

# Buffalo/Pepin County Teen Court Direct Referral



## Teen Court Eligibility

Teen Court serves youth ages 10-16 years who commit **FIRST TIME** violations in offenses such as:

- Disorderly Conduct
- Trespassing
- Truancy
- Unlawful Use of Technology
- DNR/Park offenses, littering, Curfew, or ATV Violations
- Shoplifting/ Retail Theft
- No Valid Driver's License
- Damage to Property/ Vandalism
- Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, or Marijuana

Youth must admit to committing the offense for which they are being referred. Youth who reside in or attend school districts within Buffalo or Pepin County are eligible to participate.

## Referral Process

1. The referring agent will complete Direct Referral Form. The White Original remains with the referring agent; Yellow Copy is sent to Buffalo/Pepin Teen Court; the Pink Copy is provided to the youth offender.
2. After receiving the Direct Referral Form, the Teen Court Coordinator will contact the Department of Human Services, District Attorney, and/or Circuit Court to determine if Teen Court is appropriate and to verify the youth does not have any prior offenses. The Coordinator will also make certain that participating in Teen Court will not conflict or interfere with any ongoing services the youth might be receiving.
3. If the Teen Court Coordinator determines the case appropriate, Teen Court will send a Referral Letter and a Teen Court Brochure to the youth offender to proceed through the process.
4. If the case is found to be inappropriate for Teen Court, the Coordinator can reject the referral. The case would then be returned to the referring agent or could be forwarded to the Department of Human Services or Circuit Court.

*Direct Referral Forms or Questions can be directed to:*

Buffalo/Pepin County Teen Court  
Buffalo County Courthouse  
PO Box 276  
Alma, WI 54610  
608-685-6256 (Phone) 608-685-6259 (Fax)  
[annie.lisowski@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:annie.lisowski@ces.uwex.edu)