

CITY OF WATERTOWN
TEMPORARY DESIGNATED
OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (TDORA)
GUIDANCE AND REQUIREMENTS

Purpose

The Temporary Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (TDORA) allows the responsible outdoor possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages within an approved geographic area and during approved event hours.

The TDORA provides a limited exception to the City's open container restrictions. The TDORA is intended to enhance approved special events while maintaining compliance with Wisconsin alcohol beverage laws and City ordinances.

Important: The TDORA does not expand licensed premises, authorize additional alcohol sales locations, or modify the requirements of Chapter 125, Wisconsin Statutes.

What the TDORA Allows

During an approved TDORA event:

- Alcoholic beverages may be possessed and consumed outdoors within the approved TDORA boundaries during approved event hours.
 - Participants may move throughout the approved TDORA area with permitted alcoholic beverages, subject to all TDORA requirements.
 - Participating licensed establishments may participate in the TDORA subject to all applicable Wisconsin Statutes, City ordinances, and Section 428-8 requirements.
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What the TDORA Does Not Allow

The TDORA does not:

- Expand a licensed establishment's licensed premises.
- Authorize a licensed establishment to sell or serve alcoholic beverages outside its licensed premises without additional approval.
- Allow an outdoor bar, service location, or alcohol sales area outside a licensed premises unless the required approvals have been obtained.

- Change the requirements of Chapter 125, Wisconsin Statutes, regarding alcohol sales, service, or licensing.
 - Allow alcoholic beverages to leave the approved TDORA boundaries.
 - Allow open containers in areas outside the approved TDORA boundaries.
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Outdoor Consumption Only — Retail Stores and Other Businesses

The TDORA is an outdoor refreshment area only and does not authorize alcohol consumption inside retail stores, shops, offices, or other businesses unless otherwise permitted by law.

The TDORA does not:

- Allow alcoholic beverages to be carried into businesses or other indoor locations while shopping or conducting other activities.
- Authorize non-licensed businesses to permit alcohol consumption on their premises.

A TDORA container or identifier does not authorize a person to enter another establishment with an alcoholic beverage. Alcoholic beverages must remain within the approved outdoor TDORA boundaries.

Participating Licensed Establishments

Participating licensed establishments are responsible for:

- Complying with all applicable Wisconsin Statutes, City ordinances, and Section 428-8 requirements.
 - Ensuring alcohol sales and service occur only as permitted by their alcohol beverage license and any approved premises extensions.
 - Informing employees, volunteers, and event staff of applicable TDORA requirements.
 - Complying with TDORA requirements regarding beverage containers, identifiers, and age-verification wristbands.
 - Preventing unlawful transfer of alcoholic beverages between licensed establishments.
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Alcohol Beverage Sales

The TDORA does not change how alcoholic beverages may be sold.

A participating licensed establishment wishing to sell or serve alcoholic beverages outside its currently licensed premises must obtain any required approvals, including a temporary premises extension, before conducting sales or service outside the licensed premises.

Sales and service must comply with all applicable requirements of Chapter 125, Wisconsin Statutes.

Beverage Requirements

Alcoholic beverages within the TDORA must comply with Section 428-8 requirements, including:

- Use of non-glass containers.
- Required TDORA identifiers on beverage containers.
- Age-verification wristbands for individuals leaving participating licensed premises with alcoholic beverages.
- Prohibition on carrying alcoholic beverages purchased at one participating licensed establishment into another participating licensed establishment.

Event Organizer Responsibilities

The event organizer is responsible for:

- Maintaining the approved TDORA boundaries.
- Providing reasonable monitoring of the TDORA area.
- Informing event participants of TDORA requirements.
- Coordinating with participating licensed establishments.
- Ensuring compliance with approved TDORA permit conditions.
- Ensuring participating staff, volunteers, and establishments understand applicable TDORA requirements.

Police Department / Enforcement Guidance

The TDORA:

- Applies only within the approved boundaries.
 - Applies only during approved event hours.
 - Allows outdoor possession and consumption only within the designated TDORA area.
 - Does not authorize unlawful alcohol sales or service.
 - Does not expand licensed premises.
 - Does not eliminate enforcement of Wisconsin alcohol laws or City ordinances.
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General Public Information

Event participants should understand:

- Alcohol consumption is permitted only outdoors within the approved TDORA boundaries and during approved hours.
- Alcohol must remain within the TDORA area.
- Alcohol may not be taken into retail stores, shops, or other non-participating businesses.
- A TDORA container does not allow alcohol to be carried into another establishment.
- Participating establishments and event organizers must follow all TDORA requirements.
- The TDORA does not permit alcohol in locations where otherwise prohibited.

Questions

Questions regarding TDORA requirements should be directed to:

City of Watertown – City Clerk’s Office

Email: cityclerk@watertownwi.gov

Phone: 920-262-4010