

AMENDING CHAPTER 71 OF THE DANE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES,  
REGARDING THE ICEBOUND LAKES OF DANE COUNTY

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Dane does ordain as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Unless otherwise expressly stated herein, all references to section and chapter numbers are to those of the Dane County Code of Ordinances.

ARTICLE 2. Section 71.04 is amended to read as follows:

**71.04 DEFINITIONS**

**(3h)** Wearable Personal floatation device means a device that conforms to the definitions of "Wearable PFD" as used in the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

**(3w)** Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle means a vehicle which is either an all-terrain vehicle, utility-terrain vehicle, off-highway motorcycle, or snowmobile, with those terms having the meaning set forth in the Wisconsin Statutes.

ARTICLE 3. Section 70.10 is amended to read as follows:

**71.10 MOTOR VEHICLES PROHIBITED ON COUNTY LAKES.** ~~Except as provided in sections 71.11, 71.12 and 71.13 hereof, No~~ person shall drive or permit to be driven any motor vehicle upon the icebound waters of Dane County with the following exceptions:

**(1)** Persons may operate off-highway recreational vehicles upon the icebound waters of Dane County. Those vehicles must have a valid registration issued by the State of Wisconsin or other state. It is permissible to operate off-highway recreational vehicles that have been modified to replace their tires with treads and/or tracks.

**(2)** Persons may operate vehicles as permitted under section 71.13 of this Chapter.

ARTICLE 4. Section 71.11 is repealed.

~~**71.11 MADISON AREA LAKES.**~~

~~Notwithstanding the provisions of sec. 71.10, the operation of a motor vehicle which weighs less than 850 pounds and which is equipped with flotation devices sufficient to maintain buoyancy is permitted on the icebound waters of Lakes Mendota, Monona and Wingra.~~

ARTICLE 5. Section 71.12 is repealed.

~~**71.12 OTHER DANE COUNTY LAKES.**~~

~~(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of sec. 71.10, the operation of any motor vehicle which weighs less than 750 pounds is permitted on the icebound waters of county lakes other than Lakes Mendota, Monona and Wingra.~~

~~(2) Operation of any motor vehicle on the icebound waters of lakes located in Dane County other than Lakes Mendota, Monona and Wingra, which weighs~~

47 more than 750 pounds, but less than 850 pounds, shall be subject to the buoyancy  
48 requirements of sec. 71.11.

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50 ARTICLE 6. Section 71.13 is amended to read as follows:

51 **71.13 EXCEPTIONS TO WEIGHT LIMITATIONS VEHICLE**  
52 **PROHIBITIONS.**

53 (1) The sheriff may issue a temporary certificate allowing operation of a  
54 motor vehicle weighing 850 pounds or more, under the following circumstances  
55 where use of a motor vehicle on icebound waters is necessary:

56 (a) for the delivery of supplies or equipment to a social event, sponsored by  
57 a nonprofit community organization, which takes place on the ice;

58 (b) for commercial fishing operations;

59 (c) for construction or reconstruction of shoreline;

60 (d) for tree trimming or tree removal operations;

61 (e) for purposes of preparing the ice for skating or related activities;

62 (f) for salvage operations, where there is a need to engage in such activity  
63 before the ice thaws; and

64 ~~(g) for operation by an individual who has been issued a special license  
65 plate by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation pursuant to Wis. Stats. s.  
66 341.14(1a), (1e), (1m), (1q), or (1r), for recreational purposes such as ice fishing.~~

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68 ARTICLE 8. Section 71.20 is amended to read as follows:

69 **71.20 GENERAL REGULATIONS.**

70 (1) All motor driven vehicles shall be lighted from sunset to sunrise by a  
71 headlamp of white light of sufficient illuminating power to reveal any person,  
72 vehicle or substantial object at a distance of 200 feet ahead and a tail lamp of red  
73 light plainly visible during darkness from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.

74 (2) Wearable personal floatation devices required. All operators and  
75 passengers of off-highway recreational vehicles present on the icebound lakes  
76 of Dane County shall wear personal floatation devices while onboard the off-  
77 highway recreational vehicle.

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80 *[EXPLANATION: This amendment updates Chapter 71 to allow for all-terrain*  
81 *vehicles and snowmobiles to traverse the icebound lakes of Dane County*  
82 *regardless of weight. Other vehicles may still be operated on the lakes with the*  
83 *proper permit. This amendment makes Chapter 71 consistent across all*  
84 *icebound lakes in Dane County. It adds a requirement to wear personal floatation*  
85 *devices while operating vehicles on these lakes.]*