

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Steer It Clear It Brochure DTSD66

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on the department's Steer It Clear It Brochure s.346.67, s.346.68, s.349.13.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION**

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/dot/guidance-docs?guidDocId=DTSD66>
2. Mailing written comments to:  
Division of Transportation System Development  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
PO Box 7965  
Madison, WI 53707-7965

### **WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at [wisconsin.gov](http://wisconsin.gov) to allow for ongoing comment.

### **AGENCY CONTACT**

[dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov](mailto:dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov)

# IN A MINOR CRASH— WHAT DO YOU DO?

KNOW WISCONSIN LAW

## STEER IT CLEAR IT

### First, check for injuries.

Call 911 immediately if anyone has been injured.

### Provide accurate information.

When calling 911, provide the following information:

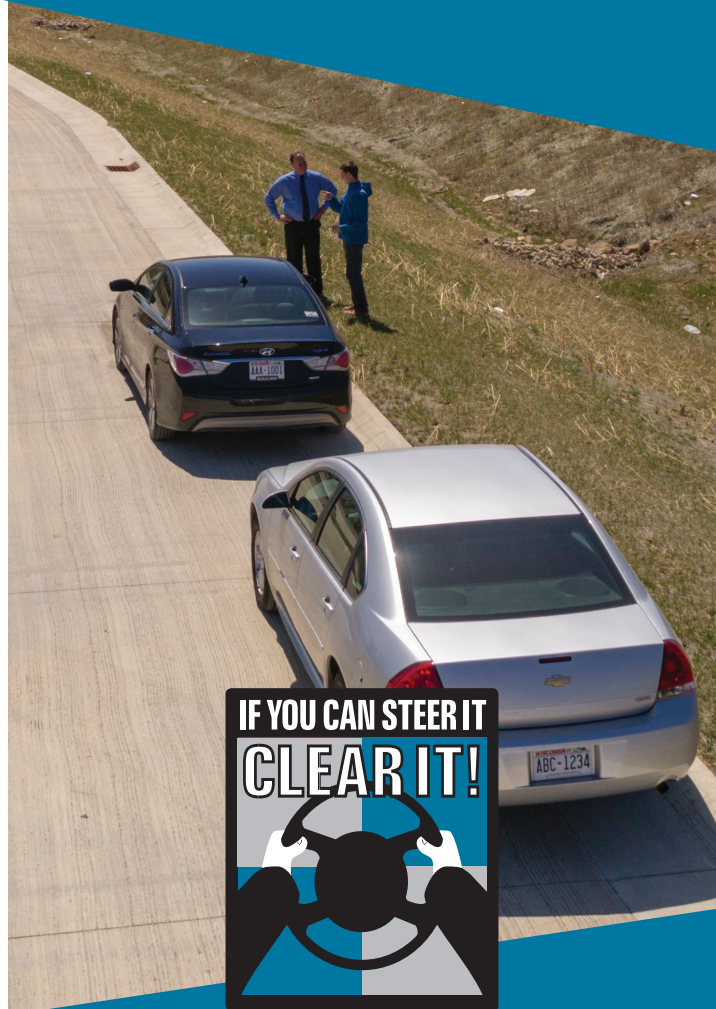
- ✓ Where the incident is located
  - ▶ The road on which you are traveling
  - ▶ Nearest cross street or mile marker
  - ▶ Direction of travel
- ✓ The severity of any injuries
- ✓ Description of the incident
- ✓ Number of lanes blocked

### Steer it, clear it.

If no one has been injured and your vehicle can still be driven, move your vehicle out of traffic. If your vehicle is disabled, do not risk injury by trying to push it out of traffic.

### Stay safe and remember!

- ✓ Remain calm.
- ✓ Watch out for traffic.
- ✓ If you can steer it, clear it.
- ✓ Stay inside your vehicle with your seatbelt fastened while waiting for help.
- ✓ To help prevent secondary crashes, warn oncoming traffic of the incident or hazard by turning on your hazard lights or raising the hood of your vehicle.



If you are involved in a minor traffic crash, and no one is injured and your vehicle can be driven, move the vehicle to a safe location where it won't obstruct traffic.



For more copies of this brochure, call the WisDOT Traffic Management Center at (414) 227-2166 or visit [www.wisconsin.gov/time](http://www.wisconsin.gov/time)

JUNE 2018

## WISCONSIN'S INCIDENT CLEARANCE LAW

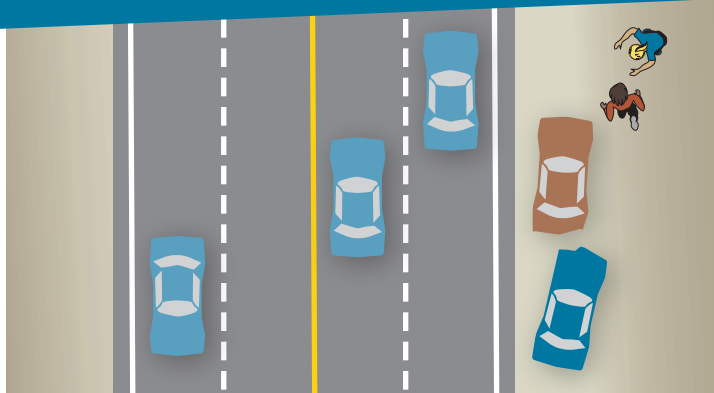
Cars involved in traffic crashes that are left in the roadway can be dangerous to the safety of the drivers and passengers, can lead to other crashes and can contribute to backups.

In 1998, the Wisconsin Legislature revised state law pertaining to the clearance of traffic crashes. That law, often referred to as "Steer It, Clear It," instructs drivers—if there are no injuries and the vehicles can be driven—to move their vehicles to a safe location and then exchange information or contact the police.

When a minor crash occurs, drivers do not have to wait for a police officer to respond to the scene before moving the vehicles.

- ✓ **Requires motorists** involved in crashes—if the vehicle is able to be driven and no one is injured in the crash—to move the vehicle to a location where it will not obstruct traffic.
- ✓ **Permits law enforcement** to quickly remove vehicles, crash debris and spilled materials from the roadway.
- ✓ **Grants immunity** from civil damages to any person who, at the direction of law enforcement, removes or stores a disabled vehicle, crash debris or other obstruction. Civil damages may still be incurred for failure to exercise reasonable care in these efforts or for conduct that is willful, reckless or malicious.
- ✓ **Reduces occurrence of secondary** crashes by removing obstructions from the highways and returning normal traffic flow quicker.

1997 WISCONSIN ACT 258 WI STATUTES  
346.67–68 AND 349.13



## AFTER A CRASH

- ✓ Check for injuries. **Call 911 immediately if anyone has been hurt.**
- ✓ Check to see if your vehicle is drivable.
- ✓ If no one was injured and the vehicles are drivable, move your vehicle:
  - ▶ out of the lane of traffic and to the side of the road.
  - ▶ to a crash investigation site.
  - ▶ to a parking lot completely off the road.
- ✓ If you move to the side of the road:
  - ▶ do not stand in between or directly in front of the vehicles.
  - ▶ stand adjacent and away from the front of the first vehicle.

