

CHAPTER 23

BICYCLE ORDINANCE

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23.01 INTENT AND PURPOSE

It is the intention and purpose of this Chapter to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the City of Wisconsin Dells and those who use the public ways of the City of Wisconsin Dells by regulating bicycles and other means of travel upon the City's streets, highways, boulevards, alleys, or sidewalks and by regulating the purchase and resale of bicycles to discourage theft.

It is hereby declared in the public interest, realizing that the City of Wisconsin Dells is a high density population city during the tourist season, to control the use of bicycles and other means of man-powered travel upon the City's streets, highways, boulevards, alleys, or sidewalks.

23.02 REGISTRATION OF BICYCLES REQUIRED

It shall be unlawful for any person, who has been a resident of the City of Wisconsin Dells for more than thirty (30) days, to operate a bicycle upon any street in the City of Wisconsin Dells unless said bicycle is registered and tagged as provided herein.

23.03 POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REGULATE

Registration shall be made by filing with the Police Department of the City of Wisconsin Dells the name and address of the owner, together with a complete description of the bicycle on forms provided by the Police Department and paying a registration fee as established by resolution adopted pursuant to section 2.05. Registration shall be serially numbered and kept on file in said Department. Upon such registrations said Department shall cause an identification tag to be affixed to the bicycle registered so as to be seen from the rear of the bicycle. Said tag to be serially numbered to correspond to the registration number. Such tag shall remain affixed to the bicycle unless removed by the Department or for retagging upon re-registration. In case of theft or loss of the tag, a new tag shall be issued upon re-registration and payment of the registration fee.

23.04 PERIOD OF REGISTRATION

Registration shall be in effect as long as the registrar owns the bicycle.

23.05 BICYCLES TO BE IN A SAFE CONDITION

No bicycle shall be registered which is in an unsafe mechanical condition such as, but not necessarily limited to, having inoperative brakes, bent wheels, insufficient frame supports, or having design alterations which render the bicycle hazardous to the user and/or the public. The Police Department shall have the authority to suspend the registration of and remove the identification tag from any bicycle operated contrary to any state law or city ordinance or operated while in an unsafe mechanical condition, such suspension and removal to continue for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, provided that such registration shall not be re-instated or such identification tag be re-issued while such bicycle is in an unsafe mechanical condition. Such suspension and removal shall be in addition to other penalties provided hereunder.

23.06 IDENTIFICATION TAG TO REMAIN ON BICYCLES

No person shall willfully remove, deface, or destroy any such identification tag.

23.07 PURCHASE AND RESALE OF BICYCLES

All persons engaged in the business of buying second-hand bicycles are hereby required to keep a record which will be available to the Police Department upon demand, such record to provide the name and address of the person from whom such bicycle was purchased, the frame number thereof, and the number of the identification tag found thereon, if any. It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in the business of buying second-hand bicycles to purchase any such second-hand bicycle from a minor under 18 years of age. Such record shall also include a list of all sales made providing the name and address of the person to whom the bicycle was sold, the kind of bicycle sold, the

frame number of the bicycle, the description of the bicycle and the number of the identification tag affixed thereto, if any.

23.08 CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

Within ten (10) days after any bicycle registered hereunder shall have changed ownership, or have been dismantled and taken out of operation, the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered shall report such information to the Police Department. In case of dismantling and taking out of operation, the registration shall be cancelled and the identification tag returned to the Police Department.

23.09 USE OF BICYCLES UPON PUBLIC WAYS

No person shall ride or propel any bicycle upon any part of any public street, highway, boulevard, or alley in such manner as to interfere with the rights of other persons using such public ways. No person shall ride or propel a bicycle upon such public ways except in a careful and prudent manner nor shall any person ride or propel a bicycle upon such public ways while carrying thereon another person upon such bicycle unless the bicycle is constructed for use by two people or has a children's seat attached. No bicycle shall be ridden upon any such public ways at a speed faster than is reasonable and proper under traffic conditions existing at the time, and every bicycle shall be operated with due regard to the safety of the operator and other persons upon such public ways.

23.10 OPERATORS TO OBSERVE TRAFFIC SIGNS

Persons riding or propelling bicycles shall observe all traffic signs and signals.

23.11 USE OF BICYCLES AT NIGHT

No bicycle shall be operated on any street, highway, boulevard, or alley during any period of time from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise without a headlight visible from the front of such bicycle from at least 200 feet, which device shall be firmly attached to such bicycle, nor without an adequate lighted red taillight, or in lieu thereof an adequate reflector, attached to and visible from the rear at a distance of at least 200 feet.

However, no person under the age of 12 years shall operate a bicycle upon any street, highway, boulevard, or alley between the hours of 10:00 o'clock P.M. and 5:00 o'clock A.M. of the following day.

23.12 SIRENS PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for any bicycle to be equipped with a siren or whistle, or the operator to use any bell or horn otherwise than as a reasonable warning to other users of the public streets, highways, boulevards, or alleys.

23.13 SIDE-BY-SIDE TRAVEL PROHIBITED

No person shall operate a bicycle upon any public street, highway, boulevard, or alley abreast of and to the left of another person operating a bicycle except while passing such other bicycle.

23.14 OBSERVATION OF TRAFFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITION OF TRICK RIDING

Every person riding a bicycle upon any public street, highway, boulevard, or alley shall observe all traffic rules and regulations of the City and shall turn only at intersections as permitted by such rules and regulations, signal for all turns and stops, ride at the righthand side of such public way as near as may be possible, pass on the left when passing other bicycles or vehicles. It shall be unlawful to do any trick riding on any public way or to operate a bicycle without both hands on the handle bars.

