

**TOWN OF DARTMOUTH**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**DARTMOUTH PARKING REGULATIONS**

The following rules and orders regulating the parking of motor vehicles within the Town of Dartmouth are hereby enacted by the Select Board pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Sections 22, 22A and 22D, Chapter 89, Section 7A and Chapter 90, Section 20A1/2, and shall be known as the Dartmouth Parking Regulations. They shall take effect upon publication in a local newspaper.

**SECTION 1. ENFORCEMENT**

Citations for any violations of the Dartmouth Parking Regulations shall be issued by the officers of the Police Department of the Town of Dartmouth in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 20A1/2, as well as by any other individuals who are appointed as parking control officers pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 147, Section 10F. Towing in response to any such violation shall be effectuated as detailed in Section 10 herein.

**SECTION 2. SCOPE, LIMITATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS**

**SUBSECTION 2.1 SCOPE OF APPLICABILITY**

The Dartmouth Parking Regulations shall apply to all motor vehicles and trailers. Motor vehicles shall include any conveyance that is not moved by human power. Trailers shall include any object, including refuse dumpsters and semi-trailers, that is not self-propelled and that is designed to be towed or moved by a motor vehicle, unless otherwise noted.

**SUBSECTION 2.2 DEFINITION OF PARKING**

Any vehicle or trailer shall be considered to be parked for the purposes of these Dartmouth Parking Regulations if it has been left unattended or if the person or persons attending to it do not have the means or ability to move it immediately upon request or command. Whether a vehicle is running shall not affect this determination.

**SUBSECTION 2.3 EMERGENCY VEHICLES**

The Dartmouth Parking Regulations shall not apply to any emergency services vehicles, including, but not limited to, law enforcement, medical emergency and fire safety vehicles, when they are being used in the performance of emergency response activities.

**SUBSECTION 2.4 LAWFUL COMMANDS**

The Dartmouth Parking Regulations shall not apply to any motor vehicle or trailer that has been parked at the lawful command or direction of a law enforcement officer or other safety official.

**SUBSECTION 2.5 PRESUMPTION OF LAWFUL PARKING**

Unless otherwise expressly limited or proscribed by a provision of the Dartmouth Parking Regulations, the parking of motor vehicles and trailers shall be presumed to be lawful.

**SECTION 3. SCHEDULE OF FINES**

The following fines for violations of the Dartmouth Parking Regulations, as described in detail in Sections 4 through 9, shall be paid to the Town Parking Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 20A1/2:

GROUP A	FINE AMOUNT: \$30.00 Each
	Failing to park parallel to the curb
	Failing to park such that each wheel of the side that abuts the curb is within six inches of that curb
	Parking in the wrong direction
	Parking during an unauthorized time period
	Parking for longer than is authorized
GROUP B	FINE AMOUNT: \$45.00 Each
	Parking in a crosswalk
	Parking on a sidewalk
	Parking in a Taxi Stand
	Parking in a no parking zone
	Parking within twenty feet of an intersection
	Parking within ten feet of a driveway
	Parking in a restricted parking area without a valid parking permit
	Unauthorized use, alteration or reproduction of a parking permit
	Double parking
	Parking so as to impermissibly narrow the width of a way
GROUP C	FINE AMOUNT: \$50.00 Each
	Parking within, or blocking access to, a fire lane
	Obstructing the access of any emergency apparatus to a way
	Parking within ten feet of a fire hydrant
	Obstructing a driveway
	Obstructing an intersection
	Impeding snow removal
	Parking within 50 feet of a fire station wall, or on the opposite side of the street parallel thereto
	Parking adjacent to, or upon, a center strip or traffic island
	Overnight parking of a motor vehicle or trailer that has a gross weight of at

	least 18,000 pounds
	Parking a commercial motor vehicle or trailer with at least one ton of capacity at night for longer than one hour
	Parking a detached trailer that weighs at least 10,000 pounds or detached semi-trailer
GROUP D	FINE AMOUNT: \$100.00 Each
	Parking in a bus stop
GROUP E*	FINE AMOUNT: \$250.00 Each
	Obstructing a handicap ramp
	Parking in a handicap parking zone or striped handicap loading zone
	*Fines for parking in any handicap parking zone or striped handicap loading zone that is in an off-street parking area, as well as for parking so as to obstruct a handicap ramp, are included herein pursuant to Dartmouth General By-Laws, Article 83.

