

## Chapter Hy 18

### YIELD SIGNS

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**History:** Chapter Hy 18 as it existed on August 31, 1962 was repealed and a new chapter Hy 18 was created effective September 1, 1962.

**Hy 18.01 General.** (1) **AUTHORITY FOR RULES.** Pursuant to section 349.08 (1), Wis. Stats., the commission prescribes these rules relating to the design, installation and use of Yield signs.

(2) **COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS.** Yield signs which comply with chapter Hy 18 as published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register for April, 1967, may be used before January 1, 1978, but after December 31, 1972 all new Yield sign installations and after December 31, 1977 all Yield signs and their installation and use shall comply with these rules.

(3) **MINOR VARIATIONS IN SIGN DESIGN.** Yield 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. 198, eff. 7-1-72; am. (2) Register, October, 1976, No. 250, eff. 11-1-76.

**Hy 18.02 Design of standard yield sign.** (1) **SHAPE.** A Yield sign shall be an equilateral triangle with one point downward. No official traffic sign, except a Yield sign, shall be an equilateral triangle in shape.

(2) **SIZE.** The standard and minimum size of a Yield sign shall be 36 inches on each side of the equilateral triangle. The corners of the sign shall be rounded with a radius of 1½ inches.

(3) **WORDING.** The wording shall be "Yield" in rounded letters with a height of 3 inches and stroke of 7/16 inch on the standard size sign.

(4) **COLOR OF BACKGROUND AND LETTERING.** The color of the border band and the lettering of the Yield sign shall be red. The margin and the interior triangle of the sign shall be white.

(5) **REFLECTORIZATION.** All Yield signs shall have reflectorized lettering, border band, interior triangle and margin. To meet the requirements of these rules for reflectORIZATION, the color of the standard size Yield 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.

(6) **BORDER BAND AND MARGIN.** The red border band on the standard size Yield sign shall be 5 inches wide. On a 48-inch size sign the border band shall be 6 inches wide. The margin shall be ¾ inch wide.

(7) **SIGNS LARGER THAN STANDARD.** When signs larger than the standard sign are used, the letters, border, margin and radius of corner rounding shall be increased in proportion to the enlargement of the sign board.

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. (3), (4), (5) and (6), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 7-1-72.

**Hy 18.03 Installation of yield signs.** (1) **MOUNTING.** Yield signs shall be erected on a suitable standard or support adequate to maintain the sign at the required height, location and position. Yield signs shall be placed on separate posts rather than on posts with other types of signs except where a separate post is not practicable.

(2) **HEIGHT.** Yield signs 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 might obscure the sign. Where parking is unlikely to occur and the lower mounting height would not be a hazard to pedestrians. Yield signs may be erected so that the bottom of the sign is not less than 5 feet above the centerline grade of the roadway.

(3) **LOCATION.** (a) At least one of the Yield signs on each approach to an intersection shall be erected at the point where a vehicle is to yield or as near thereto as practical. It shall be erected on the righthand 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. On multi-lane one-way streets, one Yield sign shall be placed on the near-right side, and one on the near-left side of the approach.

(b) Yield signs shall be placed approximately 4 feet in advance of the crosswalk in the direction of approaching traffic. In curbed roadway sections, the left edge of the sign shall be as close to the curb as is practical (approximately one foot), but not more than 3 feet from the face of the curb. Where there is no curb, signs shall be not less than 6 feet nor more than 12 feet from the edge of the roadway.

(c) Where possible, Yield 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.

(d) Where the visibility of a Yield 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 Yield sign shall be erected in either the far-left or near-left position at the standard height and location with respect to distance from both roadways.

(4) **INSTALLATION UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS.** (a) All of the foregoing regulations with respect to the height and location of Yield 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 signs shall be erected where they will best serve the purpose for which they are intended.

(b) Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to prohibit the use of more than one Yield sign on each approach to an intersecting 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. (4) (b), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 7-1-72.

**Hy 18.04 Use of yield signs.** (1) Yield signs may be installed by the governing body of a city or village at the intersections of 2 or more city or village streets, none of which (a) carries the marked route of a state trunk highway, (b) is maintained by the county, or (c) is a part of a through highway.

(2) Yield signs may be installed on rural state trunk highways and the urban extensions thereof, on connecting streets, and on through streets in cities and villages to regulate merging movements and conflicting movements occurring within the intersection of 2 or more highways, but such Yield signs shall not be used in lieu of stop signs at direct crossings of two-way highways. Yield signs may be installed on rural state trunk highways, and the urban extensions thereof only by order of the state highway commission, and may be installed on connecting streets only after the installation is approved by the commission.

(3) Yield signs shall not be installed on one of 2 intersecting streets at an intersection at which Stop signs have been installed on the other intersecting street, nor shall Yield signs be installed where the statutes require that a stop be made.

(4) Yield signs shall not be installed on all approaches to an intersection to create an "all-way" yield regulation, nor shall 2 or more intersecting vehicular movements be controlled by the installation of Yield signs for all such movements.

(5) Yield signs may be installed on a street crossing a divided street at the point where the street intersects the second (or far) roadway of the divided street, provided that the median is not less than 20 feet in width.

(6) Yield signs may be installed on separated turn lanes designed to permit turning vehicles to merge with through traffic without stopping.

(7) Yield signs shall not be used at signalized intersections even though the traffic signal may be on flashing operation for part of the day or at irregular intervals, except for the control of separate turning lanes for which no signal indication is provided.

(8) Yield signs may be installed as provided above at intersections where deemed warranted on the basis of a traffic study in which such factors as accident experience, sight restrictions and traffic volume are considered.

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; r. and recr. (1) and (2); am. (6); cr. (8), Register, September, 1963, No. 93, eff. 10-1-63.

**Hy 18.05 Yield ahead signs.** It is recommended that a 30-inch by 30-inch Yield Ahead sign with black letters and border on a reflectorized highway yellow background be erected between 700 and 1000 feet in advance of Yield signs on those urban streets where a Yield sign is not clearly visible to approaching traffic for at least 250 feet.

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62.