

Parking in the University of Minnesota Area

Parking will always be an issue in the University area. Now that Gopher football has returned to the campus, residents and property owners will face new challenges as people look for a convenient, inexpensive parking spot.

No Parking Signs

The City of Minneapolis requires signage for properties for which the owners wish to use the tool of towing to control unauthorized parking on their property. Towing is an effective deterrent for unwanted parking, but these businesses need to use the signs to control parking.

However, the City Zoning Code (Chapter 109) does regulate the size and placement of the signs. No parking signs cannot be placed or maintained in the public right of way.

Total signage on a lot shall be limited to 2 square feet. The signs shall not be illuminated.

Parking on the Lawn

In Minneapolis, it is against the law to park on the lawn on residential or commercial property. If you allow parking on your lawn or if your tenants allow parking on the lawn, you can be fined \$200. The fine doubles for each additional violation of the property, up to \$2000. Cars may be towed.

See Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Chapter 319 for parking and commercial property. These ordinances apply across the city, not just in the University area.

Parking on Commercial Property

A Class A commercial parking lot license is required if a fee is charged for parking.

The lot must be paved, with conspicuously marked spaces, landscaping, fencing, bumper curbs, and signs containing rates and contact information.

Litter, tall grass, and weeds must be controlled.

Alcohol is prohibited in Class A commercial parking lots near the TCF stadium.

Tailgating (Consuming Alcohol in a Parking Lot)

Minneapolis Ordinance 319.310(c) defines the area that allow tailgating with alcohol. The area is mainly around the Metrodome. The University of Minnesota area is not included.

The Minnesota Legislature gave the University the authority to choose to allow tailgating with alcohol. Tailgating will be allowed on more than two dozen U of M surface parking lots on University of Minnesota property on the East Bank and West Bank and in St. Paul (including State Fair lots). No tailgating will be permitted in ramps and garages.

Tailgating activities may begin six hours before kickoff or 7 AM, whichever is later, but must end four hours after the end of the game or by midnight, whichever is earlier. See the U of M website for more information.

Enforcement

Business license inspectors, housing inspectors, and Minneapolis police will enforce parking ordinances during U of M games. Citations will be given and cars may be towed. Violations will result in fines. As a property owner, you are responsible for, and will be issued citations for, violations on your property. Please educate your tenants on these ordinances. See <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/businesslicensing/tailgating> for further information.

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