulations.

7.05 SNOWMOBILES.

(1) STATE SNOWMOBILE LAWS ADOPTED. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Chapter all provisions of Ch. 350, Wis. Stats., describing and defining regulations with respect to snowmobiles for which the penalty is a forfeiture only, including penalties to be imposed and procedure for prosecution, are hereby adopted and by reference made a part of this Chapter as if fully set forth herein. Any act required to be performed or prohibited in any statute incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Chapter.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF RULES OF THE ROAD TO SNOWMOBILES. The operator of a snowmobile upon a roadway shall in addition to the provisions of Ch. 350 be subject to the rules of the road as listed in s. 346.02 (10), Wis. Stats.

(3) ENFORCEMENT. Law enforcement personnel as provided in Wis. Stat. s. 350.17(1) or the County Facilities Director, or his or her designee, shall enforce the provisions of this section.

(4) RESTRICTED USES OF SNOWMOBILES. (Cr. #9-78)

- (a) No person shall operate a snowmobile:
 - 1. On any County land except where authorized by official, posted signage or by permission of the County Facilities Director.
 - 2. At a speed in excess of posted speed limits on snowmobile trails in the County.

(b) No four-wheel drive vehicle, passenger car, all-terrain vehicle, truck or motorcycle shall travel on approved county snowmobile trails between November 15 and April 15 without the written permission of the County Snowmobile Coordinator.

(c) Landowners who permit snowmobiling on their land pursuant to ss. 29.68, Wis. Stats., shall notify the County Snowmobile Coordinator if they intend to travel on an approved snowmobile trail with a vehicle other than a snowmobile. The notification shall be the same as that required in ss. 29.68, Wis. Stats.

(5) DEFINITIONS. (Cr. #9-78)

(a) Snowmobile shall have the meaning given in s. 340.01, Wis. Stats.

(b) All-Terrain Vehicle shall have the meaning given in s. 340.01, Wis. Stats. and shall also include, but not be limited to, trail bikes, motorcycles, mini-bikes, air-boats, or golf carts.

(c) Approved Snowmobile Trails includes all snowmobile trails or routes that have been approved by the County Facilities Director or his or her designee.

7.06 COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY SYSTEM. The County Trunk Highway system is contained in the official La Crosse County Highway map on file at the La Crosse County Highway Department, which map is annually changed to reflect any changes to the County Trunk Highway System over the previous year.

7.07 ESCORT AND TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES. (Rep. & Recr. Ord. #13-90).

(1) Entities shall be required to pay for applicable wage and fringe benefit expenses incurred for escort and/or traffic control services by patrol deputies when needed or requested by the holder of a special permit authorized by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The permit authorizes the movement of oversized, weight and load vehicles over highways and roads under the jurisdiction of La Crosse County. This section also applies to non-emergency traffic control services.

(2) All requests for the above services, except for a valid emergency, shall require a twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Requests shall be made to the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department during business hours.

7.08 ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES.

(1) STATE ALL-TERRAIN/UTILITY-TERRAIN LAWS ADOPTED. For purposes of this ordinance, all references to all-terrain vehicles (ATV) shall include utility-terrain vehicles (UTV) as defined by statute. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Chapter, the statutory provisions in section 23.33, 340 to 348, and 350 Wis. Stats., describing and defining regulations with respect to all-terrain vehicles, exclusive of any provisions therein for which the statutory penalty is a fine or term of imprisonment, are hereby adopted by reference and made part of this section as if fully set forth herein. Acts required to be performed or prohibited by such statutes are required by this section.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF RULES OF THE ROAD TO ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES. The operator of an all-terrain vehicle upon a roadway shall, in addition to the provisions of section 23.33, Wis. Stats., also be subject to the rules of the road as provided in s. 346.02(11), Wis. Stats.

(3) OPERATION ON COUNTY PROPERTY. No person shall operate any all-terrain vehicle on lands owned by the County except where the use is authorized by posted notice or County permit.

(4) ATV ROUTES. As authorized by sec. 23.33(8)(b), Wis. Stats. and following due consideration of the recreational value to connect trail opportunities and weighted against possible dangers, public health, liability aspects, terrain involved, traffic density and history of automobile traffic, La Crosse County may establish ATV/UTV routes on County Highways under the following:

(a) All ATV Routes approved as of July 31, 2023 remain approved ATV Routes.

(b) Conditions and Requirements

1. Since La Crosse County has no public trail opportunities, any new routes must connect to other routes or route opportunities.
2. In approving new routes, the primary concern must be the safety of all members of the public and users of the Highway/route, including the density of the population along the proposed route, width of the Highway and shoulder, and current users of the road. Population density along any route should preferably not exceed 100 residents per square mile. The terrain of the proposed route, current speed limit, and road configuration should also be considered as well as liability of users and residents along the route. The ADT (Average Daily Traffic) count of the proposed route should preferably not exceed 1,500 vehicles per day.

