



## ATHLETICS TAILGATING POLICY

**Type:** University

**Category:** Campus Safety & Security

**Administrator:** Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

**Manager:** Director of Athletics

---

### Purpose

As a fan coming to enjoy a V-Hawks athletics event, the tailgate policy identified below is designed to enhance your safety and ensure that tailgating remains a part of the Viterbo University game day experience. Tailgate approvals allow sufficient time to create the infrastructure for a positive experience. Viterbo University staff members strive to maintain safe and enjoyable events for all those in attendance.

### Scope

This policy applies to Viterbo University students, employees, and guests attending V-Hawk athletic events at the Varsity Athletics Center and the Outdoor Athletic Complex.

### Definitions

- a. Tailgating – an individual or group socializing outside their vehicles in a parking lot, often while consuming food and/or drink, typically associated with sporting events.
- b. Tailgating structures – Pop-up tents, tables, etc. Must be free-standing and no larger than 10'X10'.

### Policy

#### GENERAL POLICY

Tailgating is a privilege. Individuals attending Viterbo University events are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that aligns with the mission and values of the University while respectfully and appropriately supporting their teams.

Viterbo University requires all tailgaters to fully comply with the requirements outlined in this policy. Failure to do so may result in the denial of future tailgating events or a prohibition on certain individuals attending future tailgating events.

Viterbo University policies state that “no employees or students are allowed to consume alcohol on campus property unless an exception is granted”. Generally speaking, exceptions are not granted for tailgating events. All policies described in the Viterbo University Code of Student Conduct, the Employee Handbook, and the NAIA Athlete Handbook remain in effect and failure to comply may result in disciplinary action for students or employees.

Viterbo University reserves the right to modify this and other policies for college-sponsored events.



#### *Written Approval for Tailgating:*

- If someone wishes to request that a tailgate event be held in conjunction with an athletic event, they submit a Tailgate Request Form and receive University approval at least 5 business days prior to the start of the event.

#### INFORMATION FOR TAILGATES

- Campus Safety can be reached at 608-796-3911.
- Tailgating is permitted only in Lot M (see Appendix A for map) for competitions taking place at the Varsity Athletic Center and in the designated spaces at the Outdoor Athletic Complex.
- Approved tailgates are permitted three hours prior to an athletic competition and one hour after the athletic competition concludes.
- All guests are expected to bring their own food and beverage as there are to be no food or beverage sales in the designated parking lots.
- All established tailgating structures should be located within the confines of marked parking spaces. Viterbo University Campus Safety or Athletics staff may ask you to move your vehicle/tailgate if it is impeding on fire lanes or other forms of emergency access.
- Pop-up tents are permitted in the tailgate areas within designated parking spots. Structures must be set up on the day of the event – no set up the night before – and must be removed that same day. Structures may not be staked into the ground, and outside persons, entities or companies may not install structures on the Viterbo campus.
- There is no fee associated with tailgating on campus.
- An access plan for restroom facilities must be established and shared via the Tailgate Request Form before a tailgate event can be approved.
- Public consumption of alcoholic beverages on any other part of the campus other than the lots designated in this policy is prohibited and subject to policy/law enforcement.
- Tailgates that do not receive the necessary approval will be shut down by Campus Safety staff.
- Any music and other noise must be kept at a reasonable volume, contain appropriate content, and never exceed the limits established by La Crosse City Ordinances.

#### SAFETY, ALCOHOL, AND GAME DAY ENVIRONMENT

- Open flame fires are not permitted.
- Viterbo University does not permit possession, use, or consumption of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances inside any of its athletics venues.
- Alcoholic beverages may be consumed in the designated tailgate areas only by parents, families, and non-student guests who are 21 years. **As a reminder, students and employees are not allowed to consume alcohol at on-campus events according to University policy, unless an exception has been granted.**
- Alcoholic beverages are restricted to single-serving aluminum cans or plastic bottles. Glass bottles, kegs, common source containers, large source containers over 1.75 liters,



and all hard alcohol 15% ABV and above are prohibited on campus and in the designated tailgate areas.

- Drinking games (including but not limited to beer pong and other table games) and the use of devices intended to accelerate the consumption of alcohol (including but not limited to funnels or beer bongs) are prohibited.
- Spectators who are intoxicated, or impaired, or who are using or under the influence of illegal substances will be asked to leave. Any such spectator will not be permitted to drive themselves or walk home. If such a spectator can't arrange appropriate transportation, law enforcement may be contacted.
- Public intoxication, public urination, defacing of University property, and other inappropriate behavior or violations of the law or university policies will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal and disciplinary action.
- Only service animals are allowed in our athletic venues and venue seating areas. No other animals are allowed.

## GRILLS

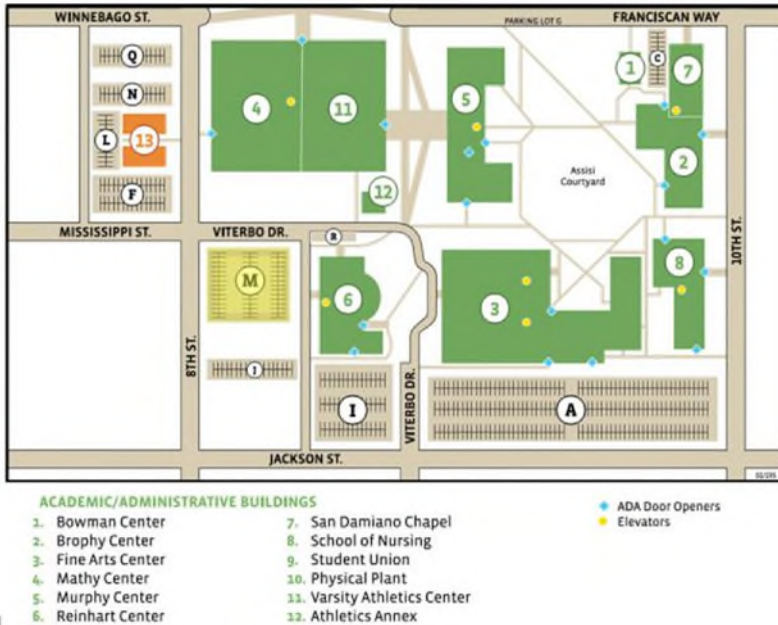
- Charcoal/gas grilling for food preparation is permitted but extreme caution should be used. No gas-powered generators, deep fat fryers, or fire pits are allowed. Burned coals and/or residue from cooking are not permitted to make contact with the paved surface of the parking lot or grassy areas. Metal garbage cans will be provided and must be used for coal disposal.
- Only treated charcoal is permitted – use of lighter fluid is prohibited for your safety and the safety of your fellow tailgaters.
- Grills may only be used to cook food. No grill may be used to burn wood logs, Duraflame logs, etc.

## CLEAN UP

- Before departing from campus property, tailgate attendees must clean up the tailgate area and put all trash and recycling in the appropriate receptacles. Additional receptacles are located near and inside the Varsity Athletics Center, if needed.  
All policies described or referenced in the Viterbo University Code of Student Conduct, the Employee Handbook, and the NAIA Athlete Handbook remain in effect and failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.



## DESIGNATED TAILGATING AREAS (LOT M – YELLOW AREA ONLY)



## Related Resources

- [Policy on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs](#)
- [Code of Student Conduct](#)
- [Employee Handbook](#)
- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) [Official & Policy Handbook](#)