23.15 USE OF SIDEWALKS PROHIBITED

A. Except for persons operating a bicycle with training wheels, no person shall operate a bicycle upon any sidewalk of other customary public pedestrian walkway. Bicycles shall be parked in available bike racks or, if none available, on sidewalks in such a manner so as to not unreasonably impede pedestrian traffic. The following exceptions apply:

- (1) Bicycles may be operated on private driveways in the area where such driveways cross the tree bank.
- (2) The Dells RiverWalk along the Wisconsin River; except that bicycles operated in connection with commercial activity are not permitted.
- (3) Bicycles may be operated on the 10' wide multi-use paths in the City.

23.155 BICYCLE PARKING

- (1) Bicycles may not be parked in the following locations:
 - (a) On the Broadway Street (Highway 13/16/23) right-of-way between the Wisconsin River Bridge and Church Street as posted by official signage.
 - (b) Bicycles may not be parked in the Elm Street Plaza area or public right-of-ways that bound the Plaza on any side as posted by official signage.
 - (c) Bicycles may not be allowed to park on any public right-of-way or property during special events such as Wo-Zha-Wa and other City of Wisconsin Dells approved festivals and events. These additional parking restrictions for bicycles would be as regulated by the City of Wisconsin Dells Chief of Police and official signage.

- (2) Bicycle parking on other City public right-of-ways/property is allowed as follows:
 - (a) Bicycles may be parked/secured to City of Wisconsin Dells owned bicycle racks for up to 48 hours, or as regulated by the Chief of Police and official sign.
 - (b) Bicycles may be parked/secured on other City public right-of-ways or property for no longer than 24 hours, in a manner that does not unreasonably impede any normal pedestrian or vehicle traffic flow or cause damage to any City owned property.
 - (c) The bicycle parking allowances listed above, apply to 1 bicycle per person. No one person may park multiple bicycles on any public property.

C. Penalty/Enforcement.

Bicycles and their owners or operators in violation of Subsections A and/or B may be cited and/or removed and stored at the owner's expense in addition to the penalty described in 23.18. Bicycles that are not claimed and/or owners are not ascertained, may be disposed of in accordance with the City of Wisconsin Dells Police Department policy dealing with property disposal.

23.16 OTHER DEVICES PROHIBITED IN COMMERCIAL AREAS

- (1) Use on Certain Sidewalks Prohibited. No person shall operate/use a skateboard or roller skates, roller blades, roller skis, electric, gas or push scooters, electric, gas, or push go-peds, or similar devices upon the following sidewalks in the City. This does not apply to devices used by persons with disabilities:
 - (a) All of Broadway from Hwy.12/13/16/23 intersection to Bowman Rd.
 - (b) The Wisconsin Dells RiverWalk
 - (c) The zero through 400 blocks, inclusive, of Broadway;
 - (d) The 700 block of La Crosse Street;
 - (e) The 700 block of Eddy Street;
 - (f) The 700 block of Superior Street;
 - (g) The 700 block of Oak Street;
 - (h) The 700 block of Cedar from Broadway to first alley
 - (i) The 800 block or River Road;
 - (j) The 800 block of Oak Street;

- (k) The 800 block of Elm Street;
- (l) All sidewalks on any side of:
 - (i) Municipal Buildings;
 - (ii) Churches;
 - (iii) Post Office; and
 - (iv) Any School.
 - (v) Grocery Stores

(2) Use of Streets Prohibited. No person shall operate a skateboard or shall wear and use roller skates, roller blades or roller skis upon any public street.

(3) Use in City Parks Prohibited. No person shall operate a skateboard or shall wear and use roller skates, roller blades, or roller skis in any city park. This excludes designated skateboard park areas.

23.17 INSTRUCTION ON USE OF BICYCLES

Each owner or person applying for a registration of a bicycle under this ordinance shall be given instructions by the Police Department on the operation of bicycles. Such instruction may be either written or oral.

23.18 PENALTY

(1) Any person who shall violate any provision of this Chapter 23 shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$250.00, together with costs and disbursements; and in default of payment thereof, by imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days. Each day's continuance of any violation shall constitute a separate offense.

(2) Owners or operators of bicycles in this Chapter 23 may be cited and bicycles may be removed and stored at the owner's expense. Bicycles that are not claimed and/or owners not ascertained, may be disposed of in accordance with the City of Wisconsin Dells Police Department policy dealing with property disposal.

CHAPTER 23 REVISIONS

A-213 10-27-88

A-215 12-19-89

A-417 11-17-97 Fees referred to Schedule of Fees

A-530 07-29-03 Regulates scooters on sidewalks. 23.15 and 23.16(1)

A-537 11-26-03 Commercial bike activity prohibited on RiverWalk 23.15 amended.

A-550 04-03-04 Extends sidewalk area devices are prohibited. 23.16(a)

A-572 03-30-05 Period of registration for bike to be entire period of ownership. 23.04

A-624 10-24-07 Create Prohibited uses in city parks. 23.16(3)

A-828 05-03-18 Regulates bicycle parking on Broadway. 23.15(b)&(c)

A-889 03-30-23 Allows bicycles on 10' multiuse paths & disallows on Elm St Plaza 23.15(A)(3),
23.155(1)(b) & 23.18(1)&(2)