

NORRIDGEWOCK DOWNTOWN PARKING ORDINANCE

Section 1. Authority

This Norridgewock Downtown Parking Ordinance (hereinafter referred to as the "Ordinance") is adopted pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 3009.

Section 2. Purpose

This Ordinance is designed to protect public health and welfare by regulating the parking of motor vehicles on certain public ways. Unrestricted parking on public ways creates traffic hazards and is dangerous to pedestrians and motorists, and it is the purpose of the Ordinance to reduce this danger.

Section 3. Repeal of Prior Ordinances

Sections two (2) through four (4) of the Parking Ordinances as enacted at the 1971 annual town meeting, to the extent said sections may apply to the Downtown Business District as described herein, are hereby repealed, otherwise, to remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. Regulated Area

The Downtown Parking Ordinance shall apply to the area designated as the Norridgewock Downtown Business District pursuant to that area of Main Street beginning at the intersection of Welch and Depot Streets, and extending southeasterly a distance of 0.185 miles ending about 100 feet southeasterly of the intersection of Route 139 and U.S. Route 2.

Section 5. Definitions

"Motor Vehicle" is any vehicle defined in 29 M.R.S.A. Section 1.

"Public Way" means any town way or public easement as defined in 23 M.R.S.A. Section 3021 and any portion of any State or State-aid highway located within town. This term includes ways commonly designated as streets, lanes, roads and avenues and includes paved or unpaved shoulders of such ways.

Section 6. Parking in the Downtown Business District.

All motor vehicles shall stop, stand or park on either side of the public way of Main Street, and as closely as practicable to the edge of the road or side of the road, and with the side of the street, as laid out by the municipal officers in the central business section, motor vehicles shall parallel park on both sides of the public way along the curb, and between the parking lines as provided.

Section 7. Additional provisions.

No person shall stop, stand or park any motor vehicle in any of the following places:

- (a) On any sidewalk;
- (b) In front of any public or private driveway and within ten (10) feet of any driveway, entrance or approach to the highway;
- (c) Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant;
- (d) Upon or within twenty (20) feet of any crosswalk so designated by appropriate signs or markings;
- (e) Within twenty-five (25) feet of the intersection of any public way as defined by the terminus of the corner radius of any intersecting public way or road;
- (f) On the north-side of the business district within fifty (50) feet of the entrance to the fire station when properly marked with "No Parking" signs;

- (g) On the roadway side of any other motor vehicle which is stopped or parked at the curb or at the edge of the public way and commonly called double parking;
- (h) In addition, it shall be unlawful to park or stand a motor vehicle within the confines of any public way in the built-up portion of the Town of Norridgewock as defined by law between the hours of twelve o'clock midnight and six o'clock the following morning during the months of November, December, January, February and March except in the case of emergency;

Section 8. Exceptions

This ordinance does not apply to motor vehicles parked in prohibited areas for the following reasons:

- (a) Mechanical problems or breakdowns;
- (b) Emergency situations;
- (c) Maintenance, construction, repair or installation of utilities or the public way by any State or municipal agency or utility company.

Section 9. Penalty

Any person found in violation of this Ordinance by a Court of competent jurisdiction shall be subject to a fine of not more than twenty-five (25) dollars nor less than ten (10) dollars. Persons charged with violating this ordinance may waive court action by payment of a fee of five (5) dollars within seven (7) calendar days after receiving notice of the violation. Any such waiver and payment of fees shall be processed through the local Town Clerk.

Section 10. Declaration of an obstruction in the public way

Any motor vehicle parked upon the public way of Main Street in such a place or manner which is prohibited by this Ordinance, or during any parking ban declared by the Municipal Officers or their designee (provided that a notice of such ban has been given at least four (4) hours prior to the ban to the public by notification to a representative of a radio station or television station serving the area), is hereby declared to be an obstruction in the public way and a menace to the safety of the traveling public.

Section 11. Authority to tow and impound motor vehicles

Any parked motor vehicle which constitutes an obstruction under Section 8 of this Ordinance may, at the request and under the direction of the Municipal Officers or their designee, be towed to a suitable garage or storage space and impounded therein until all towing and storage fees are paid. The towing charge shall directly reimburse the actual cost of towing services and the storage fee shall be five (5) dollars per day for each day the motor vehicle is impounded.

When any motor vehicle is towed pursuant to this Ordinance, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. Notice shall be sent to the registered owner of the motor vehicle by regular first class mail, postage prepaid, within twenty-four (24) hours following the tow; and
2. The Notice shall contain the following information – registration number and a brief description of the motor vehicle; name and address of the person or company who performed the tow; location where the vehicle is stored; the provision (s) of the Ordinance which were violated and resulted in the tow; and the applicable towing fee and storage fee.

Section 12. Enforcement

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Municipal Officers or their duly appointed designee. Violations of this Ordinance shall be traffic infractions and shall be prosecuted, if necessary, in the Somerset County District Court.

Section 13. Severability

In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found by a Court to be in valid, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 14. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective October 1, 1994