

**Dane County Sheriff's Office
Marine and Trail Enforcement Bureau
sankey@danesherriff.com**



Flotation Inspections

Dane County Ordinance Chapter 71 requires certain motorized vehicles operated on lakes within Dane County to be equipped with flotation. The requirements are as follows:

Lakes Mendota – Monona - Wingra	
Vehicles weighing under 850 lbs.	Require flotation and a permit
Vehicles weighing over 850 lbs.	Issued for lake event support vehicles ONLY

All Other Lakes in Dane County	
Vehicles under 750 lbs.	No flotation is required
Vehicles weighing between 750 & 850 lbs.	Require flotation and a permit
Vehicles over 850 lbs.	Issued for lake event support vehicles ONLY

The following units are **PROHIBITED** on the ice due to the weight limit: (\$200.50 fine)

- UTV's (Polaris Ranger, John Deere Gator, Kawasaki Mule, etc.)
- Certain large CC and some 2-up ATV's – check the manufacturers specifications
- ATV's with tracks (the tracks push the unit over the 850 lb. limit)

Requirements

All vehicles requiring flotation and/or a permit must be inspected. Inspection dates, times and location are listed (and are available on our website at www.danesherriff.com).

Inspection Fee

There is a \$10.00 inspection fee for all new and renewal inspections. The fee is payable by cash or check (must have photo ID), and must be paid at the time of inspection.

Flotation

Flotation must be mounted as equally as possible, front and back, or side-to-side. The floats must be hard mounted to the machine (bolts, metal brackets, chain, cable, etc.) Nylon straps, bungee cords, ropes, etc. are not permitted.

The flotation material used most commonly is Styrofoam, either in sheets, blocks, or sprayed. Popcorn or peanut type packing material is NOT acceptable. The flotation should be enclosed/protected by wood, metal, aluminum, or plastic to prevent it from breaking. Air filled containers are not acceptable. Pictures of sample flotation devices are viewable at www.danesherriff.com. The black nylon float cases and inflatable Nebulus are approved.

Each cubic foot of flotation will float 60 lbs. Diameter measurements can be deceiving. Each diameter measurement listed below equals **one cubic foot** of flotation. If using cylinders, you will need to multiply the length times 5 for an ATV, and times 16 for a snowmobile to get the correct cylinder length needed.

- 6-inch cylinder X 61-inches long
- 8-inch cylinder X 35-inches long
- 9-inch cylinder X 27-inches long

- 10-inch cylinder X 22-inches long
- 12-inch cylinder X 15-inches long
- 14-inch cylinder X 13-inches long

Inspection Information

Inspections are held at the Dane County Parks Operations Office located at 4318 Robertson Road, Madison, WI. **(see map below)** Inspections at this location are done ***only*** at the dates and times listed. ***(Do not go to this address at any other time expecting an inspection.)***

2019 – 2020 Dates

Saturday Mornings: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

December 7, 14, 21 and 28

December						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 4

January						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

