

Safe Routes to School

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs are sustained efforts by parents, schools, community leaders and local, state, and federal governments to improve the health and well-being of children by empowering and encouraging them to walk and bicycle to school.

Why Safe Routes to School?

- Safer Travel
- Healthier Children
- Transportation Choice
- Cleaner Environments
- Community Involvement

Safe Routes to School educates and works with:

- **Children** - to provide them with basic safety education, such as how to cross streets, obey crossing guards and be visible to drivers.
- **Parents** - to create awareness of the need for pedestrian and bicyclist safety education and opportunities to walk and bike and by practicing safety skills with their children.
- **Drivers** - to alert all drivers to the presence of walkers and bicyclists and the need to slow down.
- **Law enforcement** - to enhance pedestrian and bicyclist safety with school zone enforcement.
- **Local officials** - to identify changes needed to improve walking and bicycling conditions around schools.

Chippewa Falls Safe Routes to School

The Chippewa Falls Safe Routes to School Task Force was made up of representatives from the Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District, communities served by the district, and parents. The group developed a vision and goals, considered relevant issues, and discussed strategies to overcome the barriers to walking and biking.

Vision:

Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District, the communities it serves, parents, and students will work in a well-educated partnership to provide and encourage safe and enjoyable environments for walking and biking to school.

The environments will start at the entrance of the schools and disperse into the surrounding neighborhoods. The partnership will focus on a comprehensive approach with a focus on safety, well-connected routes to school, enforcement, and design of streets, all in existing and future developed areas.

Goals:

1. Make walking and bicycling safe ways to get to school.
2. Encourage more children to walk or bike to school.

If you see unsafe behavior or have a question or suggestion, please contact:

In case of a crash or emergency: 911

Police - Non-emergency line: 715.723.4424

Hillcrest Elementary: 715.726.2405

School District Office: 715.726.2417

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Chippewa Falls Area Unified
School District
Hillcrest Elementary



SAFETY TIPS FOR WALKING, BIKING, AND DRIVING



BIKING

- Look and listen for traffic
- Watch for vehicles going in and out of driveways
- Keep both hands on the handlebars, except when signaling
- Stop before crossing the street, entering a road, or turning
- Ride single file, in a straight line, and in the same direction as cars
- Ride to the right side of the road, but far enough from parked cars to avoid any car doors that suddenly open
- Obey traffic laws and use hand signals



WALKING

- Walk together with an adult or a friend
- Be visible with bright clothing or reflectors
- When there are no sidewalks, walk against traffic
- Look for traffic at intersections and driveways
- Cross the street safely and go to the crossing guard
- Obey traffic signs, signals, and adult school crossing guards



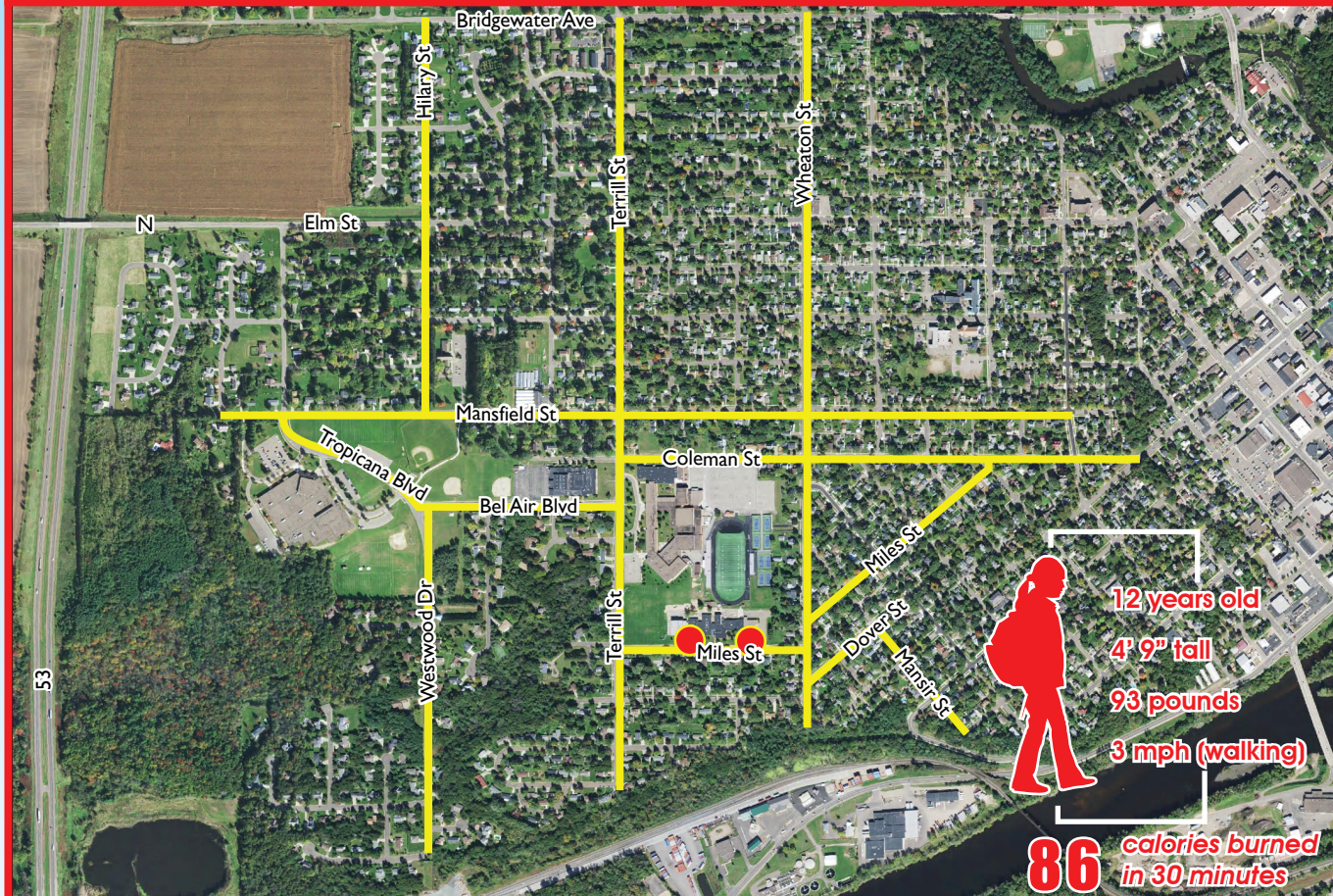
DRIVING

- Be vigilant in looking out for cyclists and pedestrians
- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and obey crossing guards
- Slow down and obey the posted speed limit

- Yield to pedestrians and cyclists when turning
- Look before opening your door
- Be careful when passing stopped vehicles
- Allow three feet or more when passing bicyclists
- Turn off vehicle when waiting for students

Hillcrest Elementary SRTS Routes

Map Scale Bar .5 Miles = .8 Kilometers



Prepared by:

Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District
SRTS Task Force



West Central Wisconsin
Regional Planning Commission