(c) Creation of ATV/UTV Routes

1. New routes may be requested by any La Crosse County Town or Municipality or by any organized and established ATV/UTV club located in La Crosse County by applying. Applications are available from the La Crosse County Highway Department. (No applications from organizations or clubs located outside La Crosse County will be considered)
2. The application contains 3 sections:
 - a. This section is to be completed by the Municipality or Club requesting the application.
 - b. The second section is to be completed by the Highway Department
 - c. The third and final section is for use by the County Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.
3. Application Review: Once the first and second parts of the application have been completed, the Highway Commissioner will request that the route application be placed on the next Public Works and Infrastructure Committee agenda. The application will be reviewed by the Committee, and if approved by the committee, the application then will go to the full Board for final approval.

After full Board approval, the Highway Commissioner will add the route. All routes and maps, including current approved routes, are to be maintained by the County Highway Department.

(5) CONDITIONS FOR THE PUBLIC USE OF ATV/UTV ROUTES

- (a) All ATV/UTV operators must obey and not exceed the posted speed limit.
- (b) All operators must ride single file.
- (c) All operators shall operate only on the extreme right side of the paved portion of the roadway. Operation on the shoulder, ditch, or right-of-way is prohibited and illegal.
- (d) No open containers of alcoholic beverages are allowed while the machine is in motion.
- (e) Headlights and taillights must be on at all times. Brake lights are required.
- (f) All machines must be registered with the DNR and display the proper decals.
- (g) All operators must have a valid driver's license.
- (h) All operators/owners must have and possess proof of liability insurance.
- (i) All operators and passengers under the age of 18 must wear a DOT approved helmet.
- (j) All operators must follow the DNR regulations for safety certificates.
- (k) ATV/UTV's may only be operated on County routes between the hours of 5:00 a.m and 10:00 p.m.

(6) EXCEPTIONS. The following exceptions to this ordinance will be allowed and must maintain compliance with DNR registration and operational regulations:

- (a) Private use – agricultural only
- (b) Private use – on private lands owned by applicant or immediate family member only
- (c) Municipal and government use
- (d) Commercial ATV/UTV dealer use

7.09 PENALTIES.

(1) SECTION 7.01, STATE TRAFFIC LAWS. The penalty for violation of any provision of 7.01 shall be as follows:

(a) State Forfeiture Statutes. Forfeitures for violation of ss. 340.01 to 348.28, Wis. Stats., shall conform to the forfeiture permitted to be imposed for violation of the statutes adopted by reference, including any variations or increases for subsequent offenses.

(b) State Fine Statutes. The forfeiture for violation of any statute adopted by reference hereunder for which the penalty is a fine shall not exceed the maximum fine permitted under such statute.

(2) SECTION 7.02, PARKING REGULATIONS. (Rep. and Recr. Ord. #12-90)

(a) The forfeitures for violation of parking regulations under section 7.02 and the additional forfeiture for late payment shall be set by the County Board of Supervisors from time to time.

(b) Persons who receive parking tickets or parking violation notices may discharge the penalty thereof by forwarding the forfeiture within 10 calendar days of the offense to the Facilities Department. The receipt of this tender shall be deemed an entry of appearance and a stipulation for entry of judgment for forfeiture in that amount. No forfeiture imposed for the violation of any provision of ss. 7.02 shall exceed the maximum fine for the same offense under State law.

(c) Unpaid parking tickets may be referred by the Facilities Department to Corporation Counsel for appropriate action in circuit court to collect the unpaid forfeitures.

(3) The forfeiture for violation of S. 7.03 (Motor Vehicles on Pedestrian Ways and Overpasses) and S. 7.035 (Noise Caused by Excessive Acceleration of Vehicles) shall not be less than \$100 or more than \$200.

(4) SECTION 7.05, SNOWMOBILES.

(a) The penalty for violating any provision of this section and provisions of Ch. 350, Wis. Stats., adopted by reference in Section 7.05(1) above, shall be a forfeiture and said forfeiture shall conform to forfeitures for violation of the comparable State offense as provided in Ch. 350, together with the cost of prosecution imposed as provided by law.

(b) Forfeitures for violation of s. 7.05(4) shall not be less than \$100 nor more than \$200 for each offense.

(5) SECTION 7.08, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES.

(a) A bond and deposit schedule for violations under Section 7.08 shall be adopted in conformity with Section 23.66 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and the provisions of said statute are hereby adopted by reference as though fully set out herein.

(b) Forfeitures for violation of s. 7.08(3) shall not be less than \$100 nor more than \$200 for each offense.