Failure to pay the fine for any violation within Groups A, B, C or E within 21 days after the date of violation will result in an increase of the respective fine by \$5.00; any such fine shall increase by another \$15.00 if it is not paid by the time that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles is notified of the violation by the Parking Clerk. Where applicable, such fine increases with respect to certain Group E violations are provided pursuant to Dartmouth General By-Laws, Article 83.

#### SECTION 4. RESTRICTED PARKING AREAS

##### SUBSECTION 4.1 PERMIT PARKING

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked wherever a sign has been posted that states that parking is limited to permit parking, unless said motor vehicle exhibits a valid, unexpired parking permit for that particular designated permit area. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3. Notwithstanding, a parking permit shall not be required for any vehicle or trailer that is currently being used in the unloading or loading of cargo or materials to or from any residence within a designated residential permit area.

Residential parking permits may be obtained from the Select Board. Notwithstanding, no residential parking permit shall be issued to any motor vehicle of greater than 18,000 pounds in weight or to any trailer. All public landing parking permits shall be made available in such locations as the Harbormaster designates. No public landing parking permits shall be issued to any trailer; provided, that any motor vehicle that displays such a parking permit shall be entitled to park within a designated public landing parking area with a trailer attached. The fees for any public landing parking permits shall be as provided in any Public Landing Regulations or as otherwise required by the Public Access Board, and shall be remitted to the Waterways Enterprise Fund.

Every parking permit shall be displayed prominently on the motor vehicle for which it was issued. Any unauthorized use, alteration or reproduction of a parking permit shall result in a

fine as stipulated in Section 3, the revocation of said permit, and the inability to receive another parking permit for two (2) years thereafter.

#### SUBSECTION 4.2 LIMITED TIME PARKING

Wherever there is posted a sign that limits the number of consecutive minutes or hours that a motor vehicle or trailer may be parked, no motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked for longer than the allowed time period; provided that, with respect to any public landing, a motor vehicle or trailer may be parked for longer than the allowed time period with the approval of the Harbormaster. Violations of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3. No such fine shall be imposed upon any vehicle that prominently displays official handicapped identification as provided in M.G.L. c. 90, § 2 or as provided by any other state of the United States or any province of Canada.

#### SUBSECTION 4.3 RESTRICTED TIME PARKING

Wherever there is posted a sign that prohibits parking during certain hours of the day or night, or during certain days of the week or month, or during certain months of the year, no motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked during said prohibited period. Violations of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

#### SUBSECTION 4.4 HANDICAPPED PARKING

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked in any designated on-street handicap parking space, unless it prominently displays official handicapped identification as provided in M.G.L. c. 90, § 2 or as provided by any other state of the United States or any province of Canada. For this purposes of this Subsection, a designated handicapped parking space shall be inclusive of any marked cross-hatch or striped area that is designed to assist a handicapped person in entering and existing a motor vehicle. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of the motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

Further, the Town Parking Clerk shall be authorized to designate, at his or her discretion, an on-street handicap parking space abutting any residence that so requests such designation.

Any restriction on the use of designated handicapped parking spaces in any public or private off-street parking area shall be governed by Dartmouth General By-Laws, Article 83.

### SECTION 5. RESTRICTIONS FOR TRAILERS, COMMERCIAL VEHICLES AND HEAVY VEHICLES

#### SUBSECTION 5.1 OVERNIGHT PARKING

No motor vehicle or trailer, or any combination thereof, that has a gross weight at or in excess of 18,000 pounds, exclusive of any cargo or materials being stored or hauled therein,

shall be parked on any way between the hours of nine post-meridian and seven anti-meridian, or anytime on Sundays or legal holidays as defined in M.G.L. c. 4, § 7.

