



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 228
[2017 Assembly Bill 475]

**Lighting Requirements for
Animal-Drawn Vehicles**

Under prior law, no person may operate an animal-drawn vehicle on a highway during hours of darkness, unless the vehicle is equipped with at least one lighted lamp or lantern exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet ahead and two lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear and mounted in such a manner as to indicate the extreme width of the vehicle.

2017 Wisconsin Act 228 makes the following changes to the lighting requirements for animal-drawn vehicles:

- Adds a requirement that two yellow or amber strobe lights be mounted not more than six inches from the lateral extremities of the vehicle and be visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.
- Removes the requirement that lamps or lanterns be used to exhibit the white and red lights required under prior law.
- Extends the application of the lighting requirements to periods of inclement weather, in addition to hours of darkness.
- Authorizes a law enforcement officer to issue a warning notice, rather than a citation, for violations of the lighting requirements in certain circumstances.

Effective date: April 5, 2018

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.