

# TOWN OF BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## PARKING ORDINANCE

### **TITLE: Ordinance Regulating – Parking**

Pursuant to State authority, the Board of Selectmen, Town of Bennington, New Hampshire have enacted the following ordinance to control parking.

**PURPOSE:** This ordinance is designed to reduce or eliminate illegal parking as outlined by the Board of Selectmen, Town of Bennington. It is intended to enforce illegal stopped or parked vehicles regardless of whether the vehicle is attended or unattended. All parking regulations will be determined at the discretion of the Bennington Police Department.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

1. **PUBLIC STREETS:** All ways maintained and/or accepted by the town.
2. **SIDEWALKS:** Any walkway or area designated or intended for pedestrian use.
3. **PRIVATE AREAS:** Any way, business or area which is considered private.
4. **VEHICLE:** Includes but not limited to any car, truck, bus, highway equipment, motorcycle or any other vehicle defined in RSA 259:1.

### **PARKING RESTRICTIONS:**

- A. **Handicap Parking:** Any area designated as parking for handicap parking. This will pertain to any area marked by means of paintings and/or signs.
- B. **Roadway Parking:** No portion of a vehicle shall be parked on any paved portion of a roadway which would impede the smooth flow of traffic.
- C. **Prohibited Areas:** No vehicle shall be parked in area which is designated as no parking areas by the Board of Selectmen, Town of Bennington and/or by signs indicating a “No Parking” area.
- D. **Sidewalk:** No vehicle shall park any portion of the vehicle on a sidewalk. Discretion of the police department may permit temporary parking in an effort to reduce safety concerns.
- E. **Winter Parking Ban:** No vehicle shall be parked on any street in the Town of Bennington between the dates of November 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>, and the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of each year. Dates and times may be changed by the Board of Selectmen.
- F. **Snow Removal:** No vehicle shall be parked on any street in such a manner as to impede snow removal. No person shall stop or cause to be stopped or park a vehicle so as to impede or interfere with the proper snow clearing operations of the town when snow removal operations are in effect.
- G. **Blocking:** No vehicle shall be parked in a manner which causes driveways, crosswalks or fire hydrants to be blocked.
- H. **Distance:** Any vehicle parked on the roads in the Town of Bennington shall be parked in a manner that traffic has a clear view of the parked vehicle for a distance of at least two hundred feet each direction. Police will determine this enforcement area based on safety of the traffic.

**TOWING:**

- A. All vehicles found in violation of this ordinance may be removed (towed) at the discretion of the police department. Costs of such removal and subsequent storage of removed vehicles shall be at the expense of the owner of the vehicle.
- B. The release of this vehicle will be after all required fees and or fines are paid.
- C. Unless safety dictates otherwise the police department will not have the vehicle removed until they have attempted to contact the owner and or operator of the vehicle.

**FINES:**

- A. Any first time offense will result in a fine of \$25.00
- B. Any second time offense will result in a fine of \$50.00
- C. Any third or subsequent offense will result in a summons to appear in court. At that time the fine will not be more than \$250.00
- D. For first and second time offenses the fine shall be paid to the Town Clerk, Town of Bennington within five days.
- E. If the fine is not paid to the Town Clerk within the five days then the violator will receive a summons to appear in court. At that time, at the discretion of the court, the fine will not be more than \$250.00

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This ordinance shall be effective upon posting at the Bennington Town Hall and upon recording an attested copy of same with the Bennington Town Clerk.

[As signed by the Bennington, New Hampshire Board of Selectmen on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005. A signed copy of this ordinance is on file at the Bennington Town Hall.]