

CHAPTER 97: TOWING OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS

Section	
97.01	Towing of Vehicles from Private Property
97.02	Towing Charges
97.03	Penalty

Whenever there is a violation of this Chapter, the Town, at its discretion, may issue a citation subjecting the violator to a \$50.00 civil penalty to be paid within ten (10) days, which penalty may provide for an additional \$50.00 delinquency charge upon non-payment, and which penalty and delinquency charge may be recovered by the Town in a civil action. A citation may be issued subjecting the violator to a \$100.00 civil penalty to be paid within ten (10) days upon an additional violation within one (1) year of the previous violation to be paid within ten (10) days, which penalty may provide for an additional \$100 delinquency charge upon non-payment and which penalty and delinquency charge may be recovered by the Town in a civil action. (Ord. No. 954, passed 3-9-98; Ord. No. 1223, passed 6-24-02; Ord. No. 1225, passed 7-8-02)

§ 97.01 TOWING OF VEHICLES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person to authorize, direct or contract for the nonconsensual towing of a vehicle from private property for designated parking violations, unless and except it is clearly posted on the premises giving information as to a name, telephone number (with live response or voice mail), and/or location of the towing company or lot where the vehicle has been towed so as to inform where or how the vehicle might be retrieved; for all nonconsensual towing of a vehicle from private property, it shall be unlawful for any person to authorize direct, or contract for the towing without first notifying the Matthews Police Department as to the location of the towed vehicle.

(B) This section shall not apply to nonconsensual towing of vehicles from residential premises (improved or unimproved); nor shall it apply to statutory parking violations, such as handicapped parking or fire lane parking violations; nor does it apply to nonconsensual towing directed by a law enforcement officer.

§ 97.02 TOWING CHARGES

(A) Whenever a vehicle is nonconsensually towed from private property pursuant to Sec. (A), the service charge or tow fee shall not exceed \$100.00. The storage fees shall be ten and 00/100 dollars (\$10.00) a day, which shall accrue after the vehicle has been stored on the lot for twenty-four hours. (Ord. No. 1300, passed 5-27-03)

(B) Whenever a tow company is attempting to tow a vehicle, pursuant to Sec. (A), and has already connected the vehicle to the tow truck, and the owner/driver appears and does not desire the vehicle to be towed, then the vehicle shall be released to the owner/driver upon the payment of \$25.00. If the vehicle has not been connected to the tow truck, then the vehicle shall be released to the owner/driver immediately at no charge or fee.

§ 97.03 PENALTY