

Reduced-Speed School Zones School Zone By-law No. 1882-2012

Question & Answer

1. What is a reduced-speed school zone?

A reduced-speed school zone is established by a municipality or other local government under by-laws that set out roadways around a school which have a lower maximum speed than the regular posted maximum speed.

2. What authorizes local governments to reduce speeds in school zones?

In September 2013 *Highway Traffic Act* amendments came into force that allow local governments to make by-laws to reduce the maximum speed in school zones, provided certain conditions set out in the *Reduced-Speed School Zones Regulation* are followed.

3. How do local governments establish reduced-speed school zones?

Local governments must pass by-laws that identify the portions of roadways with the speed reduction and the school associated with it. The by-laws must also include the reduced maximum speed(s) and when the speed reduction is in effect.

4. Which schools may have reduced-speed zones?

The roadways around any public or private school within the K-12 grade range may be established as a reduced-speed school zone. Local governments decide which schools should have reduced-speed school zones.

5. What is the maximum speed in a reduced school zone?

Local governments may reduce the maximum speed in a school zone to no less than 30km/h on roadways where the maximum posted speed is less than 80 km/h and to no less than 50 km/h on roadways where the maximum posted speed limit is 80 km/h or more.

6. When are the reduced speeds in effect?

Local governments determine when speed reductions are in effect. Reduced speeds may be effective at all times, or only during certain hours, days or months. If a speed reduction is not in effect at all times, then signs are required to let drivers know when to slow down.

7. How are reduced-speed school zones identified to drivers?

The Reduced-Speed School Zones Regulation prescribes specific signs that must be erected at the approach of a reduced-speed school zone, at the beginning and end of the zone, and at each intersecting roadway. If the speed reduction is not in effect at all times, then signs are required to let drivers know when to slow down. A sign stating the by-law number authorizing the speed reduction is also required.

8. Who enforces the speed limit in a reduced-speed school zone?

In the City of Thompson, the RCMP is responsible for speed enforcement. A driver caught speeding in a reduced-speed school zone would receive the same type of ticket that is issued for speeding elsewhere under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

9. Is speeding in a reduced-speed school zone a by-law offence?

No, speeding in a reduced-speed school zone is a speed offence under *The Highway Traffic Act*. It is not a by-law offence.

10. What are the fines for speeding in a reduced-speed school zone?

The fines for speeding in a reduced-speed school zone are the same as other speeding offences. Only fines for speeding in a construction zone are higher.

11. Which roadways may be included in a reduced-speed school zone?

Speeds may only be reduced on roadways that are adjoining the school property. A reduced-speed school zone must be within 150 metres from the boundaries of the school property.

12. Is school playgrounds part of a school zone?

Reduced-speed school zones may include school yards or school recreational facilities. These are considered part of the school property.

This information has been provided by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation.