

CHAPTER 35. TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

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Article 35.1 General

The Town of Rangeley Traffic Ordinance, dated September 1, 1999, supersedes any previous Town of Rangeley Traffic Ordinances and amendments approved by the Board of Selectmen prior to September 1, 1999.

Section 35.1.1 Signs

The parking signs, traffic signs, traffic signals, and markings provided for by this ordinance and appearing in any Town way or Town owned or maintained parking lot shall be prima facie evidence that such signs and markings were erected and marked in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance and by the Town Manager.

Section 35.1.2 Penalties

Any person, who removes, destroys damages or defaces any sign or signal erected by or under the direction of the Town of Rangeley shall be deemed guilty of a Town of Rangeley ordinance violation and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.00 cost. This section does not preclude the Town of Rangeley from pursuing criminal charges under Title 17A, section 806, M.R.S.A. in which there may be fines and jail penalties imposed under guidelines set out in Title 17A M.R.S.A.

Section 35.1.3 "Parked"

The word "**parked**" as used in this code shall mean allowing a motor vehicle to remain stationary in a way, parking lot, or in the street, whether attended or unattended.

Section 35.1.4 Evidence

A vehicle, which is unlawfully parked in violation of this ordinance, shall be prima facie evidence of the unlawful parking of such vehicle by the person in whose name such vehicle is registered.

Section 35.1.5 Parking Tickets

Any person or vehicle owner, who is issued any parking ticket in violation of this ordinance, may choose to contest the violation by coming to the Police Department and attempting to resolve the matter with the issuing officer or police supervisor. If the person or vehicle owner is not satisfied with the explanation, then that person can

be issued a civil citation for a District Court Judge to hear. The person or vehicle owner may be adjudicated a fine of up to \$100.00, plus the cost of the original parking ticket.

Section 35.1.6 Removal of Violating Vehicles.

Any vehicle of any kind or description parked upon a public street within the Town of Rangeley, at a place, in a manner, or for a length of time prohibited by an ordinance of the Town or impedes the Town's snow removal operation or traffic in the public street, is hereby declared to be an obstruction in such street and a menace to the safe and proper regulation of traffic. Any vehicle parked in such a manner as described in this section may be removed by and under the direction of, or at the request of the senior police officer in charge of any shift, the Town Manager or highway foreman to a garage or storage place within the town and impounded therein. Additionally, the Fire Chief or senior fire officer at any fire scene may cause the removal of any vehicle parked in such a manner that interferes with the fire fighting efforts. Any of the above persons named may use such force as may be necessary to enter such vehicle and cause the same to be placed in a condition to be moved and may employ any reputable person, engaged in the business of towing and storing vehicles, for such purpose. Notwithstanding any language herein contained, the removal and storage of the vehicle pursuant to this section, and the payment of charges specified in this division, shall in no way relieve or prevent the prosecution for the violation of any provisions of the Town ordinance of the Town of Rangeley.

Section 35.1.7 Notification

Notification of the removal or impoundment of a vehicle will be made as promptly as is practical. The Police Department will make every effort to notify the owner of any removal from the town streets, as soon as possible. In no case will such notification exceed a 24-hour time period. A written notice that such a vehicle has been impounded shall be sent to the owner at their last known address as shown by the record of the Secretary of State. If the owner is unknown, the Town Manager shall cause to be published in the local newspapers printed in the Town notice of such impounding, giving the registration number, the vehicle identification number and the make, model and year of such vehicle.

Section 35.1.8 Recovery Procedure.

Before the owner of an impounded vehicle may remove it from the possession of the person towing it, the owner shall:

1. Furnish satisfactory evidence of identity and ownership of such vehicle to the officer at the Police Department and pay the established fees for impoundment, advertising, and the fine to the Police Department.
2. Be furnished a two- (2) part receipt upon payment of such charges, part one (1): a receipt for such payment and part two (2): a release to be presented to the person having towed and stored such vehicle. The owner

shall pay to the person having towed and stored such vehicle all towing and storage fees.

Article 35.2. No Parking, Stopping or Standing

Section 35.2.1 Penalty

The municipal officers are authorized to ticket any vehicle found in violation of this article, which shall subject the owner of said vehicle to pay a penalty of \$25.00 to the Town of Rangeley for each violation. Any vehicle owner, who has not paid the parking tickets, shall after 30 days receive a notice of nonpayment. This warning shall include a notice of possible court action with a fine of up to \$100.00 plus costs, plus the original parking ticket fine. The municipality shall use all such fines recovered from parking violations.

