

Chapter Hy 11

STOP SIGNS

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History: Chapter Hy 11 as it existed on August 31, 1962 was repealed and a new chapter Hy 11 was created effective September 1, 1962.

Hy 11.01 General. (1) **AUTHORITY FOR THESE RULES.** Pursuant to section 349.08 (1), Wis. Stats., the commission prescribes these rules relating to the design, installation and use of Stop signs.

(2) **PERMISSIVE INTERIM STANDARDS.** Stop signs which comply with chapter Hy 11 as published in the Wis. Adm. Register for April, 1967, may be used until January 1, 1976, but after December 31, 1972 all new Stop sign installations and after December 31, 1975 all Stop signs and their installation shall comply with these rules.

(3) **MINOR VARIATIONS IN SIGN DESIGN.** Stop signs shall conform to the detailed design specifications given in these rules. Minor variations in the size, stroke and shape of letters, the width of border, and the size of signs are permitted.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. (2), Register, April, 1967, No. 136, eff. 5-1-67; am. (2), Register, September, 1970, No. 177, eff. 10-1-70; am. (2), Register, June, 1972, No. 193, eff. 7-1-72.

Hy 11.02 Design of standard Stop sign. (1) **SHAPE.** A Stop sign shall be a true octagon positioned with 2 sides horizontal. No official traffic sign, except a Stop sign, shall be octagonal in shape.

(2) **SIZE.** (a) The standard size Stop sign shall be 30 inches between any 2 parallel edges.

(b) The minimum size Stop sign shall be 24 inches between any 2 parallel edges.

(c) Stop signs larger than the standard size may be used in which case the overall dimensions of the sign shall be increased in 6-inch increments and the size of the message shall be increased in proportion.

(3) **WORDING.** The word "Stop" shall be in rounded letters having a height of at least one-third the vertical dimension of the sign. Secondary messages, such as "All Way" or "4 Way" are not permitted on the Stop sign, but may be placed on a supplementary plate below the Stop sign.

(4) **COLORS OF BACKGROUND AND LETTERING.** The color of the background of the Stop sign shall be a bright, clear red, and the letters shall be white or silver.

(5) **ILLUMINATION OR REFLECTORIZATION.** (a) All Stop signs shall be completely illuminated or the lettering, border and background shall be reflectorized.

(b) Illumination shall be by white floodlight.

(c) Reflectorization shall be by crystal clear reflecting units or white or silver reflecting material in the letters and border, with red

reflecting material on the background. To meet the requirements of these rules for reflectorization, the color of the standard size Stop sign shall be readily detectable by a normal driver under clear weather conditions at night at a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time during the life of the sign when it is illuminated by the upper beam of vehicular headlamps meeting the requirements of chapter 347, Wis. Stats.

(d) In addition to illumination or reflectorization, a single flashing red beacon in operation both by day and by night may be used with a Stop sign. Such flashing beacon shall comply with Wis. Adm. Code chapter Hy 22.

(6) **BORDER.** Stop signs shall have a white or silver border.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. (2) (c), (3), (5) and (6), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 7-1-72.

Hy 11.03 Installation of Stop signs. (1) RURAL HIGHWAYS. (a) Mounting. Stop signs shall be erected on a suitable standard or support adequate to maintain the signs at the required height, location, and position.

(b) **Height.** Stop signs placed at the side of the highway shall be erected so that the bottom of the sign is not less than 5 feet above the centerline grade of the roadway except that where parking or pedestrian movements are likely to occur or where other obstructions to the visibility of the signs are present the bottom of the signs shall be at least 7 feet but not more than 9 feet above the centerline grade of the roadway. Stop signs mounted over the roadway shall be mounted so that the bottom of the sign is not less than 17 feet nor more than 19 feet above the grade of the roadway beneath the sign.

(c) **Location.** At least one of the Stop signs on each approach to an intersection shall be erected at the point where a vehicle is to stop or as near thereto as practicable. It shall be erected on the right-hand side of the roadway facing the traffic it is intended to control and as nearly as practical at right angles to the centerline of the roadway. Stop signs shall be erected not closer than 10 feet nor farther than 40 feet from the near roadway of the through highway. Where the roadway which the Stop sign is intended to control has a raised curb or guardrail, the nearest edge of the Stop sign shall be approximately 2 feet outside the curb line or behind the guardrail. Where there is no curb or guardrail, the nearest edge of the Stop sign shall be not less than 6 feet nor more than 12 feet from the edge of the roadway.

