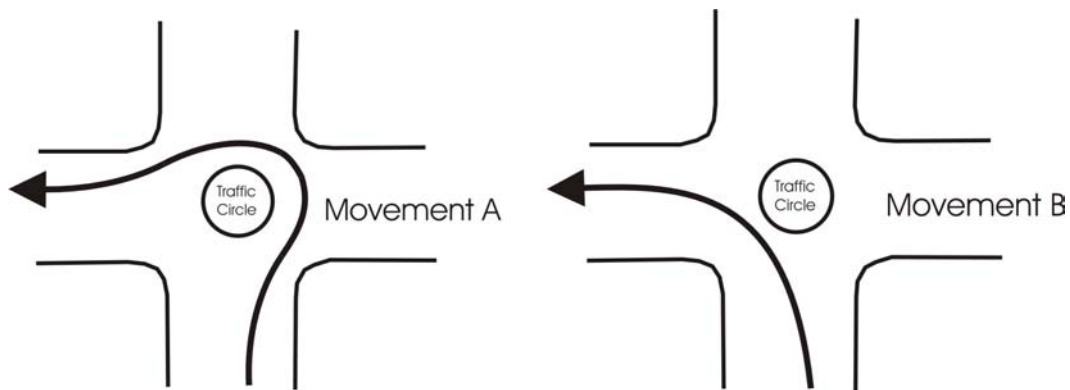


NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Is it legal to go left around a traffic circle?

The Madison Traffic Engineering Division has installed traffic circles (round raised islands) in the center of several residential intersections to reduce the speed of traffic and the number of traffic crashes occurring at these locations. We, and many other cities, have found that traffic circles have been very effective in reducing speeds on local streets. By decreasing speed, drivers will have a better chance of avoiding collisions with cross traffic and are more likely to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

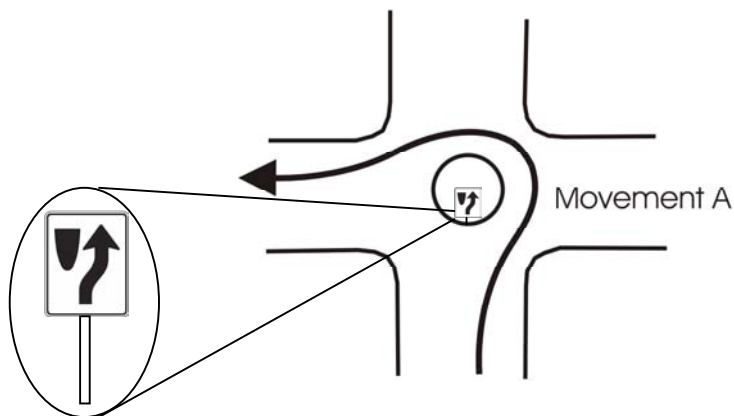
Most traffic circles take up a large portion of the intersection in order to effectively cause drivers to slow down. This can make it difficult for trucks and other large vehicles to drive completely around the outside of the circle (Movement A) to make a left turn at these intersections. In some cases, it is easier to turn on the near side (Movement B) of the circle as shown below. Also, note that movement B closely resembles a left turn made in an intersection before the installation of a traffic circle.



If *not* posted, either Movement A or B is allowed.

Good judgment should always be used to determine when Movement B can be made safely without endangering yourself or others. Again, Movement B can be used provided that it is *not* prohibited by a sign such as shown below, and that all of the normal requirements for left turns, such as yielding to pedestrians and oncoming vehicles, are followed.

If posted as shown below only Movement A is allowed.



If you have questions about the Neighborhood Traffic Management program, please call (608)266-4761.