



Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Scott Mittelstadt Chief Deputy

June - Law of the Month

Road construction is very prevalent around the Dodge County area. There are a lot of closed roads that are posted with signs and barricades preventing traffic from coming through. These road closed signs are on highways, county roads and within townships. Most of the road closed signs state there is only access granted to local traffic or business-related traffic. This means that people who don't live on that closed road or are not accessing a business on that closed road are not allowed to have access or even be on that closed road. It means all other access is restricted and not allowed. Also, roads that have barricades on them making the road not accessible should not be accessed by anyone unless given permission by a law enforcement officer. Additionally, you should not be moving the barricades to gain access to the road.

346.04 - Obedience to Traffic Officers, Signs and Signals

No operator of a vehicle shall disobey the instructions of any official traffic sign or signal unless otherwise directed by a traffic officer. It is very important that everyone follow the road closed signs. The reason why it is so important is because most of the time road construction is being done on these roads and having traffic going down the road can damage your vehicle, or the road construction progress can be damaged. There are also construction workers working on or near the roadway often times in noisy conditions and they can be put at risk by people failing to obey the signs.

Stay on roads that are safe and follow detours if road closed signs are present. It may take a few extra minutes to follow the detour or to take a different route. Additionally failing to obey the road closed signs can result in a citation costing \$175.30 and 3 demerit points, A second offense within one year is \$213.10 and 3 demerit points. If workers are present when the violation occurs the costs increase to \$213.10 and 3 points for a first offense and \$288.70 and 3 points for the second offense within one year. Lastly, after all of this you will be directed back to the proper location to follow the detour anyway so save yourself the time and follow the detour from the start.