

## Chapter 205

### VEHICLES, UNREGISTERED

**[HISTORY: Adopted by the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Groton 3-21-1987 by Art. 26. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

#### GENERAL REFERENCES

Unregistered vehicles rules and regulations — See Ch. 273.

**§ 205-1. Purpose.** [Amended 4-25-1992 ATM, Art. 19]

The purpose of this chapter is to regulate and control unregistered and disassembled motor vehicles within the Town of Groton, to protect the views along our publicly traveled ways and to keep the visual impact of such vehicles on the neighborhood to a minimum. Any motor vehicle which does not have a displayed valid license plate will be considered unregistered for enforcement of this chapter.

**§ 205-2. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**CONCEALED** — Out of sight and, without limitation of the foregoing, may include under an opaque plastic or tarpaulin cover, behind a fence or behind trees or shrubs that are green year round.

**§ 205-3. Conditions of permissible storage.**

- A. Front yard. In no event shall an unregistered motor vehicle or parts thereof be permitted to remain outside or be stored outside in front (street side) of the premises for more than 30 days.
- B. Side or back yard. No person shall store or park or permit to be stored or parked on any premises within the Town an unregistered motor vehicle, or parts thereof, unless said vehicle shall be within a building or in an area concealed from the view of the public and the neighborhood. [Amended 4-25-1992 ATM, Art. 19]
- C. Number of vehicles. A maximum of two vehicles may be concealed from view by means of opaque plastic or tarpaulin covers.
- D. The provisions of the above shall not apply to motor vehicles designed and used for farming purposes, to motor homes, utility trailers or camping trailers, to persons and firms legally operating an automotive or trucking enterprise nor to persons or firms in lawful exercise of licenses granted under MGL C. 140, §§ 58 and 59, as amended.
- E. Notwithstanding Subsections A through D above, a special permit to store or park any unregistered or dismantled motor vehicle may be granted by the Board of Selectmen or its

appointed representative if it finds that such:

- (1) Is in keeping with and complies with the general purpose and intent of this chapter.
- (2) Will not adversely affect the neighborhood by reason of unsightliness.
- (3) Will not be a nuisance.

**§ 205-4. Administration.**

- A. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to adopt and, from time to time as necessary, to amend reasonable rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and to levy such (nonrefundable) fees as may be required for the administration thereof but only after a public hearing.
- B. A copy of this chapter and any rules and regulations pertaining thereto shall be attached to each copy of an application form and made available to all applicants for a special permit to store an unregistered or disassembled vehicle under the provisions of § 205-3.
- C. The Selectmen shall notify all abutters within 300 feet of the property of a scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen to consider the granting of a special permit.
- D. All decisions for approval or disapproval must be in writing, giving the reasons for approval or disapproval.
- E. Any officer authorized to enforce this chapter may enter property where a vehicle is in plain view to determine if the vehicle is registered for the purpose of enforcement of this chapter only. [Added 4-25-1992 ATM, Art. 19]

**§ 205-5. Violations and penalties.**

Whoever violates any provisions of this chapter shall be liable to a penalty of not more than \$100 per vehicle in violation.