

Watch Out for School Buses



In Minnesota, school buses make at least 10,000 school bus trips daily. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, school buses are the safest mode of transportation for children—children are eight times safer riding in a bus to school than any other vehicles.

Stop for School Buses: It's the Law!

- ⇒ State laws requires all vehicles to stop for school buses when the bus driver activates the flashing lights and has the crossing arm full extended.
- ⇒ Drivers who violate the law face a \$500 fine.
- ⇒ Drivers can face criminal charges for passing a school bus on the right, pass when a child is outside the bus, or injuring or killing a child,

Motorists

- ⇒ Motorists must stop at least 20 feet from a school bus that is displaying red flashing lights or a stop arm when approaching from the rear and from the opposite direction on undivided roads.
- ⇒ Motorists should slow down, pay attention and anticipate school children and buses, especially in neighborhoods and school zones.
- ⇒ The best way to be aware of your surrounding at all times is to put the distractions away.

Students

- ⇒ When getting of a bus, look to be sure no cars are passing on the shoulder.
- ⇒ Wait for the bus driver to signal that it's safe to cross.
- ⇒ When crossing the street to get on the bus or to go home, make eye contact with motorists before proceeding.

Danger in the “Danger Zone”

More children are killed outside of a school bus than they are as bus occupants. Motorists must anticipate children in a school bus “danger zone”- the area around a bus where most injuries and deaths occur.

School Bus Safety Tips for Children

When waiting for the bus: Be patient, stand back from road and no running or rowdy behavior.

When on the bus: stay seated, listen to the diver and use quiet voices.

Its important for parents to discuss and demonstrate pedestrian safety with their children and reinforce safe crossing after exiting a bus:

- When getting of a bus, look to be sure no cars are passing on the shoulder (side of the road).
- Before crossing the street, take five “giant steps” out from the front of the bus, or until the driver's face can be seen.
- Wait for the driver to signal that it's safe to cross.
- Look left-right-left when coming to the edge of the bus to make sure traffic is stopped. Keep watching traffic when crossing.

School Bus Safety Tips for Motorists

- Motorists must stop at least 20 feet from a school bus that is displaying red flashing lights and/or its stop arm is extended when approaching from the rear and from the opposite direction on undivided roads.
- Red flashing lights on buses indicate students are either entering or exiting the bus.
- Motorists are not required to stop for a bus if the bus is on the opposite side of a separated roadway (median, ect.) - but they should remain alert for children.
- Altering a rout or schedule to avoid bus is one way motorists can help improve safety. In doing so, motorists wont find themselves behind a bus and as a result, potentially putting children at risk.
- Watch for school crossing patrols and pedestrians. Reduce speeds in and around school zones.
- Watch and stop for pedestrians—the law applies to all street corners, for both marked and unmarked crosswalks (all street corners) - every corner is a crosswalk.



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City Hall Hours

- ◆ Monday 8:00am to 4:30pm
- ◆ Tuesday 8:00am to 6:00pm
- ◆ Wednesday: 8:00am to 1:00pm
- ◆ Thursday: 8:00am to 5:00pm
- ◆ Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm

Upcoming Council Meetings

September 7 & 21
October 5 & 19
November 2 & 16
December 7 & 21

September Recycling Weeks:
7th & 21st



City Hall will be Closed:
September 6th



September 2021



Annual Notice to All Residential Customers

Bills can pile up just like snow. However, the Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills in the winter. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule applies from October 15th to April 15th. The rule, established by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, means that your utility cannot disconnect your residential electric service during the winter if the customer meets the following requirements:

- (1) Utility disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source;
- (2) The customer has declared inability to any on forms provided by the utility (Note: Customers receiving "any form of public assistance," including energy assistance, are deemed to have qualified for inability to pay status);
- (3) The household income of the customer is less than 50 percent of the state median income level, as documented by the customer to the utility; and
- (4) The customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.

If you have trouble paying your utility bill, local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance. The state Department of Human Services recommends you call the county in which you live.



If you know you're going to have trouble paying your utility bills, please contact utility company ahead of time to try to work out a payment schedule.

Annual Notice for Military Personnel

Minnesota law requires that customers and utilities make utility payment arrangements military service personnel in the following situation. If a member of a household has been issued orders into active duty, deployment or change in duty station and the residential customer meets specific income criteria, the City of Kimball must not disconnect the utility service of that qualifying residential customer.

An application must include copies of income statements and proof of military orders as described in the law. The City of Kimball may shut off utility service for nonpayment if an application does not include the required copies of income statements and proof of military orders as required by *Minn. Stat. § 325E.028*.

If you would like a copy of this law, please contact Kimball City Hall.

Just a friendly reminder...utility bills are due the 28th of each month.

Payments can be made at the city office during business hours, placed in the drop slot, mailed or pay online (follow the links on the City of Kimball website). The City of Kimball also accepts credit cards in person and over the phone.