

**ORDINANCE TO
CREATE SECTION 410-33(H) CAMPING PROHIBITED ON CITY
PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN GENERAL ORDINANCES**

**SPONSOR: ALD. DANA DAVIS
FROM: PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. § 410-33(H) Camping prohibited on City property is hereby created to read as follows:

§ 410-33(H) Camping prohibited on City property.

- A. Definitions. As used in this subsection, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

CITY PROPERTY

All property, parks, rights-of-way, parking lots, easements or other land owned, leased, controlled, or managed by the City of Watertown.

TO CAMP

To maintain a campsite or take habitation in a single location on City property.

- B. It shall be unlawful for any person to camp, lodge, to live in for a time, or to take habitation in any portion of City property within the City of Watertown. Evidence of lodging shall include, but not be limited to, bedrolls, mattresses, blankets, cooking utensils, clothing, and other personal belongings.
- C. The City will remove individuals, personal property, camping materials and campsites from City property after providing reasonable notice of the City's intent to clear the site. Notice may include, but is not limited to, posting the site or notice served pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 801.11.

Disposition and release of personal property.

- 1) Items in an unsanitary condition may be discarded by the City. Items in an unsanitary condition include, but are not limited to, garbage, rubbish, and all refuse accumulations of animal, fruit or vegetable matter that attend the preparation, use, cooking, dealing in or storage of meat, fish, fowl, fruits or vegetables; and items constituting a health hazard or risk.
- 2) Weapons, drug paraphernalia, stolen items, contraband, and evidence of a crime may be retained as evidence by the Police Department until an alternate disposition is determined.

- 3) All personal property removed by the City, which is not disposed of or held as evidence, as provided above, will be stored by the City for a minimum of 30 days, during which time it shall be made reasonably available for and released to an individual confirming ownership.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force the day after its passage and publication.

DATE:	Oct. 6, 2026		Oct. 20, 2026	
READING:	1ST		2ND	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
DAVIS				
LAMPE				
BERG				
NITECKI				
BLANKE				
SMITH				
ARNETT				
HAASE				
MOLDENHAUER				
MAYOR STOCKS				
TOTAL				

ADOPTED October 20, 2026

CITY CLERK

APPROVED October 20, 2026

MAYOR