

The school year is underway, and there's no better time to remind all parents of the safe crossing points to ensure our children travel safely to and from school.



“Encourage your children to walk or cycle to school. Not only is this a healthy alternative, but fewer cars in school parking lots and in front of schools make it safer for everyone”.

School routes

The map included on the back of this brochure shows the safe crossing points and indicates whether there are traffic control signals, student safety patrols or adult crossing guards near your school. We suggest you mark your route of choice on this map and walk the route with your child/children, pointing out the safest ways to get to and from school.

No stopping zones

At the City of Waterloo, we've heard from many parents and school officials who are concerned about vehicles that are stopped or parked illegally near schools when children are being picked up or dropped off. This causes high traffic volumes and poor visibility, which can create a serious safety hazard. By-law enforcement officers will be visiting schools again this year and there is currently a zero tolerance approach to this issue. It may be a small inconvenience to park in a safe place away from the school, but it could prevent a needless collision.

A note about “No parking” and “School bus loading” zones:

In addition to the “no stopping” zones, there are also “no parking” and “school bus loading” zones established for the safety of children entering the school. Watch for these signs if you drive your children to school and please don't park here. The Waterloo Regional Police Service and the City of Waterloo by-law enforcement officers will be strictly enforcing these by-laws.

If you must drive to school, park on a street near the school where there is legal parking and walk your child the remainder of the way to school. Encourage your children to walk or cycle to school. Not only is this a healthy alternative, but fewer cars in school parking lots and in front of schools make it safer for everyone.

Here's a summary of signs to watch for around your school:



No stopping

When this sign is posted on a city street, it means that no one can park or stop in the area designated as a no stopping zone. The fine for parking or stopping in a “No Stopping” zone is **\$50**. No stopping in a school zone area carries a fine of **\$80**



School bus loading zone

This sign indicates that the area is reserved exclusively for school buses. All other vehicles are prohibited from stopping or parking in these designated areas. The minimum fine for failing to comply with this by-law is **\$80**.



No parking zone

When this sign is posted on a city street, it means that a vehicle can stop for a short period of time while actively loading or unloading. If you leave your vehicle temporarily in a no parking area, you should put your four-way flashers on to indicate to enforcement staff that you do not intend on parking longer than two to four minutes. The set fine for anyone leaving their vehicle parked in a no parking area is **\$45**.



Fire route

Fire routes are designated for emergency vehicles (fire trucks and ambulances) only. These locations must be kept clear of all other vehicles to ensure properties are accessible in case of an emergency. The set fine for parking or stopping in a fire route area is **\$75**.



School zones

This sign identifies areas in and around schools where a large number of children can be expected to be walking along and crossing roadways at any point. In the interest of their safety, motorists should slow down and drive with extra care and caution and, at all times, be watching for children.



Crossing guards

You **must** stop when a crossing guard enters the roadway or while the crossing guard is in the roadway with the stop sign visible. And, you must remain stopped until the children and the crossing guard have safely cleared the roadway. Failure to stop could result in the serious injury of a child and the adult crossing guard. The minimum fine is **\$150** and the loss of three demerit points on your driver's license record.



Student safety patrols

These safety patrols are school aged children who stand at the side of the road and assist children in crossing the road. They do not go out onto the road and stop traffic. Motorists should exercise caution in areas where student safety patrols are located.

Please note: All fines mentioned are as of August 2011, and may increase without notice.