Section 35.2.2 Parking Near Intersection

No person shall park a vehicle within twenty-five (25) feet of any intersection. Provided, however that the foregoing provisions of this Section shall not apply to United States Mail, emergency and public utility vehicles while on duty.

Section 35.2.3 Parking Direction / Designated Parking Lines

No person, when parking a vehicle shall park it with the drivers left to the curb or road shoulder, except on designated one-way streets. All vehicles shall park within designated parking lines, (where the Town has designated & painted such lines) which are visible in existing weather conditions.

Section 35.2.4 Public Ways

No person shall park a vehicle at any time on a public way so as to obstruct the free passage of other vehicles on said public way, or to and from any other public or private way. This includes public sidewalks and pedestrian cross walks. Such vehicles may be removed in accordance with the provisions of Section 35.1.6.

Section 35.2.5 Sidewalks

No person shall park a vehicle at any time on any sidewalk now existing or hereafter to be created

Section 35.2.6 Entrances

No person shall park a vehicle within ten (10) feet of any entrance to an alley, fire lane or drive in the business district of the Town of Rangeley.

Section 35.2.7 Fire Hydrants

No person shall park a vehicle within fifteen (15) feet of either side of any fire hydrant in the Town of Rangeley. Provided, however, that the foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply to United States Mail, emergency and public utility vehicles while on duty.

Section 35.2.8 Stops

No vehicle shall stop in such a way as to obstruct any street, driveway, gated way or crossing except for the purpose of taking on or letting off a passenger. Or, for the loading or unloading of freight for a period of up to one (1) minute, except in the case of an accident, or when directed to do so by a police officer. No person shall fail to stop or place his or her vehicle as directed by a police officer on duty. Such vehicles may be removed in accordance with the provisions of section 35.1.6.

Article 35.3 Limited Parking

Section 35.3.1 Penalty

The municipal police officers are authorized to ticket any vehicle found in violation of this article, which shall subject the owner of said vehicle to pay a penalty of \$20.00 to the Town of Rangeley for each such violation of the 4 hour parking ban. All other fines for limited parking will be \$20.00. Any vehicle owner who has not paid the parking tickets shall after thirty (30) days receive a notice of possible court action with a fine of up to \$100.00 plus cost, plus the original parking ticket fines. The municipality shall use all such fines recovered from parking violations.

Section 35.3.2 Winter Parking

No person may park a vehicle on any street, public way, or Town owned parking lot from the fifteenth (15th) day of November, to the fifteenth (15th) day of April of each year between the hours of twelve (12) midnight and seven (7:00 am). If such parking hinders snow plowing or snow removal operations by the Town of Rangeley or Maine DOT.

Section 35.3.3 Overnight Parking

No person may park a vehicle overnight at or on the below mentioned areas. The owner or operator of said vehicle shall be subject to penalty of \$20.00 and/or is subject to have the said vehicle towed at the owner's expense.

- .1 The Rangeley Town Parks: No overnight parking in the town parks at any time.

Section 35.3.4 Parking in Excess of 72 Hours, Notice to Move & Removal

It shall be unlawful to leave a motor vehicle in a designated parking space or lot for a period in excess of seventy-two hours. If the vehicle is parked in violation, a notice shall

be placed on the windshield of such vehicle ordering its removal within twenty-four hours. If after the expiration of such notice the vehicle is still in violation, such vehicle may be removed in accordance with this ordinance 35.1.6.

Section 35.3.5 Fire Scene

No person shall park a vehicle, with or without occupants, other than a fire department or police department vehicle or ambulance, on a public highway within one-hundred yards of a fire scene in which fire department personnel are engaged. If a fire vehicle parks more than one hundred (100) yards from the fire and within one-quarter mile thereof, it shall park on the right-hand side of the highway and parallel with twelve (12) inches of the curb or edge of the highway.

Section 35.3.6 Main Street

No person shall park a vehicle for a period longer than four (4) hours on both sides of Main Street from the Rangeley Inn to Pleasant Street from May 15th to September 15th.

