

PARKING ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF PATTEN

1. **Authority and Purpose** – This Ordinance is adopted by the Municipal Officers of the Town of Patten in accordance with Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §§3009.
Unrestricted parking of motor vehicles on certain portions of public ways in town creates a traffic hazard and is dangerous to motorists and pedestrians alike.
Unrestricted parking causes traffic congestion, reduces sight distances for motorists, impedes winter maintenance, and causes motorists to drive outside the designated travel lane and into oncoming traffic. The Purpose of this ordinance is to regulate parking as necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
2. **Definitions** – Words used in this ordinance shall be defined in accordance with Title 29-A M.R.S.A. §§ 101; any undefined word shall have its common, ordinary meaning.
3. **Restrictions** – No person shall park a motor vehicle on the following public ways or portions of other public ways where “No Parking/Tow Away Zone” signs or signs bearing similar language have been erected by the Municipality.
 - A. No trucks, or truck-trailer combinations shall be parked on either side of Main Street between the intersection of Main Street, Houlton, and Dearborn Streets and the U.S. Post Office located at 24 Main Street, except to make storefront deliveries. In no instance, except for emergency vehicles, shall any vehicle park so as to totally block, restrict or inhibit vehicle traffic, i.e., one traffic lane must always remain unobstructed to permit unrestricted vehicle traffic.
 - B. Except for emergency vehicles, no motor vehicle, truck or trailer shall park in such a manner to restrict the access to , or egress from, any highway, street, road, alley, or public or private drive or way.
 - C. Except for emergency vehicles, no motor vehicle, truck or trailer shall park against the traffic flow, i.e., all vehicles shall park to the right side of the street, highway, or road.
 - D. Except for emergency vehicles, there shall be no double parking of vehicles on any street, highway, or road within the Town of Patten.
 - E. There shall be no vehicle parking on any street, highway, or road between the hours of 10:00p.m and 5:00a.m. within the Town of Patten from November 1st though April 30th.
 - F. There shall be no overnight vehicle parking in the old grammar school parking lot, at any time.

Last updated 2008

G. All vehicles shall park parallel with the road edge, curb or other natural street, highway, or road border, with the following exception: Vehicles parking on the east side of Main Street from the intersection of Main Street and Houlton Street to the intersection of Main Street and Founders Street, shall park at approximately 45 degrees to the curb so that the right side of the parked vehicle shall be closest to the curb.

4. **Prima Facie evidence of operation** – No person shall cause, allow, or permit a motor vehicle registered in his or her name to park in violation of this ordinance. The fact that a motor vehicle is unlawfully parked shall be a prima facie evidence of the unlawful parking of such vehicle by the person whose name such vehicle is registered.
5. **U-turns** – Except for emergency vehicles, it shall be illegal to make a U-turn on any public street, highway, or road with-in the Town of Patten.
6. **Penalties for violation of parking ordinance** – In the event that any vehicle is parked in violation of this ordinance, any police officer, constable, or sheriff shall place one written warning on the motor vehicle with a copy of this parking ordinance. In the event of a second violation of this ordinance, a motor vehicle may be towed by a wrecker authorized by the municipality, at the request of, or under the supervision of, a duly authorized official appointed by the selectmen. Within 5 days of the tow, the Patten Town Office will send the registered owner a notice stating the date and time of the tow, the location where the motor vehicle is impounded, and the requirements for release of the motor vehicle.
7. **Release of towed vehicle** – Any person seeking release of a motor vehicle towed pursuant to this ordinance must first pay all towing charges and storage charges, and present satisfactory evidence of his or her right to possession.
8. **Severability and effective date** – In the event that any provision of this ordinance is declared by a court to be unenforceable, the remaining provisions continue in full force and effect. This ordinance shall become effective when adopted by a majority vote at a legally held Town Meeting, and this ordinance shall supersede and replace any ordinance of similar nature heretofore enacted by the Town of Patten.

Adopted at a Special Town Meeting on: NOV 13, 2008
(date)

A True Copy Attest: Jessie Conbi
Deputy Town Clerk