

The town board of every town in counties having a population of 500,000 or more may require by ordinance that the owner or owners of any lands located in such town shall cut any weeds, grasses or other growth, not defined as noxious weeds in section 94.20, for the purpose of preventing fires, and in the event of the failure of such owner or owners to comply with the provisions of such ordinance after receiving such notice as may be provided therein, the board may proceed to have the same cut and assess the costs incurred in so doing, against such lands the same as are other special taxes.

Approved July 6, 1945.

No. 596, A.]

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### CHAPTER 430.

AN ACT to amend 85.74 and to repeal and recreate 85.71 and 85.75 of the statutes, relating to uniform stop signs, traffic control signals and to traffic sign, signal, and whistle legend.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. 85.71 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

85.71 STOP SIGNS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS TO BE STANDARD. (1) Every place where traffic crossing or entering an artery for through traffic is required to stop under the provisions of this chapter, shall be plainly marked by an official stop sign directing traffic to stop.

(2) Within 90 days after passage of this section the state highway commission shall prescribe and publish regulations for the design, installation and operation of traffic control signals and stop signs in accordance with section 85.71 (2) and as it shall deem necessary the said commission may prescribe and publish revised regulations which shall have the full force of law 30 days after publication in the official state paper.

(3) Stop signs and traffic control signals and their installation shall be uniform throughout the state as prescribed by the state highway commission.

(4) All new stop signs and traffic control signals installed or erected after the publication of the regulations of the state highway commission shall conform to said regulations.

(5) All stop signs and traffic control signals including those presently installed or erected shall conform to the regulations of the state highway commission on and after January 1, 1950.

SECTION 2. 85.74 of the statutes is amended to read:

85.74 The \* \* \* *state highway commission* may when requested furnish official \* \* \* traffic control \* \* \* devices at cost to any county or municipality.

SECTION 3. 85.75 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

85.75 TRAFFIC SIGN AND SIGNAL LEGEND. (1) TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL LEGEND. Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic control signals exhibiting the words "Go", "Caution", or "Stop", or exhibiting different colored lights successively, or with arrows, the following colors shall be used and said terms and lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(a) *Green or "Go."* 1. Vehicular traffic facing the signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits either such turn, but vehicular traffic shall yield the right of way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.

2. Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

(b) *Yellow or "Caution."* When shown with or following the green, traffic facing this signal shall stop before entering the intersection unless so close to it that a stop cannot be made in safety.

(c) *Red or "Stop."* 1. Vehicular traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of an intersection, or if none, then before entering the intersection or at such other point as may be indicated by a clearly visible sign or marking, and shall remain standing until green or "Go" is shown.

2. No pedestrian facing such signal shall enter the roadway unless he can do so safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

(d) *Green arrow.* 1. Vehicular traffic facing such signal may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow but shall yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully within a crosswalk, and with regard to vehic-

ular traffic the rules of right of way as stated in section 85.18 shall apply.

2. No pedestrian facing such signal shall enter the roadway unless he can do so safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

(2) FLASHING SIGNALS. Whenever flashing red or yellow signals are used they shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(a) *Flashing red (stop signal)*. When a red lens is illuminated by rapid intermittent flashes, operators of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection or at a limit line when marked and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(b) *Flashing yellow (caution signal)*. When a yellow lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, operators of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

(3) APPLICATION OF SECTION. In the event an official traffic signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application.

(4) WHISTLE SIGNALS. Whenever traffic is alternately being directed to stop and to proceed by a traffic officer using a whistle, said officer shall use the following whistle signals which shall signify as follows:

(a) *One whistle blast*. One blast of the whistle shall mean that all traffic not within the intersection shall stop.

(b) *Two whistle blasts*. Two blasts of the whistle shall mean that traffic which had been stopped prior to the one blast shall proceed through the intersection and that the traffic which had been stopped by the one blast shall remain stopped.

(c) *Interval between blasts*. The interval between the one and the 2 blasts shall be regulated by the traffic officer so as to permit traffic that is legally within the intersection to clear the intersection.

Approved July 6, 1945.