

TITLE 15**MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING¹****CHAPTER**

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. SPEED LIMITS.
3. HEAVY TRUCK REGULATIONS.
4. PARKING.
5. ENFORCEMENT.

CHAPTER 1**MISCELLANEOUS****SECTION**

15-101. Adoption of state traffic statutes.

15-101. Adoption of state traffic statutes. By the authority granted under Tennessee Code Annotated, § 16-18-302, the Town of Thompson's Station adopts by reference as if fully set forth in this section, the "Rules of the Road," as codified in Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-8-101 to 55-8-131, and §§ 55-8-133 to 55-8-180. Additionally, the Town of Thompson's Station adopts Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-8-181 to 55-8-193, §§ 55-9-601 to 55-9-606, and § 55-12-139 by reference as if fully set forth in this section. (Ord. #08-018, Oct. 2008)

¹Municipal code reference

Excavations and obstructions in streets, etc.: title 16.

CHAPTER 2

SPEED LIMITS

SECTION

- 15-201. In general.
- 15-202. On U.S. Highway 31.
- 15-203. In school zones.
- 15-204. Residential subdivisions.
- 15-205. Alteration of speed limits.

15-201. In general. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any highway or street within the Town of Thompson's Station at a rate of speed in excess of thirty (30) miles per hour except where official signs have been posted indicating other speed limits, in which cases the posted speed limit shall apply. (Ord. #99-002, Oct. 1999)

15-202. On U.S. Highway 31. The maximum speed limit upon U.S. Highway 31 beginning at a point which is two-fifths (2/5) of a mile north of Thompson's Station Road and continuing in a southerly direction to the southernmost corporate limit of the town shall hereinafter be forty-five (45) miles per hour. (Ord. #99-002, Oct. 1999)

15-203. In school zones. Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-152, a special school zone speed limit is here and now established as twenty (20) miles per hour and shall be in effect only when proper signs have been posted with appropriate warning flashers in operation. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate such special school limit exceeding the speed of twenty (20) miles per hour when passing a school with warning flashers in operation ninety (90) minutes before and after the opening of school or a period of ninety (90) minutes before and after the closing of school. (Ord. #99-002, Oct. 1999)

15-204. Residential subdivisions. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any roadway or street located within the bounds of any residential subdivision within the Town of Thompson's Station at a rate of speed in excess of twenty (20) miles per hour, except where official signs have been posted indicating other speed limits. (as added by Ord. #2020-012, Nov. 2020 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-205. Alteration of speed limits. (1) State highways. Whenever the board of mayor and aldermen determines on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that the maximum speed permitted by law on a highway designated as a state highway is greater than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the highway, or part of such highway, the board

of mayor and aldermen may by resolution determine and declare a lower maximum speed limit thereon.

(2) Town roads and streets. Whenever the board of mayor and aldermen determines that the maximum speed permitted on a town road or street other than a highway designated as a state highway is greater or less than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the street, or part of such street, the board of mayor and aldermen may by resolution determine and declare a reasonable and safe maximum limit thereon. Before passing such resolution, the board of mayor and aldermen may request an engineering and traffic investigation.

(3) Special speed zones. Engineering and traffic investigations used to establish special speed zone locations and speed limits under this section shall be made in accordance with established traffic engineering practices and in a manner that conforms to the Tennessee Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, as amended. Documentation of the investigation shall be maintained in the town's records.

(4) Effective time. Any altered speed limit established as authorized in this section shall be effective at all times when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected upon such street or highway. (as added by Ord. #2021-008, May 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

CHAPTER 3

HEAVY TRUCK REGULATIONS

SECTION

- 15-301. Heavy trucks defined.
- 15-302. Prohibited on certain streets.
- 15-303. Exceptions; limitations.
- 15-304. Application to use restricted street.
- 15-305. Violations and penalty.