No commercial motor vehicle or trailer, or any combination thereof, that has a gross weight that is less than 18,000 pounds, exclusive of any cargo or materials being stored or hauled therein, but that has a capacity of at least one ton, shall be parked on any way for more than sixty consecutive minutes between the hours of nine post-meridian and seven anti-meridian; provided that said time period may be extended if so required to effectuate the completion of any loading or unloading of cargo or materials.

Any violation of any of these prohibitions shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3.

#### SUBSECTION 5.2 DETACHED TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS

No trailer that has a gross weight at or in excess of 10,000 pounds, and no semi-trailer of any size, shall be parked on any way between the hours of seven anti-meridian and nine post-meridian, unless it is attached to a motor vehicle that is capable of towing or moving it.

Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3.

#### SUBSECTION 5.3 EXCEPTION FOR DISPOSAL DUMPSTERS

The prohibitions of this Section shall not apply to any disposal dumpster that is parked temporarily as part of a construction or demolition project, and that has been approved by the Chief of Police or his designee.

### SECTION 6. IMPROPER PARKING

#### SUBSECTION 6.1 DISTANCE AND ANGLE FROM CURB

All motor vehicles and trailers shall be parked such that they are parallel to the curb and such that all of the wheels on the side that abuts the curb are not more than six inches from said curb. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3.

#### SUBSECTION 6.2 WRONG DIRECTION

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked on a way such that it faces oncoming traffic on that side of the way. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3.

#### SUBSECTION 6.3 PARKING SO AS TO IMPERMISSIBLY NARROW THE WIDTH OF A WAY

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked on a way such that it fails to leave a clear and unobstructed lane for traffic flow that is at least ten feet wide on a one-way street or twenty feet wide on a two-way street. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public

way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

#### SUBSECTION 6.4 DOUBLE PARKING

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked on a way such that it is alongside, whether wholly or partially, another parked vehicle or trailer. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

#### SUBSECTION 6.5 SIDEWALK

No part of any parked motor vehicle or trailer shall rest upon any sidewalk. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

### SECTION 7. PROHIBITED PARKING

#### SUBSECTION 7.1 MARKED AREAS

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked, at any time and for any duration, on any way, or part thereof, on which there is posted a sign that entirely restricts parking. Further, no motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked, at any time or for any duration, in any marked crosswalk, taxi stand or bus stop. Any violation of any of these prohibitions shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

#### SUBSECTION 7.2 PROXIMITY PARKING

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked, at any time and for any duration, within ten feet of a driveway, or within twenty feet of an intersection of two ways. Any violation of either of these prohibitions shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3.

Should a parked motor vehicle or trailer actually block, whether partially or completely, a driveway or intersection, then said fine shall be increased as stipulated in Section 3 and, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, said motor vehicle or trailer shall be towed and stored at the owner's expense, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

#### SUBSECTION 7.3 ADJACENT TO CENTER STRIP

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked adjacent to, or upon, any center division strip or traffic island that bifurcates any way. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1.

## SECTION 8. INTERFERENCE WITH FIRE FIGHTING

### SUBSECTION 8.1 FIRE LANES

The Chiefs of Dartmouth Fire Districts One, Two and Three shall designate locations for fire lanes, said fire lanes to be a distance of twenty feet from the curbing at any mall, shopping center, hotel and nursing home where sidewalks exist, or otherwise to be a distance of eighteen feet from said curbing. The owner of record of such buildings shall provide, install and maintain all necessary signs and painted striping in order to so designate all such fire lanes. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked, at any time or for any duration, within any designated fire lane, or in such a manner that it blocks access to a designated fire lane.

Any violation of any of these prohibitions shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result in the towage and storage of the motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.2.

### SUBSECTION 8.2 FIRE HYDRANT

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked within ten feet of that section of the curb that is adjacent to a fire hydrant.

Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result, in the case of any such motor vehicle or trailer that is on a public way, in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of that motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1; provided that, when such violation actually interferes with the ability of any fire apparatus, vehicle or equipment to have access to a fire hydrant during the course of a fire emergency, regardless of whether said hydrant is located adjacent to a public or private way, said motor vehicle or trailer also may be towed in accordance with Subsection 10.2.

### SUBSECTION 8.3 OBSTRUCTING THE ACCESS OF ANY EMERGENCY APPARATUS TO A WAY

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked in such a manner that any fire, safety, police or other emergency apparatus, vehicle or equipment is denied access to any way while responding to a fire emergency.

Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of the motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.2.

### SUBSECTION 8.4. FIRE STATION

On the side of any public way on which a fire station is located, no motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked within fifty feet of any wall of said fire station. Additionally, no motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked on the other side of any public way parallel to such a restricted parking zone.

Any violation of any of these prohibitions shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result in the towage and storage, at the owner's expense, of the motor vehicle or trailer

so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1; provided that, when such a violation actually interferes with the ability of any fire apparatus, vehicle or equipment to respond to a fire emergency, said motor vehicle or trailer also may be towed in accordance with Subsection 10.2.

## SECTION 9. SNOW REMOVAL

No motor vehicle or trailer shall be parked upon any public way, for any duration, during a declared snow ban, so as to impede or disrupt the removal or plowing of snow or ice by the Department of Public Works and its employees and contract workers. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punished by a fine as stipulated in Section 3, and shall result in the towage and storage, at the owners expense, of the motor vehicle or trailer so in violation, as provided in Subsection 10.1; provided, that the Department of Public Works may also effectuate the towage and storage of any such motor vehicle or trailer in accordance with Dartmouth General By-Laws, Article 92.

## SECTION 10. TOWAGE

### SUBSECTION 10.1 STANDARD TOWING

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 22D, the Chief of Police, or his designee, may remove and store, or cause to be removed and stored, from any public way any motor vehicle or trailer that is subject to such removal pursuant to these Dartmouth Parking Regulations. The Chief of Police, or his designee, shall keep a record of any vehicle or trailer so removed, which shall contain the name of the owner, if known, and the registration number of said motor vehicle or trailer. The Chief of Police, or his designee, shall notify, or cause to be notified, the owner of any removed motor vehicle or trailer within a reasonable period of time after such removal, provided that the identity thereof can be ascertained. The costs of the removal and storage of any such motor vehicle or trailer shall be paid by the owner of the same; provided, that said costs always shall be the maximum rates that are permitted by Chapter 159B, Section 6B. As required by said Section 22D, no motor vehicle or trailer that is owned or registered by any government entity, whether foreign or domestic, shall be subject to such removal and storage.

### SUBSECTION 10.2 TOWING FOR FIREFIGHTING RELATED VIOLATIONS

The removal and storage of any motor vehicle or trailer that is in violation of Subsections 8.1 and 8.3, as well as Subsections 8.2 and 8.4 were applicable, shall be as delineated in Subsection 10.1; provided that, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 89, Section 7A, the Chiefs of Dartmouth Fire Districts One, Two and Three, as well as their respective designees, also may remove and store, or cause to be removed and stored, any such motor vehicle or trailer; provided further that, in accordance with said statute, any such motor vehicle and trailer may be removed and stored whether it is on a public or private way.

### SUBSECTION 10.3 TOWING FOR CERTAIN HANDICAP RELATED VIOLATIONS

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21(24) and Dartmouth General By-Laws, Article 83, the above Subsection 10.1 also shall apply to any motor vehicle or trailer that is parked in a designated off-street handicap parking space without displaying proper



handicapped identification, or that is parked so as to obstruct a handicap ramp, regardless of whether said ramp provides access to a public or private way.

#### SECTION 11. APPEALS PROCEDURE

All appeals of any violations shall be in accordance with the procedures that are provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 20A1/2.