

JUNK VEHICLE ORDINANCE:						Length: 4 Pages			
Reviewed									
Revised	*10/05								

*denotes date of origin

Purpose of Ordinance:

An ordinance to secure the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents and property owners of Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, Michigan, by the regulation of the outdoor parking and storage of licensable vehicles, and new or used parts or junk there from, within Grass Lake Charter Township; to provide penalties for the violation of this Ordinance and to repeal any Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith.

I. Title of Ordinance:

This ordinance shall be known and cited as the Grass Lake Charter Township Junk Vehicle Ordinance.

This ordinance is designed to limit and restrict the outdoor storage, parking or unreasonable accumulation of junk, unused, partially dismantled or non-operating vehicles, or new or used parts thereof upon premises not zoned for this use; to thereby avoid injury and hazards to children and others attracted to such vehicles; the devaluation of property values; and the psychological ill effect of the presence of such vehicles upon adjoining residents and the public.

II. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to the terms when used herein:

- A. Vehicle – The term vehicle used herein shall include any conveyance which when used on public road, street or highway requires a license issued by the State of Michigan. Included are automobiles, trucks, truck trailers, motor homes, travel trailers, camping trailers, utility trailers, motorcycles, or any other vehicle requiring a State of Michigan license to operate on a public road, street or highway.
- B. Duly Licensed – Duly licensed shall mean having a valid/current license plate (and sticker) appropriately attached or affixed to the vehicle.
- C. Operable Vehicle – Shall mean a vehicle in working mechanical condition, capable of being operated as intended, and in a safe manner on a public road, street or highway.
- D. Insured Vehicle – shall mean a vehicle with a current vehicle registration and current motor vehicle insurance.

III. Regulations

- A. No person, firm or corporation shall park, store, or place upon any public right-of-way or public property, or upon any privately owned premises that is not specifically zoned for this use, within the Township, any vehicle that does not meet two of the three requirements as defined in Article II, sections B, C and D, or new or used parts or junk there from, unless the same is wholly contained within a fully enclosed building and does not violate any zoning or building laws of the Township, County or State of Michigan except the following.
1. Vehicles that are temporarily inoperable because of minor mechanical failure but which are not, in any manner, dismantled and have substantially all main component parts attached, may remain upon such private property for no longer than 30 days.
 2. Not more than one (1) vehicle in fully operating condition such as a stock car or modified car that has been redesigned or reconstructed for the purpose other than that for which it was manufactured, provided no building or garage is located upon the premises in which the same could be parked or stored. In no event shall any such vehicle be parked in the front or side street yard area of any such residential premises.
 3. Unlicensed but operable trucks in active use as part of a farming operation.
 4. Truck trailers used for long term storage or as part of a farm operation provided the location is approved by the Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer. The location on the property shall be such as to minimize viewing the truck trailer from any public right-of-way and adjoining property.
- B. No repairing, redesigning, modifying, or dismantling work or operations shall be allowed upon any vehicle or parts thereof upon any public right-of-way or public property or on any private property not specifically zoned for this use for a period in excess of 30 days except such as shall be accomplished within a fully enclosed building; will not constitute a nuisance or annoyance to adjoining property owners or occupants; and does not violate any provisions of Grass Lake Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

Any such work within such 30 day period heretofore allowed shall not, however, consist of any major repair, collision repair, redesigned, modifying, dismantling work, or spray painting, but only such occasional minor work as may infrequently be required to maintain a vehicle or parts thereof in normal operating condition.

- C. In the event the foregoing regulations create any special or particular hardship beyond the control of a particular violator thereof because of unforeseen circumstances, the Ordinance Enforcement Officer of the Township upon written

request is hereby given the authority to grant permission to an applicant to operate contrary to the provisions hereof for a limited period not to exceed an additional 30 days provided no adjoining property owner or occupant is unreasonably adversely affected thereby and the spirit and purpose of this Ordinance are still substantially observed.

IV. Construction

This ordinance shall not prevent the operation of any licensed junk yard, salvage yard, garage, body or paint shop legally operating within a proper zone as defined in the Grass Lake Charter Township Zoning Ordinance, and shall be in addition to any other laws or Ordinances respecting rubbish, refuse, litter, trash, or junk control and regulations.

V. Nuisance

Any parking, storage, placement, or operations in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

VI. Severability

If any section, subdivision sentence, regulation, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subdivision, sentences, regulation, clauses and phrases of this ordinance or the regulation as an entirety.

VII. Penalties and Civil Fines/Cost

Any person, firm or corporation found violating the provisions of this Ordinance, is responsible for a Municipal Civil Infraction as defined by Michigan law and subject to a civil fine determined in accordance with the following schedule: Each day that a violation shall continue, it constitutes a separate offense. The fine starts the day after the deadline date stated on the notice. Checks for fines shall be made payable to Grass Lake Charter Township.

First Violation within a 3-year period*.....	\$50.00/per day
Second violation within a 3-year period*.....	\$100.00/per day
Third violation within a 3-year period*.....	\$200.00/per day
Fourth or subsequent violation within a 3-year period..	\$400.00/per day

*(*determined on the basis of the date of the violation(s))*

Additionally, the violator shall pay costs, which may include all direct or indirect expenses to which the township has been put in connection with the violation. In no case, however, shall costs of less than \$9.00 or more than \$500.00 be ordered. A violator of this ordinance shall also be subject to such additional sanctions, remedies and judicial orders as are authorized under Michigan law.

VIII. Supercedes

This Ordinance shall supercede Grass Lake Township Ordinance No 82-1.

IX. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication or posting as required by law following adoption by the Township Board. Adoptive Date 10-11-2005.

Marjorie A. Clark

Grass Lake Charter Township, Clerk

\ldp