

TOWN OF NORWICH Parking Ordinance

1. AUTHORITY.

This ordinance is adopted by authority of Vermont Statutes Annotated (V.S.A.) Title 24, Chapter 59, Section 1971-1973 and 24 V.S.A. Section 2291. The ordinance is further regulated by reference to V.S.A. Title 23, Chapter 13, Sections 1101, 1102, 1104 and 1105.

2. CIVIL ORDINANCE.

Any infraction of this ordinance will be considered a civil matter.

3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide a lawful, fair and well defined parking ordinance which is enforceable at the municipal level with the ultimate goal of improving public safety. The ordinance lists the areas where parking is not permitted, and areas where parking is allowed to a limited degree.

4. DEFINITIONS, COMPOSITION, RULES AND PROCEDURES.

To the extent statutory sections define terms or conditions intended to be applied by this ordinance then they are incorporated by reference.

5. NO TOWN POLICE COURT.

This Ordinance does not establish a Town Police Court under 23 V.S.A. chapter 19.

6. LOCAL REGULATIONS ON PARKING.

6.1 NO PARKING ZONES (Designated streets)

Parking, stopping, or standing is prohibited at all times at or in the following locations:

BEAVER MEADOW ROAD

Area 1. From the beginning of Beaver Meadow Road at the intersection of Main Street, westerly along the south side of Beaver Meadow road to the point where Hopson Road starts.

Area 2. North side of Beaver Meadow Road: westerly from a point 300 feet from Main Street to the south end of Bridge #39 (over Blood Brook and near St Francis' Church.)

MAIN STREET

Area 1. West side of Main Street: from the intersection of Beaver Meadow Road and Main Street, in a southerly direction along the west side of Main Street to the southern boundary of the Norwich Inn property.

Area 2. West side of Main Street: from the intersection of Beaver Meadow Road and Main Street, in a northerly direction along the west side of Main Street for a distance of 40 feet measured from the edge of the traveled way on the north side of Beaver Meadow Road.

Area 3. Opposite the entrance to Norwich Square: on the east side of Main Street at triangle at the intersection of Main Street and Route 5.

Area 4. East side of Main Street northerly from the corner of Carpenter Street to the pedestrian crossing located in front of the Norwich Inn.

Area 5. On the east side of Main Street southerly to the driveway on the south side of the Ledyard Bank.

Area 6. On the West side beginning at 100+ feet south of TH No. 60 (Elm Street, MP 1.37+) and extending northerly to 121+ feet north of TH No. 60 (MP 1.41+).

Area 7. On the East side beginning across from TH No. 60 (Elm Street, MP 1.39+) and extending northerly to 200+ feet north of TH No. 60 (MP 1.43+).

Area 8. On the East side of Main Street immediately south of the intersection of Hazen Street and Main Street near the library there shall be no parking from point of sign to corner of Hazen Street (in front of the library).

US ROUTE 5 SOUTH

Area 1. On both sides beginning 200 feet south of the drive to the Co-op Farmer's Market (MP 0.12+) extending northerly to 200 feet north of the drive to the Co-op Farmer's Market (MP 0.20+) for a total distance of 400+ feet.

US ROUTE 5 NORTH

Area 1. On the West side at (MP 4.48+) and extending northerly to (MP 4.67+) for a distance of 1000 feet. Location 713 US Route 5 North.

CARPENTER STREET

Area 1. North and south sides of Carpenter Street: from the intersection of Main Street and Carpenter Street easterly on the north side of Carpenter Street to the easterly boundary of the 1820 House property.

Area 2. From the intersection of Main Street and Carpenter Street easterly on the south side of Carpenter Street to the intersection of Carpenter Street and Lary Lane.

TURNPIKE ROAD

Both sides of Turnpike Road: from the east edge of the Huntley Meadow land, westerly along both the north and south sides of Turnpike Road to the intersection of Turnpike Road and Moore Lane.

