

ARTICLE VI. ABANDONED, JUNKED, WRECKED OR NONOPERATING VEHICLES

Editor's Note. This article from the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 56, Chapter 5. As to disposition of abandoned or derelict motor vehicles on highways see §56-5-5810, et seq. As to same on public or private property see §56-5-5810, et seq. It also derives from the 1994 Walterboro City Code.

18.601. DEFINITIONS.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Nonoperating vehicle shall mean any vehicle that meets two (2) or more of the following criteria: does not display a current license plate; is in a state of disrepair and/or is incapable of being moved under its own power.

State of disrepair shall mean wrecked; dismantled; cracked; shattered or missing windshield or glass; severely damaged or missing body panels; uninflated or under inflated tires; inoperative due to absence of a motor, transmission, wheels or other major components; or used for the storage of household or commercial goods which result in a visual nuisance.

(WCC 11-26, as amended by Ordinance No. 1998-04. 4-14-98)

18.602. ABANDONED VEHICLES.

No person shall abandon any vehicle within the city and no persons shall leave any vehicle at any place within the city for such time and under such circumstances as to cause such vehicle reasonably to appear to have been abandoned.

(WCC 11-28)

18.603. NONOPERATING, WRECKED OR JUNKED VEHICLES.

- a. No person shall leave any partially dismantled, nonoperating, wrecked or junked vehicle on any street or highway within the city.
- b. No person in charge or control of any property within the city, whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee or otherwise, shall allow any partially dismantled, nonoperating, wrecked, junked or discarded vehicle to remain on such property longer than seventy-two (72) hours.
- c. This section shall not apply to a vehicle:
 - (1) in an enclosed building, not readily visible from the street or other public or private property, and protected from the elements by a custom cover which is water repellent, property secured to vehicle; or,
 - (2) is not itself in a state of disrepair; or,
 - (3) a vehicle on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise; or,
 - (4) a vehicle in an appropriate storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner by the city.

(WCC 11-29, as amended by Ordinance No. 1998-04. 4-14-98)

18.604. REMOVAL OF VEHICLES.

- a. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and Building Inspector are hereby authorized to remove or have removed any vehicle left at any place within the city which reasonably appears to be in a violation of this article, or lost, stolen or unclaimed.
- b. Such vehicle shall be impounded until lawfully claimed or disposed of in accordance with state law.

(WCC 11-30)

18.605. PENALTY.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.