MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE

FΑQ



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WHAT IS A MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE?

The municipal vehicle registration fee has been allowed in Wisconsin since 1967 under Wis. Stat. §314.35, which allows a town, village, city or county to collect an annual vehicle registration fee (or wheel tax) in addition to the regular annual registration fee paid for:

- Autocycles
- Automobiles
- Trucks at 8,000 lbs. or less (except dual purpose farm)

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WHEN WILL THE MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE GO INTO EFFECT & WHAT IS THE COST?

Plates that expire in December expire after the last day of the month. A current registration with a DEC sticker means the plate is good through 12-31-2025. The customer's next registration will start on 1-1-2026 and go through 12-31-2026. City of Neenah's municipal vehicle registration fee is effective 1-1-2026 and the first day of the next registration is 1-1-2026 and the fee will apply.

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HOW MANY VEHICLES IN THE CITY OF NEENAH ARE SUBJECT TO THE FEE?

About 27,075 vehicles would be subject to the registration fee as of January 1, 2026.

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WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED REVENUE COLLECTION?

With a \$30 fee, the estimated annual revenue collected is \$812,250.

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HOW IS THE MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE COLLECTED?

The Wisconsin Department of transportation (WisDOT) collects the municipal vehicle registration fee at the time of vehicle registration or renewal along with any other registration fees. WisDOT keeps an administrative fee of 17 cents per vehicle application and sends the rest to the respective county or municipality.

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WHAT CAN THE MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE BE USED FOR?

Revenues collected from the municipal vehicle registration may only be used for transportation related purposes, such as maintenance and repair of roads/paths/trails, pedestrian safety improvements, lights/signals/signs, traffic markings, and landscaped medians and roundabouts. Collected fees cannot be used or transferred for other government purposes and are not subject to levy limits.

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WHICH OTHER JURISDICTIONS HAVE ENACTED A MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE?

As of July 2025, 50 municipalities and 13 counties have implemented a fee. You can find a current list of all participating municipalities and counties, as well as the specific fee amounts, on the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) website.

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WHAT VEHICLES ARE EXEMPT FROM THE MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE?

The following vehicles are exempt from the municipal vehicle registration fee:

- Buses, motorcycles, mopeds, motor homes, low-speed vehicles and trailers.
- Trucks registered as more than 8,000 pounds.
- Farm or dual purpose farm trucks.
- Antique, collector, driver education, historic military, hobbyist, human service, low-speed, medal of honor, municipal, stated-owned, special X and one vehicle with exprisoner of war registration issued to any qualified individual.
- Any vehicle with registration issued by a Wisconsin Indian tribe or band.
- Vehicles displaying dealer, distributor, finance company or manufacturer plates.

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WHAT IF I HAVE A NEENAH ADDRESS BUT DON'T LIVE IN THE CITY OF NEENAH?

Some residents have a Neenah mailing address but reside outside the city limits and are therefore not subject to the fee. When registering your vehicle, be sure to indicate the accurate location where the vehicle is kept.

LICENSE PL	ATE RENEWA	AL NOTICE	Model Year	000000	2 Total Due	PRESORTED First Class Mail US POSTAGE PAID
01/19/2011		2FAHP71W93X16896		FORD	\$75.00	Madison, WI Permit No. 1369
		NE, CITY OF MADISON ept. of Transportation 9, Milwaukee, WI 53201-	2270	DDM	Fleet Number XXXXXXXXXXX	More information on Back
	PO BOX 32/8				20255100345 payable to Regist	tration Fee Trust.
	20255	100342121ABC	0119	15075Y	UT000750	ONRO
← op	Out regarding open	records laws (see instruction	ns on back)			
Add \$10 late fee Try renewing ON	freceived by DM\ LINE with a charg	V after EXPIRES date. e card at wisconsindmy.	gov \$1 serv	ice fee.		
		CITIZEN JANE Q 4802 SHEBOYGAN MADISON WI 5370	AVE			
	i	MADISON WI 5370	5-2927			
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CAN THE CITY WAIVE OR MAKE EXCEPTIONS TO THE FEE? WHAT IS THE PROTOCOL FOR REFUNDS?

State law does not allow for exemptions or waivers to municipal registration fees beyond what the state has exempted and does not grant the City the authority to waive the fee based on income, vehicle type, or need. The full fee is always required to issue or renew registration and is never prorated. Refunds for fees paid in error are handled by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

For those who have been charged a Municipal Vehicle Registration Fee in error please use one of the following resources to correct the city where your car is kept (registered) and or to be issued a refund.

- Email: vehiclequestions@dot.wi.gov
- Telephone: (608) 264-7447
- https://wisconsindot.gov/pages/dmv/vehicles/title-plates/wheeltax.aspx

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IS THE MUNICIPAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE (MVRF) REPLACING THE TRANSPORTATION ASSESSMENT REPLACEMENT FEE (TARF)?

Yes. Previously the City of Neenah used the TARF to help offset the special assessment costs for street reconstruction projects, the MVRF will now offset those special assessment costs.

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CAN THE MVRF REVENUE BE USED ON BRAND NEW STREETS IN NEW SUBDIVISIONS?

No. MVRF revenue can only be used for maintenance and repair to existing roads. New subdivisions typically have a temporary asphalt mat put down until the permanent street/curb and gutter/apron and sidewalk is installed. When that permanent street is installed the property owners in those subdivisions will be assessed for the full cost of that project.