FIREHOUSE LANE

Both sides of Firehouse Lane are restricted to parking for fire department use. The area between the East side of the Grange building and the front of the Fire Station is restricted to parking for fire department use and Grange members.

MARKED TURNAROUND AREAS / OR TURNING CIRCLES:

- (HAPPY HILL ROAD)
- (BRADLEY HILL ROAD)
- (UPPER LOVELAND ROAD)
- (FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ROAD)

- A. Vehicles shall not park in a turnaround area ,so as to block entrance or egress to trail, obstruct snow removal, prevent free flow of traffic, or prevent vehicles from turning around at these locations.
- B. In addition, winter parking regulations shall apply to all turnaround areas.

6.2 LOADING ZONES

The following areas are designated as LOADING ZONES for the temporary use of delivery vehicles. All other parking, stopping, or standing is prohibited.

Area 1. The south side of Beaver Meadow Road starting at 75 feet from Main Street and continuing for a distance of 25 feet.

Area 2. The west side of Main St. in front of the Norwich Inn.

Area 3. Any area designated as PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ACCESS POINTS.

Area 4. The north side of Elm Street starting 25 feet from Main Street and continuing westerly 50 feet on Elm Street.

6.3 LIMITED TIME PARKING ZONES

Between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday through Friday parking is limited to four hours on the south side of Tracy Hall.

6.4 DAYLIGHT PARKING AREAS

Parking is permitted in these areas only during daylight hours. These are defined as one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset. Overnight parking is not permitted.

Area 1. Huntley Meadow parking recreation area.

Area 2. Gile Mountain parking recreation area.

Area 3. Swimming pool / recreation parking area

6.5 WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

Parking is prohibited on all roads and streets in the Town of Norwich between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am during the period of November 1 to April 30. This prohibition is designed to facilitate snow removal. Violators of this section shall be ticketed and may have their vehicles towed. Vehicle owners shall be responsible for the costs of such towing and vehicle storage.

6.6 OBSTRUCTING CROSS WALKS

Parking, stopping or standing is prohibited in the following designated crosswalks:

Area 1. Main Street Pedestrian Crossings:

In front of Tracy Hall

In front of the Norwich Inn

Koch Road

Elm Street

Church Street at Marion Cross School

Area 2. On the east side of Main Street (traveling north) between the junction of Church Street and the pedestrian crossing.

Area 3. On the west side of Main Street (traveling south) between the bank driveway and the pedestrian crossing.

Area 4. Beaver Meadow Pedestrian Crossing at Main Street.

Area 5. Beaver Meadow Pedestrian Crossing at Fairview Cemetery.

6.7 RESERVED HANDICAPPED PARKING

Any posted and properly marked handicapped parking space located on a public highway or public parking area which is open to the general flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic within the Town of Norwich is for use by handicapped persons only. All other parking, standing and stopping are prohibited. The operator /owner of a vehicle using a handicapped parking space must display a valid handicapped registration plate or a valid placard.

6.8 OBSTRUCTING EMERGENCY SERVICE ACCESS FOR FIRE / POLICE VEHICLES

Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of an enforcement officer or official traffic control device, no person may stop, stand or park a vehicle in the following areas:

Area 1. In front of a fire hydrant or within six feet on either side of a fire hydrant measured along the curb or street edge from the centerline of the hydrant projected to the curb or street edge.

Area 2. Parking within 20 feet of the intersection of Firehouse Lane and Main Street on the east side of Main Street.

Area 3. Parking within 75 feet of the fire station driveway on the west side of Main Street except for vehicles that are parked so that all tires are off of the paved portion of the road.

(A fire hydrant is any upright pipe installed for the purpose of obtaining water from a water main, pond, cistern or river and includes what are commonly referred to as wet and dry hydrants.)