15-301. Heavy trucks defined. Heavy trucks shall be defined as any vehicle:

- (1) With a gross vehicle weight in excess of fourteen (14) tons; or
- (2) Any loaded vehicle with three (3) or more axles. (Ord. #07-013, Nov. 2007)

15-302. Prohibited on certain streets. All heavy trucks shall be prohibited from operating upon the following streets: Thompson's Station Road East and Thompson's Station Road West. In addition, the town's engineer is hereby authorized to direct the posting of official traffic signs on any street, alley, or other public way or portion thereof in which there is an inadequate base or foundation to withstand heavy truck traffic. (Ord. #07-013, Nov. 2007)

15-303. Exceptions; limitations. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit the operation of a heavy truck on such streets with the sole purpose of making a routine pick-up or delivery upon such street. A "routine pick-up or delivery" shall mean the operation of not more than eight (8) such truck trips over a restricted street within a twenty-four (24) hour period. More than eight (8) trips over the same street within a twenty-four (24) hour period by the same heavy truck, or by multiple heavy trucks owned by the same individual(s) or entity, is prohibited.

The operation of heavy trucks owned by the town or operated pursuant to contract with the town are exempt from this chapter. (Ord. #07-013, Nov. 2007)

15-304. Application to use restricted street. For truck operations which would require multiple trips on any restricted street, the truck operator shall make application with the town engineer for a permit to use the restricted street. The operator shall be required to post a cash bond or irrevocable letter of credit with the town to cover the costs to repair any damage to the road foundations, surfaces, or structures which the town engineer determines may result from the proposed truck operations. The town administrator shall have

the discretion to exempt businesses located within the town limits from the bond or letter of credit requirement. (Ord. #07-013, Nov. 2007)

15-305. Violations and penalty. A violation of this chapter shall be punishable by civil penalty of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) per violation. Nothing herein shall limit the town's ability to seek other remedies including claims for damages to the town's roads. (Ord. #07-013, Nov. 2007)

CHAPTER 4

PARKING

SECTION

- 15-401. Application of chapter provisions.
- 15-402. Obstructing traffic prohibited.
- 15-403. Stopping, standing, or parking - prohibited locations.
- 15-404. Angle parking.
- 15-405. Parking within bicycle lanes prohibited.
- 15-406. Occupancy of more than one space.
- 15-407. Disabled or unlicensed vehicles.
- 15-408. Parking of commercial vehicles in residential zones prohibited.
- 15-409. Parking on narrow streets.
- 15-410. Stopping, standing, or parking at hazardous or congested places.
- 15-411. Parking within public parks.
- 15-412. Presumption with respect to illegal parking.
- 15-413. Placement and erection of signs.

15-401. Application of chapter provisions. The provisions of this chapter prohibiting the standing or parking of a vehicle shall apply at all times, or at the times herein specified, or as indicated on official signs or pavement markings except when it is necessary to stop a vehicle to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic-control device. (as replaced by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-402. Obstructing traffic prohibited. (1) It is unlawful to leave any vehicle standing in any public street when such vehicle constitutes a hazard to public safety or an obstruction to the normal flow of traffic.

(2) Whenever any vehicle is standing or parked upon or beside a roadway, no person shall open any door of such vehicle on that side of the vehicle nearest the flow of traffic on such street, whenever the opening of such door shall constitute a hazard or obstruction to vehicles moving on the street in a lawful manner. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-403. Stopping, standing, or parking - prohibited locations.

(1) No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle:

- (a) On a sidewalk;
- (b) Upon any median, buffer strip, planting strip or landscape strip located between a sidewalk and roadway;
- (c) Within an intersection or within twenty-five feet (25') thereof, except to this shall have no application to:

