Frequently Asked Questions

- *How will I know if my vehicle has been deemed derelict or abandoned?*

  A City of Savannah Code officer will identify any violations and affix two forms to the vehicle.

- *If my vehicle is tagged, what do I have to do before it is towed?*

  Contact the Code Officer immediately after receiving notification. Whether the vehicle is on public or private property will determine a timeframe for compliance.

- *What happens to my vehicle if it gets towed?*

  Once the vehicle is removed, it will be stored at the contractor's impounding lot for no less than 30 days. Upon providing proof of ownership and paying all towing and storage fees, the vehicle can be returned. Failure to claim the vehicle can result in the sale or disposal by the contractor.

- *I don't want the vehicle back. Will I be fined or charged?*

  No. You will only be charged if you wish to retrieve your vehicle from impound.

- *What if I move the vehicle to my backyard and cover it?*

  All vehicles must adhere to the ordinance unless enclosed in an approved accessory structure. Failure to comply will result in a Recorder's Court Hearing in which fines of up to $1,000 or 30 days in jail may be imposed.

SAVANNAH

Code Compliance Department

"Our goal is to encourage responsible property maintenance while seeking voluntary compliance with the provisions of the City Code."

City of Savannah
Code Compliance Department
1700 Drayton Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Phone: 912.651.6770
Fax: 912.651.6975

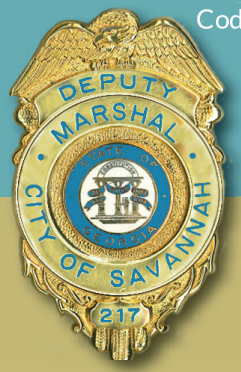
For more information please visit our website at:
www.savannahga.gov/codecompliance

SAVANNAH
savannahga.gov

Abandoned & Derelict Vehicles

City Ordinance Section: 9-2009 ~ 9-2013

City of Savannah
Code Compliance Department
1700 Drayton Street
Savannah, GA 31401
Phone: 912.651.6770
Fax: 912.651.6975



Key Definitions

Abandoned Vehicle: Abandoned motor vehicles, as herein defined, when left unattended on a public street, road or highway or other public or private real property within the corporate limits of the city for a period of not less than five (5) days on public property or not less than thirty (30) days on private property constitute a health hazard or unsightly nuisance in that they provide a place for insects, rodents and other animals to exist; attract children, vagrants and other individuals; and may cause injury to them and obstruct the streets and ways on and in which they may be found.

Timeline for Compliance:

Public: 5 days Private: 30 days

Derelict Vehicle: Derelict motor vehicles, as herein defined, when left unattended on a public street, road or highway or other public or private real property within the corporate limits of the city for a period of not less than three (3) days on private or public property constitute a health hazard or unsightly nuisance in that they provide a place for insects, rodents and other animals to exist; attract children, vagrants and other individuals; and may cause injury to them and obstruct the streets and ways on and in which they may be found.

Timeline for Compliance:

Public: 3 days Private: 3 days

Criteria for Derelict & Abandoned Vehicles

- A motor vehicle which is inoperative, unlicensed, in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled.
- Being left unattended on a public street, road, or highway or other public property for a period of at least five days and when it reasonably appears to a code enforcement or law enforcement officer that the individual who left such motor vehicle unattended does not intend to return and remove such motor vehicle.

Code Compliance uses two forms

Notification from Police Department

Violation Notices

The Code Officer will retain a carbon copy of the green vehicle identification form. This document will contain all vehicle information and location.

An electronic case will be created for documentation and tracking.

6 COPIES TO SET - WRITE FIRMLY

NOTICE TO REMOVE DERELICT VEHICLE, BOAT OR TRAILER

No. D 204289

City of Savannah, Georgia

☐ CAR ☐ TRUCK ☐ TRAILER ☐ BOAT

☐ OTHER

PSA DIST NHBD

DATE REINSPECTED:

REINSPECTION RESULTS:

Description Of Vehicle (If Available)

YEAR TAG NO.

