

CHAPTER 72: PARKING REGULATIONS

Section

Manner of Parking

- 72.01 Unattended vehicles
- 72.02 Standing or parking close to curb
- 72.03 Obedience to angle-parking signs or markings
- 72.04 Parking within marked off spaces
- 72.05 Stopping with left side of car to curb prohibited
- 72.06 Parking so as to interfere with police, fire and sanitary divisions
- 72.07 Maximum permissible length of parked vehicles
- 72.08 Lights on parked vehicles

Parking Regulated or Restricted

- 72.25 Designation and marking of restricted areas
- 72.26 Prohibited places; no signs required
- 72.27 Unlawful parking
- 72.28 Parking not to obstruct traffic
- 72.29 Moving vehicle into prohibited position
- 72.30 Parking in alleys
- 72.31 Parking near scene of fire
- 72.32 Passenger and freight loading zones; permits
- 72.33 Bus stops and taxicab stands
- 72.33 Disabled vehicles, warning devices
- 72.35 Parking restricted or prohibited on certain streets

Violations and Enforcement

- 72.50 Overtime parking
- 72.51 Responsibility of owner and operators
- 72.52 Report of violations
- 72.53 Notice of violation

- 72.54 Use of fines collected
- 72.55 Impoundment of parked vehicles
- 72.99 Penalty

Cross-reference:

Parking and regulations for taxicabs and for-hire trucks, see §§ 116.40 through 116.42

MANNER OF PARKING

§ 72.01 UNATTENDED VEHICLES.

No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition and effectively setting the brake thereon, and when standing upon any perceptible grade, without turning the front wheels into the curb or side of the highway.

(`92 Code, § 72.15) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.02 STANDING OR PARKING CLOSE TO CURB.

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter every vehicle stopped or parked upon a roadway where there are adjacent curbs shall be so stopped or parked with the right-hand wheels of such vehicle parallel to and within 12 inches of the right-hand curb.

(`92 Code, § 72.16) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.03 OBEDIENCE TO ANGLE-PARKING SIGNS OR MARKINGS.

On those streets which have been signed or marked for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle to the curb or edge of the roadway indicated by such signs or markings.

(`92 Code, § 72.17) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.04 PARKING WITHIN MARKED OFF SPACES.

On any street which is marked off with lines indicating the parking spaces for cars, the same shall be parked between such lines.

(`92 Code, § 72.18) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.05 STOPPING WITH LEFT SIDE OF CAR TO CURB PROHIBITED.

No vehicle shall stop with its left side to the curb on any improved two-way street.
(`92 Code, § 72.19) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.06 PARKING SO AS TO INTERFERE WITH POLICE, FIRE AND SANITARY DIVISIONS.

No vehicle shall be so parked in any private alleys, private roadways or driveways, as to block, interrupt or interfere with the passage of any truck or vehicle of the sanitary, fire or police divisions of the city, servicing the people and such residential, business and industrial property abutting thereon.
(`92 Code, § 72.20) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.07 MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LENGTH OF PARKED VEHICLES.

It shall be unlawful for any person owning any of the following-described vehicles to knowingly allow or permit same to be parked on any street, where head-in or right angle parking is required: Any automobile, truck, bus or other motor vehicle, the length of which exceeds 16 feet measured from the extreme furthest point on each end of such motor vehicle; provided any motor vehicle barred from parking by this chapter shall be allowed to make temporary stops on such street for the purpose of admitting or discharging passengers, baggage, or drayage, but such stops shall not exceed five minutes at any one time, and during such stops, the motor vehicles shall not be left unattended.
(`92 Code, § 72.21) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.08 LIGHTS ON PARKED VEHICLES.

Whenever a vehicle is lawfully parked on a street during the time between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise, and there is sufficient light to reveal any person within a distance of 200 feet upon such street, no lights need be displayed upon such parked vehicle. When, during such times or at any other time, there is not sufficient light upon a street to reveal a person at a distance of 200 feet, a parked vehicle shall be equipped with and shall exhibit lights in accord with G.S. § 20-134.
(`92 Code, § 72.22) Penalty, see § 72.99

PARKING REGULATED OR RESTRICTED**§ 72.25 DESIGNATION AND MARKING OF RESTRICTED AREAS.**

The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to designate streets and alleys or portions thereof, where the parking of vehicles shall be prohibited, limited or restricted, and to erect signs or markings indicating such prohibition, limitation or restriction. It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle in violation of any such sign or marking.

('92 Code, § 72.01) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.26 PROHIBITED PLACES; NO SIGNS REQUIRED.