- (i) Intersections at which the flow of traffic is controlled by either a traffic light (providing the customary red, yellow and green signals) or a stop sign; and
- (ii) Designated parking spaces when properly signed and marked.
- (d) On a crosswalk or between sidewalk pedestrian ramps;
- (e) On any controlled-access highway;
- (f) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when other traffic would be obstructed;
- (g) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure, underpass or within a street tunnel; or
- (h) On a path or crosswalk within any park.
- (2) No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle:
 - (a) At any place where official signs or pavement markings prohibit stopping, standing, or parking;
 - (b) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;
 - (c) Within an alley except during the necessary and expeditious loading and unloading of merchandise or freight, and no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within an alley in such a position as to block the normal flow of traffic;
 - (d) Without its right-hand wheels of the vehicle parallel to and within eighteen inches (18") of the right-hand curb;
 - (e) In front of a public or private driveway;
 - (f) Within fifteen feet (15') of a fire hydrant;
 - (g) Within fifty feet (50') of a railroad crossing;
 - (h) In any area designated as a fire lane pursuant to the terms of the International Fire Code adopted and codified by the town;
 - (i) In such a way as to obstruct access to any mailbox; or
 - (j) Within a clear sight triangle, as established in section 3.9.12 of the land development ordinance. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-404. Angle parking. On those streets which have been signed or marked by the town for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle indicated by such signs or markings. No person shall angle park any vehicle or vehicle with a trailer attached thereto that blocks the normal flow of traffic. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-405. Parking within bicycle lanes prohibited. Motor vehicles shall not be parked, stopped or left standing in a bicycle lane except as otherwise designated by official signage. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-406. Occupancy of more than one space. No person shall park a vehicle in any designated parking space so that any part of such vehicle occupies more than one (1) such space or protrudes beyond the official markings on the street or curb designating such space. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-407. Disabled or unlicensed vehicles. It shall be unlawful to leave any vehicle parked on any public way or place for more than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours when such vehicle is not in running condition or does not have a current state license plate. Any vehicles parked in violation of this section shall be towed and stored at the expense of the owner. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-408. Parking of commercial vehicles in residential zones prohibited. (1) No person shall park any motor vehicle licensed and/or primarily used for commercial purposes continuously for more than fifteen (15) days within a residential zoning district, on a public street.

(2) Emergency service vehicles and other service vehicles parked in residential districts, including moving vans and vehicles needed for construction purposes, shall be allowed so long as said vehicles are actively performing a service. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-409. Parking on narrow streets. (1) The town administrator, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to erect signs indicating no parking upon any street when the width of the street or roadway does not exceed twenty feet (20'), or upon one (1) side of a street when the width of the roadway does not exceed thirty feet (30').

(2) Whenever official signs prohibiting parking are erected upon narrow streets as authorized by the town administrator, or his or her designee, no person shall park a vehicle upon any such street in violation of any such sign. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-410. Stopping, standing, or parking at hazardous or congested places. (1) The town administrator, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to determine and designate by proper signs places not exceeding one hundred fifty feet (150') in length in which the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles would create an especially hazardous condition or would cause unusual delay to traffic.

(2) Whenever official signs are erected at hazardous or congested places as authorized by this section, no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle in any such designated place. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-411. Parking within public parks. It shall be unlawful to leave any vehicle parked on any public way or place within any park located within the town overnight. For the purposes of this section, overnight shall mean between the hours of 12:00 A.M. and 5:00 A.M. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-412. Presumption with respect to illegal parking. When any unoccupied vehicle is found parked in violation of any provision of this chapter, there shall be a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle is responsible for such illegal parking. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-413. Placement and erection of signs. It shall be the responsibility of the town administrator, or his or her designee, to place appropriate signs in appropriate locations in accordance with this chapter. (as added by Ord. #2021-002, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

CHAPTER 5**ENFORCEMENT****SECTION**

15-501. Violations and penalty.

15-502. Illegal parking.

15-501 Violations and penalty. Any violation of this title shall be punishable by a civil penalty up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate offense, in addition to any other penalty provided herein. (as added by Ord. #2021-001, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)

15-502. Illegal parking. Whenever any motor vehicles without a driver is found parked or stopped in violation of any of the restrictions imposed by this code, the officer finding such vehicles shall take its license number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which may identify its user, and shall conspicuously affix to such vehicle a citation for the driver and/or owner to answer for the violation during the hours and at a place specified in the citation. (as added by Ord. #2021-001, Feb. 2021 *Ch2_8-2-21*)