



CHAPTER 160A

ARTICLE 15 - STREETS, TRAFFIC AND PARKING

N.C.G.S. § 160A-303.2.

Regulation of abandonment of junked motor vehicles.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2009-97, s. 2 — thirteenth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:17 UTC	f6350a637b5b618aa21eb0f7 - b96c6c40a12ff5d680a8a716 - 10566c5d82578650

§ 160A-303.2(a)

A municipality may by ordinance regulate, restrain or prohibit the abandonment of junked motor vehicles on public grounds and on private property within the municipality's ordinance-making jurisdiction upon a finding that such regulation, restraint or prohibition is necessary and desirable to promote or enhance community, neighborhood or area appearance, and may enforce any such ordinance by removing or disposing of junked motor vehicles subject to the ordinance according to the procedures prescribed in this section. The authority granted by this section shall be supplemental to any other authority conferred upon municipalities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize a municipality to require the removal or disposal of a motor vehicle kept or stored at a bona fide "automobile graveyard" or "junkyard" as defined in G.S. 136-143.

For purposes of this section, the term "junked motor vehicle" means a vehicle that does not display a current license plate and that:

- (1) Is partially dismantled or wrecked; or
- (2) Cannot be self-propelled or moved in the manner in which it originally was intended to move; or
- (3) Is more than five years old and appears to be worth less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or is more than five years old and appears to be worth less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) as provided by the municipality in an ordinance adopted under this section.
- (4) Repealed by Session Laws 2009-97, s. 2, effective October 1, 2009.

- § 160A-303.2(a1)** Any junked motor vehicle found to be in violation of an ordinance adopted pursuant to this section may be removed to a storage garage or area, but no such vehicle shall be removed from private property without the written request of the owner, lessee, or occupant of the premises unless the council or a duly authorized city official or employee finds in writing that the aesthetic benefits of removing the vehicle outweigh the burdens imposed on the private property owner. Such finding shall be based on a balancing of the monetary loss of the apparent owner against the corresponding gain to the public by promoting or enhancing community, neighborhood or area appearance. The following, among other relevant factors, may be considered:
- (1) Protection of property values;
 - (2) Promotion of tourism and other economic development opportunities;
 - (3) Indirect protection of public health and safety;
 - (4) Preservation of the character and integrity of the community; and
 - (5) Promotion of the comfort, happiness, and emotional stability of area residents.
- § 160A-303.2(a2)** The city may require any person requesting the removal of a junked or abandoned motor vehicle from private property to indemnify the city against any loss, expense, or liability incurred because of the removal, storage, or sale thereof. When an abandoned or junked motor vehicle is removed, the city shall give notice to the owner as required by G.S. 20-219.11(a) and (b).
- § 160A-303.2(a3)** Hearing Procedure. - Regardless of whether a city does its own removal and disposal of motor vehicles or contracts with another person to do so, the city shall provide a prior hearing procedure for the owner. For purposes of this subsection, the definitions in G.S. 20-219.9 apply.
- (1) If the city operates in such a way that the person who tows the vehicle is responsible for collecting towing fees, all provisions of Article 7A, Chapter 20, apply.
 - (2) If the city operates in such a way that it is responsible for collecting towing fees, it shall:
 - a. Provide by contract or ordinance for a schedule of reasonable towing fees,
 - b. Provide a procedure for a prompt fair hearing to contest the towing,
 - c. Provide for an appeal to district court from that hearing,

08	2006	S.L. 2006-15, s. 3	AMENDED
09	2006	S.L. 2006-166, s. 2	AMENDED
10	2006	S.L. 2006-171, s. 1	AMENDED
11	2007	S.L. 2007-208, s. 2	AMENDED
12	2007	S.L. 2007-505, s. 3	AMENDED
13	2009	S.L. 2009-97, s. 2	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
4 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 136-143	(a)	"graveyard" or "junkyard" as defined in"
G.S. 20-219.11(a) and (b)	(a2)	"to the owner as required by"
G.S. 20-219.9	(a3)	"of this subsection, the definitions in"
G.S. 44A-4	(a3)	"procedure similar to that provided in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-303.2 (2009).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-303.2(a) (2009).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1983, c. 841, s. 2; 1985, c. 737, s. 2; 1987, c. 42, s. 2; c. 451, s. 2; 1989, c. 3; c. 743, s. 2; 2005-10, ss. 2, 3; 2006-15, s. 3; 2006-166, s. 2; 2006-171, s. 1; 2007-208, s. 2; 2007-505, s. 3; 2009-97, s. 2.)

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