(A) No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or traffic control device, in any of the following places:

- (1) On a sidewalk;
- (2) Within an intersection;
- (3) On a crosswalk;
- (4) Within 20 feet of any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a street or roadway;
- (5) Grade crossing approach. No vehicle shall park on either side of any street leading to a grade crossing, within 50 feet of the closest rail; provided, that where existing permanent structures are located closer than 50 feet, parking may be permitted in front of such structures, unless otherwise prohibited and if such parking does not block the view in either direction of the approach of a locomotive or train;
- (6) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction, if such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;
- (7) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure or within any underpass structure.
- (8) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopping, standing or parking at the edge or curb of a street.

(9) Upon the intervening space, physical barrier or clearly indicated dividing section used to divide a street or highway into two or more roadways.

(10) Within any area marked as a fire lane in accordance with the provisions of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

(11) Within any area designated for handicapped parking in accordance with the provisions of the General Statutes of North Carolina, unless the vehicle is driven by or is transporting a person who is handicapped and said vehicle displays a distinguishing license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard.

(B) No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under his control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful.

(`92 Code, § 72.35) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88; Am. Res. passed 7-12-99) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.27 UNLAWFUL PARKING.

(A) No person shall stand, or park, a vehicle upon any street for the principal purposes of:

(1) Displaying it for sale;

(2) Washing, greasing, or repairing such vehicle, excepting repairs necessitated by an emergency;

(3) Storage thereof by garages, dealers or other persons;

(4) Storage of any detached trailer, or van, when the towing unit has been disconnected;

(5) Transferring merchandise, or freight, from one vehicle to another.

(B) No person shall stand or park on any street any vehicle for the primary purpose of advertising.
(`92 Code, § 72.36) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.28 PARKING NOT TO OBSTRUCT TRAFFIC.

(A) No person shall park any vehicle upon a street, other than an alley, in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic. (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)

(B) No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is a sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

(`92 Code, § 72.37) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.29 MOVING VEHICLE INTO PROHIBITED POSITION.

No person shall move a vehicle not owned by such person into any area wherein parking shall be prohibited or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful.

(`92 Code, § 72.38) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.30 PARKING IN ALLEYS.

No person shall park a vehicle within an alley in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten feet of the width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic, and no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within an alley in such position as to block the driveway entrance to any abutting property.

(`92 Code, § 72.39) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.31 PARKING NEAR SCENE OF FIRE.

It shall be unlawful for any person other than one on official business, to park any vehicle within a block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

(`92 Code, § 72.40) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.32 PASSENGER AND FREIGHT LOADING ZONES; PERMITS.

(A) The Chief of Police shall have authority from time to time to determine, designate and locate passenger loading zones and freight loading zones on the highways, streets and roadways within the town and shall direct and maintain, or cause to be maintained appropriate signs indicating the same. It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to stop, stand or park such vehicle for any period of time longer than is necessary for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers or freight in any place marked as a passenger loading zone, and it shall also be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to stop, stand or park such vehicle for a period of time longer than is necessary for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers or material in any place marked as a freight loading zone, and in no case shall a stop for loading and unloading of materials exceed the space of 30 minutes, unless specially permitted by a permit issued by the Chief of Police.

(B) The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to issue, in special cases where he deems it necessary, a permit for any vehicle used to transport merchandise or material to park the same back to the curb for the purpose of loading or unloading freight; provided, however, that such permit shall definitely specify the time to be permitted and the driver of such vehicle shall have the permit in his possession at the time and place of loading or unloading.

(`92 Code, § 72.41)

§ 72.33 BUS STOPS AND TAXICAB STANDS.

(A) The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to require and establish bus stops and taxicab stands on such public streets, highways and roadways, in such places, and in such number as he shall determine to be of the greatest benefit and convenience to the public. Every such bus stop and taxicab stand shall be designated by an appropriate sign.

(B) It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle, other than a bus, to stand or park in any officially designated bus stop, or for any vehicle, other than a taxicab, to stand or park in an officially designated taxicab stand.

(C) It shall be unlawful for the driver of any bus or taxicab to stand or park upon any highway, street or roadway in the business district in any place other than at an officially designated bus stop or taxicab stand, except that this provision shall not prevent the driver of any such vehicle from temporarily stopping, in accordance with other stopping or parking regulations, at any place for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers.

(`92 Code, § 72.42) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.34 DISABLED VEHICLES, WARNING DEVICES.

In the event any motor vehicle shall be or become disabled upon any street in the town, the driver thereof shall display not less than 200 feet in the front and rear of such vehicle, a warning signal, flag or light which shall be clearly visible to any other person using the street. Such warning signals shall be displayed as long as the vehicle shall remain disabled upon the street.

