

COMMUNITYNEWS

ASK A TROOPER

Headlights and the law

Q.: Is there a law in Minnesota that requires headlights if you have your wipers on? How does that relate to automatic daytime running lights? Those don't seem to activate taillights or trailer lights.

A: Minnesota does have a law requiring drivers to have their headlights on. Windshield wipers being on alone, does not require headlights to be activated, but chances are the reason you are using your wipers is due to the weather which according to Minnesota State Statute would require you to have them on.

M.S.S. 169.48 Subd.1 Lights to be displayed. (a) Every vehicle upon a highway within this state:

(1) at any time from sunset to sunrise;

(2) at any time when it is raining, snowing, sleeting, or hailing; and

(3) at any other time when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions or there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead; shall display lighted headlamps, lighted tail lamps, and illuminating devices...



Sgt. Neil DICKENSON MINNESOTA STATE PATROL

Many vehicles are equipped with automatic "daytime" lights that are fine on clear and sunny days. But when it there is rain, snow, sleet, hail, smoke, fog, etc. the sensor may not activate the lights to the rear. Every driver is still responsible for turning those on. I strongly suggest getting out of the vehicle and walking entirely around and making sure those are all working. It's not so you can see better, but so others you are sharing the road with can see you.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send questions to Sgt. Neil Dickenson, Minnesota State Patrol, 1131 Mesaba Ave., Duluth, MN 55811 (Follow on Twitter @ MSPPIO_NE or at neil.dickenson@state.mn.us).

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Bingo, 1 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Alano Club.

SUNDAY

- American Legion Post 66 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary-hosted breakfast, 8-11 a.m., VFW Club.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Open, 9 a.m., Alano Club.
- OverEaters Anonymous support group, 4 p.m., Evolve Fitness Center, 1301 Third St.(no fees/dues).
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center, Littlefork.

MONDAY

- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Women's Non-Violence Group, 5:15-6:45 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Cribbage, 7 p.m., Elks Lodge 1599.
- Rainy Rusty Riders Vintage Snowmobile Club, 7 p.m., Thunderbird Lodge.
- Texas Hold 'Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Women's Step Study, 7 p.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- Narcotics Anonymous, "How It Works" step gathering, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

TUESDAY

- Water Testing, 8 a.m.-noon, Koochiching County Public Health Department.
- Bone Builders, 10-11:30 a.m., Woodland

- Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Alanon, 1:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (283-3739, 283-8540).
- TOPS MN34, 5-5:30 p.m. weigh-in; 5:45, meeting, Koochiching County Senior Center.
- Women's Ministries, 5-7 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Community Café, free meals served, 5:30-6 p.m., chicken and broccoli Alfredo, fruit, bread stick, Backus Community Center.
- Beginner's Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- Women's Support Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Texas Hold 'Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center, Littlefork.
- "Celebrate Recovery," 7-9 p.m., Evangelical Covenant Church.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church.

WEDNESDAY

- Recycling curbside collection, 8 a.m., north of 11th Street and west of Highway 53 (includes Terrace Lane).
- Councilors Gail Rognerud and Paul Eklund open house, 1-2:30 p.m., City Hall, council chamber.
- New Year's Eve lobster and/or prime rib supper, 6:30 p.m., (reservations, 283-3615), Moose Lodge.

BORDERLAND BRIEFS

HEALTHCARE CONNECT EVENT

Kootasca will host a free Healthcare Connect event to answer questions about MNsure and the health insurance enrollment process. The event is open to the public and will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 5 in Room SC114 at Rainy River Community College.

'CHILI CHALLENGE'

Backus Community Center is looking for cooks to prepare their favorite chili recipe for the annual "Chili Challenge" set for Jan. 17 during Icebox Days XXXV. Restaurants, businesses, groups and individuals are welcome to participate. Prizes for first, second and third places. Voting by chili tasters. Call Robin at 285-7225 for information. Visit the website www.backusab.org or Facebook at BackusAB.

LIBRARY HOURS

International Falls Public Library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday and remain closed until 10 a.m. Friday in observance of New Year's.

LOTTERY

Tuesday's Daily 3 6, 7, 4

Tuesday's Northstar Cash 7, 13, 18, 23, 27

Monday's Gopher 5 24, 32, 35, 38, 46

Dec. 20 Hot Lotto 3, 24, 26, 29, 44

Hot Ball 2

Tuesday's Mega Millions 4, 10, 31, 56, 66

Mega Ball 7

Dec. 20 Powerball 14, 15, 19, 31, 56

Powerball 5

www.ifallsjournal.com

The twelve sites of Social Security

BY RHONDA WHITENACK AND JIM CZECHOWICZ SSA Public Affairs office

Back by popular demand is our holiday favorite, "The Twelve Sites of Social Security." It's inspired by the popular traditional holiday song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a holiday favorite since 1780. Play it again, Santa!

For the first site of Social Security, we give to you: our home page, www.socialsecurity.gov. It's the place to go for all things Social Security. Everything you could want—from online services and benefit screening tools to publications and frequently asked questions—you can find easily on this site.

For the second site of Social Security, we give to you: answers to all of your Social Security related questions at our Frequently Asked Questions page at www.socialsecurity.gov/faq.

For the third site of Social Security, we give to you: an easy way to learn how to replace your Social Security card at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

For the fourth site of Social Security, we give to you: an

online application for retirement benefits that you can complete and submit in as little as 15 minutes, at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyto-retire.

For the fifth site of Social Security, we give to you: five estimates of your future Social Security benefits! Or one, or as many estimates as you would like using different scenarios. Get instant, personalized estimates of your future benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

For the sixth site of Social Security, we give to you: a convenient way to apply for disability benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability.

For the seventh site of Social Security, we give to you: an online application for Medicare that you can complete in as little as 10 minutes, at www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly.

For the eighth site of Social Security, we give to you: Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs. You can learn more and apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

For the ninth site of Social Security, we give to you:

our convenient publication library with online booklets and pamphlets on numerous subjects at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

For the tenth site of Social Security, we give to you: services for people who are currently receiving benefits, such as the ability to replace your Medicare card, request a proof of benefits letter, or check your Social Security information or benefits. You can do these and other things at www.socialsecurity.gov/pgm/getservices-change.htm.

For the eleventh site of Social Security, we give to you: a way to get your Social Security forms online at www.socialsecurity.gov/online.

On the twelfth site of Social Security, (and we saved the best for last): open your own personal my Social Security account, which will enable you to verify your earnings, get future benefit estimates, obtain instant benefit verification letters, update your Social Security information, and more at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

And a partridge in a pear tree. Find it all (except the partridge and pear tree) at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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Kec's Kove 10428 Gamma Road Lake Kabetogama New Year's Eve 2014 Special! 2014 RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH OUR SUMPTUOUS Prime Rib & Crab Buffet with soup and salad bar \$28.00 Per Person Serving 5:00-9:30 p.m. Happy NEW YEAR! Call For Reservations (218) 875-2841