(2) **CITY AND VILLAGE STREETS. (a) Mounting.** Stop signs shall be erected on a suitable standard or support adequate to maintain the signs at the required height, location, and position.

(b) **Height.** Stop signs placed at the side of the highway shall be erected so that the bottom of the sign is not less than 7 feet nor more than 9 feet above the centerline grade of the roadway where parked cars or pedestrian movements may obscure the sign. Stop signs mounted over the roadway shall be mounted so that the bottom of the sign is not less than 17 feet nor more than 19 feet above the centerline grade of the roadway. Where conditions permit, Stop signs may be erected at the heights specified in subsection (1).

(c) **Location. 1.** At least one of the Stop signs on each approach to an intersection shall be erected at the point where a vehicle is to stop or as near thereto as practicable. It shall be erected on the right-hand

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side of the street facing the traffic it is intended to control, and as nearly as practical at right angles to the centerline of the street.

2. Stop signs shall be approximately 4 feet in advance of the crosswalk in the direction of approaching traffic. In curbed sections, the left edge of the sign shall be as close to the curb as is practical (approximately 1 foot), but not more than 3 feet from the face of the curb. Where there is no curb, signs shall be erected as specified in subsection (1).

3. Where possible, Stop signs shall be so located that their visibility will be unobstructed for at least 250 feet when viewed from a driver's position in the outer traffic lane.

4. Where the visibility of a sign may be impaired by stopped buses or other large vehicles, or where the sign must be placed where it will not be visible for at least 250 feet, an auxiliary Stop sign shall be erected in either the far-left or near-left quadrant of the intersection at the standard height and location with respect to distance from both roadways.

(3) INSTALLATION UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS. (a) All of the foregoing regulations with respect to the height and location of Stop signs are for normal conditions, and shall be applicable wherever possible. In special cases, where exact conformance to these regulations would not result in the best installation, the sign shall be erected where it will best serve the purpose for which it is intended.

(b) Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to prohibit the use of more than one Stop sign on each approach to a through highway, provided that all signs are of standard design and at least one is erected in conformity to these regulations.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. (1) (b), (2) (b), (3) (b), Register, June, 1972, No. 193, eff. 7-1-72.

Hy 11.04 Use of Stop signs and auxiliary signs. (1) STOP SIGNS. (a) Minimum size Stop signs may be used only at intersections where neither the through street or highway nor the street or highway to be stopped are a state trunk highway, a county trunk highway, a connecting street or a federal aid highway, and where both have only one lane for traffic in each direction and a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less is in effect on both streets or highways.

(b) Standard size Stop signs are the smallest which may be used at any intersection which does not qualify for the use of minimum size Stop signs under (a).

(c) Auxiliary signs which modify or amplify the message of a Stop sign shall be mounted on the same post with the Stop sign and immediately below it. In congested urban areas other signs may be mounted on the same post with a Stop sign when space restrictions prevent their being erected on a separate post. No sign shall be mounted between a Stop sign and the roadway it is intended to control.

(2) 4 WAY SIGN. At intersections where all traffic on all approaches to the intersection is controlled by Stop signs, an auxiliary sign with the message "4 WAY" or "ALL WAY" shall be used with each Stop sign. These signs shall be a horizontal rectangle with a standard and minimum size of 12 inches by 6 inches in the case of "4 WAY" and 18 inches by 6 inches in the case of "ALL WAY" and shall have reflectorized white letters, numeral and border on a red reflectorized background.

(3) **RIGHT TURN NO STOP SIGN.** Where the through highway declaration or ordinance provides that traffic on an approach on which other traffic is controlled by a Stop sign may enter the intersection to turn right without stopping, a sign reading "Right Turn No Stop" shall be erected with the Stop sign in the near-right quadrant of the intersection. This sign shall be a horizontal rectangle with a standard and minimum size of 30 inches by 18 inches and shall have black letters and border on a white or silver reflectorized background.

(4) **STOP AHEAD SIGN.** It is recommended that a standard diamond-shaped 30-inch by 30-inch (or larger) Stop Ahead sign with black letters and border on a reflectorized highway yellow background be erected between 700 and 1000 feet in advance of Stop signs on all rural highways and on those urban streets where a Stop sign is not clearly visible to approaching traffic for at least 250 feet.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. (1) (c), (2), and (3), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 7-1-72.