(`92 Code, § 72.43) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.35 PARKING RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED ON CERTAIN STREETS.

(A) The provisions of this section and the schedules in Chapter 73 prohibiting the standing or parking of a vehicle shall apply at all times or at those times herein specified or as indicated on official signs except when it is necessary to stop a vehicle to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control device.

(B) The provisions of this section and the schedules in Chapter 73 imposing a time limit on parking shall not relieve any person from the duty to observe other and more restrictive provisions prohibiting or limiting the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles in specified places or at specified times.

(C) A change of position of vehicle from one point directly to another point, within the same block, shall be deemed one continuous parking period. The parking period shall be as designated on traffic signs erected within the same block regulating the parking time limit.

(D) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than two hours at any time between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. of any day except Sundays and public holidays or upon any of the streets or portions thereof where a sign giving said notice is so posted.

(E) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than one hour at any time between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. of any day except Sundays and public holidays or upon any of the streets or portions thereof.

(F) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than 15 minutes at any time between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. of any day except Sundays and public holidays or upon any of the street or portions thereof.

(`92 Code, § 72.44) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

§ 72.50 OVERTIME PARKING.

(A) If any vehicle shall remain parked in any parking space beyond the parking time limit therefor, such vehicle shall be considered as parking overtime and beyond the period of legal parking time. The parking of a vehicle overtime or beyond the period of legal parking time on any part of a street or parking lot where any such parking space is located shall be a violation of this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any vehicle to remain or be placed in any parking space when the vehicle has already been parked beyond the period of time prescribed for the parking space.

(B) Any person who shall permit any vehicle to be parked in violation of this chapter or Chapter 73 for more than one permitted time period shall be subject to an additional penalty for each additional time period that such vehicle is illegally parked.

(`92 Code, § 72.75) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)

§ 72.51 RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNER AND OPERATORS.

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause, allow, permit or suffer any vehicle registered in the name of or operated by such person to be parked overtime or beyond the period of legal parking time established for any parking zone as described in this code.

(`92 Code, § 72.76) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88) Penalty, see § 72.99

§ 72.52 REPORT OF VIOLATIONS.

It shall be the duty of police officers or any other employee of the city, acting in accordance with instructions issued by the City Manager, to report:

(A) The number of violations of any provisions of this chapter.

(B) The state license number of such vehicle.

(C) The time during which such vehicle is parking in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter.

(D) Any other facts the knowledge of which is necessary to a thorough understanding of the circumstances attending such violation.

(`92 Code, § 72.77) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)

§ 72.53 NOTICE OF VIOLATION.

Each police officer or other city employee shall attach to any vehicle which is parked in violation of the provisions of this chapter a notice to the owner or operator thereof that the vehicle has been parked in such violation and instructing such owner or operator to report at the office of the Traffic Clerk of the city in regard to the violation.

(`92 Code, § 72.78) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)

§ 72.54 USE OF FINES COLLECTED.

Fines for violations of this chapter are imposed to provide for the proper regulation and control of traffic upon the public streets, and also to provide for the cost of supervision and regulating the parking of vehicles in the parking zones created hereby, and to cover the cost of maintenance and supervision of all street parking facilities.

(`92 Code, § 72.79) (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)

§ 72.55 IMPOUNDMENT OF PARKED VEHICLES.

Any motor vehicle left parked or standing on any street or other public place in the town in violation of the provisions of this chapter or left standing on any street or other public place in the town for a continuous period of 24 hours or longer may be taken into possession and impounded by the Police Department.

(`92 Code, § 72.80)

§ 72.99 PENALTY.

(A) Whoever violates any provision of this chapter for which a fine is not provided, shall be guilty of an infraction punishable by a fine not exceeding \$50. (G.S. § 14-4(b))

(`92 Code, § 72.99)

(B) Violations of the provisions of this chapter shall subject the violator to a fine in the amount of \$10; provided, however that violations of the provisions of § 72.26(A)(10) shall subject the violator to a fine in the amount of \$50 and that violations of the provisions of § 72.26(A)(11) shall subject the violator to a fine in the amount of \$100. (Res. passed 7-12-99)

(C) Each owner or operator of a vehicle parked in violation of this chapter may, within 48 hours of the time when the notice of violation was attached to his vehicle, pay to the Traffic Clerk, or other officer in charge of the clerk's office, as a penalty for and in full satisfaction of such violation the sum as established by ordinance of the Board of Aldermen. The failure of such owner or operator to make such payment within the specified time shall render such owner or operator subject to arrest. Fines to be paid at the town office as specified on ticket. (Ord. 2, passed 4-11-88)