

# McALESTEROK

## Community Development Department

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## INFORMATION ON INOPERABLE VEHICLES

The City of McAlester is working to inform and educate citizens about our city's ordinance against inoperable/abandoned vehicles. Unfortunately, this has been a growing problem in our city and we want to work with citizens to eliminate this issue. The Code of Ordinances of the City of McAlester, Section 54-2, addresses **OPEN STORAGE OF ABANDONED OR UNATTENDED VEHICLES, REFRIGERATORS, BUILDING MATERIAL, ETC.** and reads as follows:

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or occupant of any residential, commercial or industrial building, structure or property to utilize the premises of such property for the open storage of any abandoned or unattended motor vehicle, icebox, refrigerator, stove, glass, building material or other similar items. It shall be the duty and responsibility of such owner or occupant to keep the premises of such property clean and to remove from the premises all such abandoned or unattended items upon notice from the code administrator.

(b) For the purpose of this section, an abandoned motor vehicle is defined as one that is in a state of disrepair and incapable of being moved under its own power. A refrigerator is defined as any icebox, refrigerator, freezer, ice container, receptacle, locker or compartment that is abandoned or unattended.

We understand that sometimes citizens are unaware that these ordinances exist and we want to help you to bring your property into compliance. If you are unsure how to get rid of your inoperable vehicle or want to keep the vehicle and maintain compliance with the ordinance, you may consider the following:

**PLACE THE VEHICLE OUT OF VIEW OF THE PUBLIC.** This can be done by putting the vehicle in a garage or behind a privacy fence where it cannot be seen.

**DONATE THE VEHICLE TO CHARITY.** A quick internet search (How to donate a car to charity in Oklahoma?) will give you numerous results for organizations that will be happy to have your donation. You will need to research which organization is best for you and contact them.

**SELL OR SCRAP THE VEHICLE.** There are also local salvage/scrap yards and wrecker services that will buy your vehicle. Some of these businesses will even come and pick up the vehicle up at your property. Each individual business will have different requirements for demonstrating ownership. You will need to check with the business you select to see what they will require. If this is the best option for you, here are a few local businesses for you to consider:

31 AUTO SALVAGE\*. (918) 423-2022

CAR BONZ SALVAGE & SALES\*. (918) 426-1171

SCOTT GRIFFITH OR CHUCK COURTS\*. (918) 424-2003 (SCOTT) (918) 429-5432 (CHUCK)

OUTLAW TOWING\*. (918) 426-6869

\*This business will come and remove the vehicle from your property. A fee may apply.

**DISCLAIMER-** The list provided above is presented for informational purposes only and is solely for convenience. The list does not constitute an endorsement, or preference among them. The City makes no representation regarding the accuracy or completeness of this list.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING CODE COMPLIANCE OR IF YOUR VEHICLE IS OPERABLE, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Tabetha Howell  
Code Enforcement Officer  
(918) 423-9300 x4986 or (918) 421-9080

Sec. 62-297. - Storage and parking of trailers and commercial vehicles.

- (a) Commercial vehicles, mobile homes, manufactured homes, motor homes, travel trailers, camper trailers, boats, boats and trailers, boat trailers, cargo hauling trailers, or utility trailers, shall not be parked, stored, or occupied on any public street, or lot occupied by a dwelling or on any lot in any residential district, except in accordance with the following conditions and provisions:
- (1) No more than one commercial vehicle, which does not exceed 1.5 tons rated capacity, per family living on the premises, shall be permitted; and in no case shall a commercial vehicle used for hauling explosives, gasoline or liquefied petroleum products be permitted.
  - (2) No more than one motor home, travel trailer, camper trailer and no more than two boat, boat and trailer, boat trailer, cargo hauling trailer, or utility trailers per family living on the premises in a residential district shall be permitted provided parking is in accordance with the following conditions and provisions:
    - a. A trailer shall not be parked or stored for more than 48 hours unless it is appropriately located behind the front yard building line.
    - b. Inside parking shall be permitted.
    - c. Outside parking in the side yard, as defined in the zoning ordinance, shall be permitted. The hitch, tongue, and body of the vehicle or trailers shall not extend more than six feet beyond the front building line into the front yard.
    - d. Outside parking in the rear yard, as defined in the zoning ordinance, shall be permitted.
    - e. Motor homes, travel trailers, camper trailers, boats, boats and trailers, boat trailers, cargo hauling trailers, or utility trailers shall not be greater than 13-½ feet in height, eight feet in width, and 35 feet in length.
    - f. It shall be the duty and responsibility of such owner to have the vehicle or trailer registered and tagged annually as required by state law.
    - g. Parking is permitted for motor homes, travel trailers, or camper trailers in accordance with the following conditions and provisions:
      1. Not used for dwelling purposes. Any temporarily or permanently occupied motor home, travel trailer, or camper trailer shall be stored or parked only in a RV park, trailer court or mobile home park which is in conformity with the ordinances of the city;
      2. Not permanently or temporarily connected to sewer lines or water lines. The discharge or intake points for sewer lines or water lines shall be appropriately capped and not connected to permanent or temporary lines or portable tanks. The motor

home, travel trailer or camper trailer may only be connected to electricity temporarily for maintenance or charging batteries, and any hookup facilities shall comply with applicable local codes, state law and the National Electrical Code;

3. No propane fuel is used except when necessary to prepare for use.

4. Not used for storage of goods, materials or equipment other than those items considered to be part of the motor home, travel trailer or camper trailer, or essential for its immediate use.

(b) A motor home, travel trailer, or camper trailer shall be occupied only in a RV park, trailer court or mobile home park in conformity with the ordinances of the city.

(c) A mobile or manufactured home shall be stored or parked only in a trailer court or mobile home park which is in conformity with the ordinances of the city.

(d) No vehicle or trailer of any kind shall be parked on any corner property or right-of-way in such a position as to violate the sight triangle required by ordinance.

(Code 1993, § 62-280; Ord. No. 1843, § 1(art. IV, § 8), 2-14-1989; Ord. No. 2648, § 1, 3-26-2019)