Section 35.3.7 Unregistered or Uninspected

No person shall allow an unregistered and/or uninspected motor vehicle or motorcycle or any part thereof of said vehicle or cycle to be parked upon public property for a period of longer than seventy-two hours. Exceptions may be made upon securing a written permit from the Town Manager. Said permit shall grant, on a one-time basis only, an extension of the seventy-two hour period for an additional seventy-two hours. A separate permit must be obtained for each vehicle, cycle, or part of same and shall cost \$5.00.

Article 35.4 Handicapped Parking

Section 35.4.1 Required

Handicapped parking spaces are required for those individuals who are mobility impaired or who may have a serious health impairment that limits the distance that they can comfortably walk from a vehicle to a building. This definition is subscribed to by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Town of Rangeley also subscribed to the guidelines outlined in the ADA with respect to handicapped parking.

Section 35.4.2 Penalty

The penalty for violation of the Town of Rangeley handicapped parking ordinance shall not be less than \$165.00 per MRSA 29A 521 9A \$100.00 per M.R.S.A. 30-a section 3009. Any vehicle owner who has not paid the parking ticket after thirty (30) days receive a notice of possible court action with a fine of up to \$100.00 plus costs, plus the original parking ticket fines. All such fines recovered from parking violations shall be used by the municipality.

Section 35.4.3 Restriction

No person shall park a vehicle, or motorcycle in any parking space designated for handicapped persons on any public way or the Town of Rangeley public parking lot, unless said vehicle or motorcycle is registered by a handicapped person. Any vehicle or motorcycle parked in a “clearly marked” space *and or aisle* designated as handicapped parking space that does not bear a special registration plate or a placard issued under Title 28-A, M.R.S.A., Section 521, or a similar plate issued by another state shall be considered in violation of this ordinance. “Clearly marked” includes painted signs on pavement and vertical standing signs, with the international handicapped symbol, which are visible in existing weather conditions.

Section 35.4.4 Private Property Handicapped Parking

The following provisions apply to the establishment and policing of parking spaces for handicapped parking spaces on private property to which the public has access:

- .1 Owners of private off-street parking shall arrange for private enforcement or shall enter into an agreement with local or county law enforcement agencies to enforce handicapped parking restrictions. Under the agreements, unauthorized vehicles will be ticketed. An owner of off street parking who fails to arrange for private enforcement or to enter into an agreement with a law enforcement agency commits a civil violation for which forfeiture for not less than \$50.00 may be adjudged, per Title 30-A, M.R.S.A., Section 3009.
- .2 Under these agreements, public law enforcement officials may ensure that the handicapped person, on private lots open to the public uses parking spaces designated for the handicapped appropriately. County or municipal volunteer parking enforcement specialists may also enforce these handicapped parking restrictions in private lots.
- .3 Any vehicle or motorcycle parked in a “clearly marked” space designated as a handicapped parking space that does not bear a special registration plate or placard issued under M.R.S.A., title 29A, section 521, or a similar plate issued by another state be considered in violation of this ordinance. “Clearly marked” includes painted sign on the pavement and vertical standing sign, with international handicapped sign, which are visible in existing weather conditions.

Article 35.5 Specialty Parking

Section 35.5.1 Penalty

The municipal police officers and/or civilian parking ticket personnel are authorized to ticket any vehicle found in violation of this article, which shall subject the owner of said vehicle to pay a penalty of \$20.00 to the Town of Rangeley for each such violation. Any

vehicle owner who has not paid the parking ticket after thirty (30) days receives a notice of nonpayment. This warning shall include a notice of possible court action with a fine of up to \$100.00 plus costs, plus original parking ticket fines. The municipality shall use all such fines recovered from parking violations.

Section 35.5.2 Private Parking Lot Lease Agreement

The Town Manager of the Town of Rangeley may enter into a lease agreement with the owner of a private parking lot for parking ticket enforcement and/or maintenance with the mutual consent of both parties. These agreements shall have the same force and effects as similar sections on public ways. The fines and penalties will parallel covering public ways on the same issues.

Section 35.5.3 Municipal Airport Parking

No person shall park or cause to be parked any vehicle in the parking area of the airport designated as and marked for long-term parking for a period of time that exceeds twenty-four (24) hours unless said person has a valid long-term parking permit. Said permit shall be secured from the airport manager for a fee to be determined by him/her and shall be displayed on the vehicle in a manner prescribed by the Airport Manager.

