



School Bus Loading and Unloading

The Wilmette Police Department is reminding residents of the laws surrounding stopped school buses when they are loading or unloading children with their stop signal arm extended. A driver is required to stop his or her vehicle and remain stopped until the stop signal arm is no longer extended.

An exception is when the driver is on a roadway with four or more lanes with at least two traffic lanes in either direction. If the driver is going in the opposite direction of the bus, they do not have to stop.

Illinois law provides that the driving privileges of a person convicted of passing a stopped school bus will be suspended for three months for the first offense and one year for the second, if the second conviction is within five years. The fine for the first conviction is \$150 and \$500 for a second or subsequent conviction.

Roadways with center turn lanes should never be used to pass a stopped bus.

School bus drivers operating in the village are asked to report violations to the Wilmette Police Department.