6.9 VEHICLES PARKED FOR SALE

No person or entity shall park or cause to be placed on any public highway (or on public property in the Town of Norwich) any motorized vehicle, trailer, boat, snowmobile, farm equipment or other property; registered or un-registered, for the purpose of selling said vehicle, trailer, boat, snowmobile, farm equipment or other property. Registered and operating vehicles bearing “For Sale” signs, or the like, that are otherwise properly parked in the Town for a bona-fide non-sale purpose must be moved from any public parking area between the hours of ten PM and eight AM every evening.

7. ADDITIONAL REGULATION OF PARKING

The Selectboard may regulate parking in addition to or otherwise as provided in this ordinance, by notice of the designation and description of such parking areas recorded in the office of the Town Clerk and posted in three conspicuous places in the Town of Norwich, together with a publication in the local area paper within (14) fourteen days of the adoption of such changes or additional parking areas and the erection of suitable signs.

8. PENALTY

The fine for a first violation of any provision of this Ordinance is \$5.00, and a second or subsequent violation committed within 30 days shall be \$15.00. An exception hereto is number 18 below. A violation of the provision for handicapped parking is penalized under 23 V.S.A. section 304a (e) and shall be \$25.00 for each offense, plus the cost of towing and storage costs.

1. Overtime or overnight prohibited parking
2. Parked facing wrong direction
3. Obstructing a crosswalk
4. Obstructing a sidewalk
5. Parking within a bus stop
6. Obstructing a driveway
7. Parking within 20 feet of intersecting way
8. Double parking
9. Restricted place or prohibited area or prohibited time
10. Parking within 6 feet of hydrant
11. Snow removal (obstructing)
12. Fire lane violation
13. Obstructing travel lane
14. Where signs prohibit
15. Obstructing loading zone
16. Winter parking ban
17. Vehicle parked for sale
18. Handicapped parking violation (including failure to display valid plate or placard)
19. Violation of Town Ordinance

In addition to the fines contained in this ordinance the police may arrange for the vehicle violating this ordinance to be towed away and the operator/owner shall be responsible for any towing and storage charges that may be incurred.

9. PAYMENT OF FINES, WAIVER FOR NON-CONTESTED VIOLATIONS AND COLLECTION

All fines must be paid within 20 working days of the issuance of the ticket. If the fine has not been paid within this period, the ticket may be sent to the District Court for collection of the fine. Additional fees may be applied for the collection of all fines. Such fees may include but not limited to administrative processing fee(s) and/or postage (certified mail).

10. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

If a person believes that s/he has unfairly received a parking violation ticket, s/he may appeal in writing to the Norwich Parking Enforcement Officer, by filling out a grievance form (forms available at the Norwich Police Department). Return form by mailing or in person to the Norwich Police Department, 10 Hazen Drive, Norwich, VT 05055. Requests for appeals must be submitted within three (3) working days of the issue date on the ticket. If the person is not satisfied with the disposition rendered by the Parking Enforcement Officer, s/he may appeal in writing to the Police Chief. The decision of the Police Chief shall be final. A PERSON MUST MAINTAIN POSSESSION OF HIS/HER PARKING TICKET UNTIL NOTIFIED OF ITS DISPOSITION BY THE PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

11. SEVERABILITY.

Any part or provision of this ordinance shall be considered severable, and the invalidity of any part or section will not be held to invalidate any other part or provision of this ordinance.

12. CONSOLIDATION AND REPLACEMENT

This ordinance is a consolidation of previous ordinances and it supercedes all existing parking-related Town ordinances.

13. EFFECTIVE DATE

Qualified voters of the Town of Norwich are hereby notified that they have forty-four days from the date of adoption hereof by the Selectboard to petition for a vote on this ordinance at an annual or special meeting as provided in 24 V.S.A. section 1973.

HISTORY:

1. Original adoption – June 23, 2004.
2. Amended – August 22, 2007.
3. Amended – September 24, 2008.
4. Amended – December 10, 2008