



10-4

A weekly Q&A
with local
law enforcement

Submit your question to news@owatonna.com or 444-2379

Q: When and where can I park my vehicle on the streets during the winter months?

A: Starting Nov. 15 through March 31 of every year, the City of Owatonna adopts special parking regulations. The regulations are generically referred to as “even/odd parking.”

Starting at 12:01 a.m. each day, vehicles may only be parked on a specifically designated side of the street. On even-numbered calendar dates, for example — Nov. 18, 20, 22 — vehicles may be parked on the even side of the street. On odd-numbered calendar dates — Nov. 17, 19, 21 — vehicles may be parked on the odd side of the street.

Q: What does the even and odd side of the street mean?

A: The even side of the street refers to the side of the street where houses and lots have been assigned even numbers. The odd side of the street refers to the side where lots and houses have been assigned odd numbers.

Note: The even/odd parking regulations do not apply to streets where only one side of the street is available for parking, such as cul-de-sacs.

Q. I still don't understand. Why did I get a parking ticket when it was an even numbered day and I parked on the even numbered side of the street overnight?

A: This is where some people get confused about the even/odd parking regulations. You need to remember that the regulation does not begin until 12:01 a.m. of each day. For example, on Nov. 16 at 8 p.m. you want to park your vehicle overnight on the street outside of your residence. To avoid receiving a parking ticket, you would park your vehicle on the odd side of the street as at 12:01 a.m. it would be Nov. 17, an odd-numbered day.

If you have additional questions, the City of Owatonna has a parking ordinance hotline you may call at 444-4399.

MIKE SCHNEIDER
Community Service Officer
Owatonna Police Department