(continued from inside panel)

Q. I have no idea who owns the nuisance vehicle on my property. What do I do now?
A. Contact the inspector listed on the notice and arrange to sign papers that will result in it being towed away at no expense to you.
Q. Can I park my own tow truck outside on a residential property?
A. No. Tow trucks are never permitted outside.
Q. How many vehicles can I park on my property?
A. There can be no more than four vehicles parked outside at a single or 2-family residence. Only one in that four can be a recreational vehicle. That count includes trailers, boats, motor-homes, etc.
Q. What about other vehicles?
A. Motorcycles, boats, trailers, mobile homes, must be properly stored and cannot exceed a combined number of four. Motor-homes cannot be longer that 22 ft. Only one Commercial vehicle is allowed, excluding tow trucks.
Q. What is an approved surface?
A. Depending on the year the property was built a proper surface can consist of crush gravel, asphalt or concrete. **Gravel may not be used to create a new parking space.**
Q. My car is a collector car and in good condition. Do I need a license plate?
A. Yes. All outside stored vehicles must display plates with current sticker for that car.
Q. What if I ignore the order?
A. Several possibilities exist. If the vehicle can be towed away, it will be towed. If the tow truck cannot reach the vehicle, the property will be periodically reinspected for compliance. Reinspection fees ($50/75/150/300) will be assessed to the property tax bill. Citations may also be issued to the property owner. If the City has to tow the vehicle, it won't be cheap! The average tow bill is about $255.
Q. Can I repair my car at my house?
A. Yes, if you own it, repair only one at a time, and the repair is done in-doors. No parking or storing on the street is allowed.

OTHER DNS ASSISTANCE

Call 286-2268 if you need the **Department of Neighborhood Services** (DNS) to assist with the following:

- Graffiti removal
- Buildings or apartments in poor condition that need maintenance
- Animals that bite, constantly make too much noise, run loose or create litter problems
- Litter, tires, junk cars or junk that need to be removed from occupied or vacant lots
- Rats, mice or cockroaches that are a problem at a specific property or area of the neighborhood

The **Department of Public Works** can assist with other neighborhood needs. Call 286-8282 for the following:

- Tall grass and weeds more than 9" high.
- Special Pickup requests (Large move-outs)
- Vehicles abandoned on your property without your consent. (Call the **TOWDESK** 286-8350)

CITY WEB PAGE
www.city.milwaukee.gov

produced by the
Department of Neighborhood Services
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Dealing with Vehicle Problems in Your Neighborhood

- ***Know your rights and responsibilities***
- ***Who to call for help***
- ***Answers to frequently asked questions***

City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services

DNS-14 Nuisance Vehicles V34 TNW 11/3/09

What's the problem?

Its a fact....residential buildings have higher property values when they are not located next to a junk yard. Nuisance vehicles are an eye sore and lower neighborhood stability and sustainability. The junkers become harborages for vermin and they can leak hazardous chemicals which can contaminate soil and ground water. They're rusted, broken or abandoned. That's the easy way to spot a nuisance vehicle. But what about that car that hasn't moved in a month? What about the car missing registration plates or is up on blocks waiting for a repairs. Where do you begin?

Location, Location, Location!

Determine which City Department can handle your situation. The Department of Neighborhood Services is responsible for enforcing complaints about vehicles on private property...call **286-2268**. Vehicles on public property (streets, sidewalks, and alleys) are handled by the Department of Public Works Parking Enforcement at **286-8350**. This brochure deals with vehicles on private residential property.

Automatic or 3 out of 5 makes it bad

Vehicles missing doors, windows or stored dangerously i.e. up on rocks, are automatic candidates for being a nuisance vehicle.

In addition, there are 5 conditions that can make any vehicle a nuisance. Three out of the five possible violations are required to trigger action by the City,
Those conditions are:

1. No current valid license plates displayed.
2. Unmoved for 30 days.
3. Inoperable.
4. Substantial damage such as missing certain parts, broken windows,
5. Parked on an unapproved surface.

If 3 out of the 5 above conditions exist, or it's an automatic nuisance (a window is missing), you should call the Department of Neighborhood Services and make a complaint. Complainants should be able to provide a location and a description of the offending vehicle. Typically, an inspector will check within 1-2 weeks to determine if a violation exists. Complainants names are kept confidential if requested.

Responses that DON'T work

If the vehicle has 3 out of the 5 conditions it is a nuisance vehicle no matter what. It doesn't matter if the owner grants permission to park, nor does it matter that the property owner owns the car. Covering the nuisance vehicle does not work either. A nuisance vehicle is prohibited in residential neighborhoods.

But it's not my car!

"I own the property and I don't know where this car came from." If someone parks a car on your property without your permission, contact the Milwaukee Department of Public Works' Tow Desk at 286-8350. The vehicle will be removed free of charge and the cost of the tow and storage will be assessed to the vehicle owner. Unsalvageable vehicles and their contents maybe destroyed immediately without being stored.

I've got an order...Now what?

If you received a nuisance vehicle order, DO NOT DELAY...CALL TODAY! The name and phone number of the inspector is on the order. Call for additional information immediately!

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. If the City tows a vehicle off of private property under this nuisance vehicle procedure, can I get it back?

A. No. It is towed directly to a shredder where it is recycled.

Q. Why doesn't DNS ticket the car rather than order the property owner to remove it?

A. Current State Law does not permit that option to DNS. We are seeking that authority.

Q. I filed a complaint about a nuisance vehicle in my Neighborhood. On average, how long should it take to get it removed?

A. If the vehicle owner fails to respond to the order and DNS has to tow it, it takes 15-30 days before the City tow truck can remove it.

Q. Why does it take 15-30 days?

A. Due process of the law requires written notice to the vehicle owner and also to the property owner, an opportunity to comply and an opportunity to appeal. The City uses the same towing contractors to remove abandoned vehicles from city streets so minor backlogs can occur at peak periods.

Q. How can I tell if DNS is working on my complaint?

A. Go to the City of Milwaukee home page at **www.milwaukee.gov**. Then click on the icon for PROPERTY DATA. Follow the instructions and enter the address. All the real estate ownership, violations, complaints and permits for that address will appear. Click on any item with a (View) label to drill down for more information.

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