



## **Mallards Annual Neighborhood Impact Plan – 2026**

For years the Mallards have been working with surrounding neighborhoods to address any concerns regarding the Mallards impact on the areas nearest the ballpark. This document is an effort to formalize plans for 2026 and continue a dialogue for future concerns that can be addressed annually.

### **1. Pedestrian Safety**

- a. In 2008 the Mallards started hiring (at Mallards cost) off-duty police officers to direct traffic at the exit from the ballpark at Sherman Avenue. Some Mallards fans park in the adjacent Northside TownCenter parking lot and crossing Sherman Ave post-game had been somewhat dangerous. Since officers started controlling this intersection the situation has become completely safe and provided better traffic flow for fans and normal vehicle traffic on Sherman Ave.
- b. Each year the Mallards meet with the North District Police Captain and get recommendations for security both in and out of the ballpark. We plan to meet the staffing recommendations from the Captain for all games in 2026 and work with the Police Department to react to any additional input they may have.
- c. For the last several years the Mallards have worked with the city of Madison Police Department to help educate and eliminate car break-ins and will continue to do so in 2026.
  - i. These efforts have been coupled with the Mallards providing usher staff working in the parking lot during each game. This staff is on hand to help reduce any theft, answer fans questions and to provide courtesy rides to fans who ask. This has resulted in no reported break-ins and has been a very positive addition for the fans.

### **2. Noise and Fireworks.**

- a. The Mallards experimented with a low decibel level fireworks show in 2024 and 2025. The show did not exceed 85dB, which is similar to a loud Mallards game. Even though the shows are significantly more expensive, the plan is to continue to feature additional low dB shows in 2026.
- b. The Mallards propose 5 fireworks shows in 2026 (down from 6 in 2025), 3 of which will be low dB shows. A minimum of 2 of the shows in each year would take place after Night Mares softball games.
- c. The Mallards agree to not start a fireworks display any later than 10:00pm. If a game is delayed, forcing the start time later than 10:00, the display will be re-scheduled to a different date.



- d. The Mallards also acknowledge the potential presence of eaglets in Warner Park each spring and agree to not launch a show prior to the eaglets fledging.
  - e. The Mallards have met with Wild Warner and other neighbors that have concerns surrounding fireworks & have found consensus with them on our plan for 2026.
  - f. Average length of a fireworks display is only 8 minutes. One show annually, near the 4th of July, will be a larger scale show and last about 23 minutes.
  - g. Starting in 2024 the Mallards moved the launch site of fireworks to the football field adjacent to the baseball stadium. This move ensures a larger distance from potential environmental concerns, as well as no longer requiring the evacuation of certain parts of the stadium due to the fall zone. In previous years, most fireworks shows were launched from behind the outfield wall.
  - h. In 2010 the Mallards installed a new, state of the art, sound system that kept stadium PA sound almost completely within the stadium and dramatically cut down on “sound bleeding” into the surrounding neighborhood. The number of complaints from neighbors in 2010 and subsequent years was zero. This same system will be in use for all future years and any changes to the system would need to be approved by the Parks Superintendent.
3. Litter.
- a. The Mallards clean the stadium every night after games and touch up in the morning, keeping the stadium, and surrounding areas, in top-notch shape all the time.
  - b. The Mallards also walk the parking lot areas the day after every game and clean up any debris from fans from the festivities the night before.
  - c. Every morning after a fireworks show is hosted at the ballpark staff pick up all debris from the show. This is typically done by 10am the day after each show.
4. Neighborhood Engagement
- a. As outlined in the Mallards Use Agreement, there are 8 dates annually that the stadium can be used for community events free of charge. The Mallards will notify Alders and Parks staff of those dates no less than 2 months prior to each actual date.
  - b. The Mallards are planning to host the Northside Community Festival in 2026 at the ballpark as one of the above referenced community use dates. We are engaging with neighborhood leaders in the coming weeks to finalize plans.
  - c. The Mallards have shared our Neighborhood Impact Plan & Fan Access Plan with the organizations referred to us by the Alders representing the areas surrounding the ballpark. Their feedback will be reflected as these plans are finalized.