

**CITIZEN COURTESY INFORMATION  
FOR BETTER & SAFER NEIGHBORHOODS**

The City ordinances listed are summaries of some of the more common violations the Sterling Police have to deal with. By keeping you, the citizens informed, and working together in partnership with the police, we can improve the quality of life in our neighborhood and make it a better and safer place to live. We hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions pertaining to these ordinances, please feel free to call the Sterling Police Department at 815-632-6640.

**Sec. 14-31. - Running at large; penalty.**

It is unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog or cat to permit such dog or cat to run at large within the city limits. The owner or keeper of any dog or cat shall not permit such dog or cat to go beyond the premises of the owner or keeper unless such dog or cat is securely leashed or otherwise securely restrained and at all times under the control of its owner or keeper.

A fine of \$50.00 will be levied against the owner of the animal caught running at large. After the second offense within a one-year period, the fine will be assessed at \$100.00. The fine for the third and any subsequent offenses within a one-year period will be \$150.00.

**Sec. 14-5. - Noisy animals.**

It shall be unlawful to harbor or keep any animals which disturb the peace by loud noises at any time of the day or night.

**Sec. 78-220. - Parking prohibited under certain conditions.**

After the effective time specified in the declaration of a snow emergency, it is unlawful for any person to obstruct the orderly removal of snow from the city's streets by parking or otherwise leaving unattended any motor vehicle upon:

(1) *Snow routes.* Any street which has been designated as a snow route. The parking restrictions of this section shall terminate block by block as soon as the accumulated snow has been removed from the full width of the street.

(2) *Central business district.* Any street in the central business district between 1:30 a.m. and 5:30 a.m.

(3) *Other streets.* All other city streets as follows:

a. During the time of a snow emergency, no person shall leave parked or standing any motor vehicle on an even-numbered side of the street in the city on an odd-numbered day of the month, nor shall any such vehicle be parked or standing on an odd-numbered side of the street in the city on an even-numbered day of the month. For the purpose of this article, odd- and even-numbered days shall be considered as beginning between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. The snow emergency and the parking restrictions of this section shall terminate

block by block as soon as the accumulated snow has been removed from the full width of the street, and at such time regular parking regulations shall go back into effect immediately. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed to permit parking on streets where parking is otherwise restricted or prohibited.

b. The provisions of this section shall be in effect during a snow emergency. Signs shall be posted on primary roads at or near their points of intersection with the corporate boundaries of the city stating: "Restricted Parking during Snow Emergencies. Calendar parking in effect until snow has been removed from the full width of the street."

(4) *Streets designated under [section 78-225](#)*. Any street or portion thereof when preceded by a public notice by the chief of police.

**Sec. 90-32. - Parallel parking.**

Except as provided in this section, no vehicle shall be parked with the left side of such vehicle next to the curb, nor shall any vehicle be parked or allowed to stand in any position other than a position parallel with the curb with the two right wheels of the vehicle within 12 inches of the regularly established curb line, except that, upon those streets that have been or may hereafter be marked for diagonal parking and upon which parking spaces are marked off on the pavement, either at the curb or in the center of such streets, vehicles shall be placed at the angle to the curb line indicated by such marks, and shall be parked only within such marks. On streets designated as one-way streets, vehicles may park on either side of the street but shall park with wheels nearest the curb line not more than 12 inches from the curb line, except on streets marked for diagonal parking.

**Sec. 90-33. - Time limit.**

It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle for a longer consecutive period of time than 48 hours on the streets or alleys in the city or in any free parking area or in any city-owned (municipal) parking lot.

**Sec. 90-34. - Obstruction of alleys.**

No person shall park a vehicle within an alley in such a manner or under such a condition as to leave available less than ten feet of the width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic, and no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within an alley in such a position as to block a driveway entrance into any abutting property.

**Sec. 90-87. - Parking on street or in public view prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful to park an abandoned or inoperative vehicle on any highway in the city. It shall be unlawful to park an abandoned or inoperative vehicle or any part thereof on private or public property, in view of the general public, anywhere in the city.

**Sec. 6-12. - Consumption in public places prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to consume or possess in any open container any alcoholic liquor in the public parks, streets, municipal buildings, alleys or highways or other places of public assemblage, except by special event license or where a special event permit under [chapter 6](#), article I, subsection [6-3](#)(d) is authorized by the liquor control commissioner.

**Sec. 90-163. - Lamps and other equipment.**

Every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type approved by the state which shall be visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

A bicycle shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a bicycle any siren.

Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will adequately control movement of and stop and hold such bicycle.

No person shall sell a new bicycle or pedal for use on a bicycle that is not equipped with a reflex reflector conforming to specifications prescribed by the state, on each pedal, visible from the front and rear of the bicycle during darkness from a distance of 200 feet.

No person shall sell or offer for sale a new bicycle that is not equipped with side reflectors. Such reflectors shall be visible from each side of the bicycle from a distance of 500 feet and shall be essentially colorless or red to the rear of the center of the bicycle and essentially colorless or amber to the front of the center of the bicycle provided. The requirements of this subsection may be met by reflective materials which shall be at least 3/16 of an inch wide on each side of each tire or rim to indicate as clearly as possible the continuous circular shape and size of the tires or rims of such bicycle and which reflective materials may be of the same color on both the front and rear tire or rim. Such reflectors shall conform to specifications prescribed by the state.

**Sec. 90-164. - Riding on bicycles.**

A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

**Sec. 62-57. - Curfew.**

Notwithstanding anything contained to the contrary in existing city ordinances the following shall apply with respect to curfew:

It is unlawful for a person more than 14 years of age, but less than 18 years of age to be present at or upon any public assembly, building, place, street or highway at the following times, unless accompanied and supervised by a parent or legal guardian, unless engaged in a business or occupation which the laws of this state authorize a person less than 18 years of age to perform:

Between 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Saturday.

Between 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Sunday.

Between 11:00 p.m. on Sunday to Thursday, inclusive, and 6:00 a.m. on the following day.

It is unlawful for a person less than 15 years of age to be present at or upon any public assembly, building, place, street or highway at the following times, unless accompanied and supervised by a parent or legal guardian, unless engaged in a business or occupation which the laws of this state authorize a person less than 16 years of age to perform or unless in attendance at, or while traveling directly home from a school, church or a not-for-profit community organization sponsored activity:

Between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. (on the following day), seven days a week.

It is unlawful for any parent, legal guardian or other person to knowingly permit a person in his custody or control to violate this section.

**Sec. 22-80. - Purchase by persons under the age of 21 prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 21 years to purchase tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or alternative nicotine products, or to misrepresent their identity or age, or use any false or altered identification for the purpose of purchasing tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or alternative nicotine products.