MAKE STATE

MODEL COLOR

VIN

"THIS VEHICLE HAS BEEN LEFT UNATTENDED ON A PUBLIC STREET, ROAD OR HIGHWAY OR OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH. UNLESS REMOVED BY THE OWNER WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY AND THIRTY (30) DAYS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE, THIS VEHICLE WILL BE REMOVED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY PURSUANT TO THE DERELICT MOTOR VEHICLE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND THEREAFTER MAY BE RECLAIMED ONLY PURSUANT TO SAID ORDINANCE."

ADDRESS OF LOCATION OF VEHICLE

or

Vehicle Located ON SIDE OF

BETWEEN AND

Approximately FEET From Intersection OF

PLEASE CHECK ONE: ☐ Private Property ☐ Public Property

Acknowledgement of receipt of this notice is requested. If this vehicle, boat, or trailer is fully operational, please contact the officer who posted this notice.

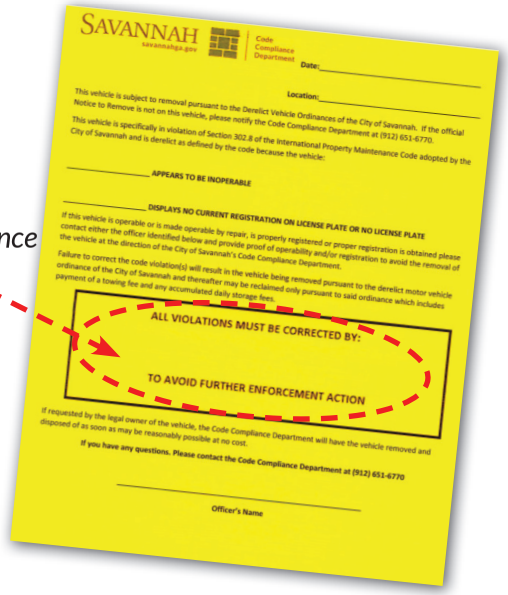
Include Notice Serial Number in all correspondence and telephone conversations.

Address all inquiries to the Code Compliance Department, City of Savannah, P.O. Box 1027, Savannah, Georgia 31401 or Call 651-6770

WARNING: THE REMOVAL OF THIS NOTICE FROM THIS VEHICLE DOES NOT STOP ENFORCEMENT OR THE TOWING OF THIS VEHICLE

OFFICER: Date:

Officer's Name


SAVANNAH

savannahga.gov

Code Compliance Department

Date:

Location:

This vehicle is subject to removal pursuant to the Derelict Vehicle Ordinances of the City of Savannah. If the official Notice to Remove is not on this vehicle, please notify the Code Compliance Department at (912) 651-6770.

This vehicle is specifically in violation of Section 302.8 of the International Property Maintenance Code adopted by the City of Savannah and is derelict as defined by the code because the vehicle:

APPEARS TO BE INOPERABLE

DISPLAYS NO CURRENT REGISTRATION ON LICENSE PLATE OR NO LICENSE PLATE

If this vehicle is operable or is made operable by repair, is properly registered or proper registration is obtained please contact either the officer identified below and provide proof of operability and/or registration to avoid the removal of the vehicle at the direction of the City of Savannah's Code Compliance Department.

Failure to correct the code violation(s) will result in the vehicle being removed pursuant to the derelict motor vehicle ordinance of the City of Savannah and thereafter may be reclaimed only pursuant to said ordinance which includes payment of a towing fee and any accumulated daily storage fees.

ALL VIOLATIONS MUST BE CORRECTED BY:

TO AVOID FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION

If requested by the legal owner of the vehicle, the Code Compliance Department will have the vehicle removed and disposed of as soon as may be reasonably possible at no cost.

If you have any questions. Please contact the Code Compliance Department at (912) 651-6770

Officer's Name

Compliance Date