Article 35.6 Operation

Section 35.6.1 Penalty

Any violation of this ordinance by any person shall be a civil violation.

Section 35.6.2 Fine

Any person whose act or failure to act is described as unlawful under this Chapter or whose conduct otherwise constitutes a violation of this Chapter shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation paid to the Town of Rangeley. When not paid in thirty (30) days the person will receive a notice of possible court action with a fine of \$100.00 plus cost, plus original fines. The municipality shall use all such fines recovered.

Section 35.6.3 Operation of a Motor Vehicle on Town Property Other than a Public Way.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to operate any motor vehicle as herein after defined upon any property owned or leased by the Town of Rangeley except upon public ways or upon designated roads, trails and parking areas or upon special use areas designated by the selectmen.

Section 35.6.4 Motor Vehicle Defined

Motor vehicle shall mean and include any vehicle operated on wheels, tracks or other form and driven powered by other than muscular power, and shall include but be limited to car, truck, all terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and the like.

Section 35.6.5 Unlawful to Operate

On trails, parking areas and special use areas it shall be unlawful to operate a motor vehicle:

Section 35.6.6 Unsafe Rate of Speed

Speed more than 20 mph shall be prima facie unsafe.

Section 35.6.7 Hours of Darkness

In the hours of darkness without headlamps capable of illuminating objects and terrain 500 feet ahead of the vehicle.

Section 35.6.8 Posted Regulations

In violation of any posted regulations governing the area.

Section 35.6.9 Instructions

In violation of the instructions of any Town Official in charge of said area.

Section 35.6.10 Snowmobile Access Trails

In violation of the snowmobile local access trails.

Section 35.6.11 Airport

It shall be unlawful to park or operate any motor vehicle, as defined in section 35.6.4, on any runway, taxiway or apron area of the Rangeley Municipal Airport. This section does not preclude the Town of Rangeley from pursuing criminal charges of FAA administrative action for which there may be additional fines, jail penalties or sanctions. It shall not, however, be unlawful to operate a motor vehicle onto the apron area for the sole purpose of unloading or servicing an aircraft. Nor shall it be unlawful for the Town of Rangeley vehicles to be on the runway, taxiway or apron area for the purposes of maintenance, snow removal or other lawful and required activities. When it is required that Town vehicles are operated onto the taxiways and runways, all applicable FAA regulations will be adhered to.

Section 35.6.12 Left Turn from Main Street

It shall be unlawful to make a left hand turn from Main Street into the designated and marked diagonal parking spaces on Main Street.

Section 35.6.13 Backing on Main Street

It shall be unlawful to back from the marked diagonal parking spaces on Main Street and proceed southbound (towards Farmington) on Main Street/Route 4.

Section 35.6.14 Traffic Control

It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to fail to obey the instructions of any police officer, fire police, or Town employee engaged in authorized traffic control operations at any parade, fire scene, accident scene, construction site or other designated activity.

Section 35.6.15 Accident Reporting

Each person operating a motor vehicle on property owned or leased by the Town of Rangeley who is involved in an accident shall immediately or by the quickest means of communication, file with the Town of Rangeley Police Department a report thereof in such details as the department shall prescribe.

Section 35.6.16 Fine

Any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine as provided by the penalty section.

Article 35.7 Waiver of Court Action, Fee Schedule**Section 35.7.1 Fee Schedule**

Any person charged with a violation of any such parking ordinance may waive all court action by payment of the following fees for the following parking violations to the Rangeley Police Department within seven (7) days of the offense.

1. First Offense:\$10.00
 2. Second Offense: \$20.00
 3. Third Offense and subsequent violation within one (1) year or the first offense: \$50.00
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1. Parking for a period of time exceeding the time limit set by an ordinance or order (3.4, 3.5, 5.3)
 2. Parking in an area prohibited by an ordinance, such as on hydrant, corner, crosswalk, obstructing driveway or gated drive. Sidewalk,

parking improperly in a bus stop, taxi stand, or loading zone (2.2, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8)

3. Parking in street obstructing traffic (2.4)
4. Parking on the wrong side of the street facing traffic (2.3)
5. Parking in a street between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 7:00 am between November 15th to April 15th.

PRESENTED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE ON 10/20/99

PUBLIC HEARING AT RLRS ON 12/13/99

ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMENT ON 1/04/00