

VALLEY TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 225

MOTOR VEHICLE STORAGE AND REPAIR ORDINANCE

Adopted: April 29, 2003
Effective: June 15, 2003

An Ordinance to secure the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents and property owners of Valley Township, Allegan County, Michigan, a municipal corporation, by the regulation of the outdoor parking, storage and repair of vehicles, including any conveyance, trailer, boat, aircraft and new or used parts or junk therefrom, within said Township of Valley; to provide civil sanctions and remedies for the violation of this Ordinance; and to repeal any Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith.

**THE TOWNSHIP OF VALLEY
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDAINS:

SECTION I

NAME

This Ordinance shall be known and as the Valley Township Motor Vehicle Storage and Repair Ordinance.

SECTION II

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to limit and restrict the outdoor storage, parking, repair or unreasonable accumulation of junk, unused, partially dismantled or nonoperating vehicles, including any conveyance, trailer, boat, aircraft or new or used parts thereof upon premises within the Township; to provide restrictions concerning the repairing of said vehicles; to avoid injury and hazards to children and others attracted to such vehicles; and to minimize the devaluation of property values which may be caused by the presence of the same upon adjoining residents and property owners.

SECTION III

REGULATIONS

- (A) No person, firm or corporation shall park or store or permit to be parked or stored upon any premises within Valley Township any vehicle, including any conveyance, boat, aircraft, or trailer of any kind or new or used parts therefrom unless one or more of the following conditions exist:
1. Such parking or storage is located within a fully-enclosed building or in an area that is ninety percent (90%) obscured from adjacent premises or adjacent roads or highways by natural land contours, evergreen screening or fencing;
 2. A special permit is first obtained therefor for a period of not to exceed 60 days from the Supervisor of Valley Township or such other officer or official as the Township Board may designate to be granted, only after a hearing before and approval by the Township Board in special hardship cases beyond the control of the applicant, where special or peculiar circumstances exist, where no adjoining property owner is adversely affected thereby and where the spirit and purpose of these regulations are still observed. If a 60 day special permit is granted, the Township Board shall schedule a status review after the first 30 days of the granting of the permit.
 3. Such vehicle or conveyance is licensed or registered by the State of Michigan, is an operable vehicle or conveyance, has all of its main component parts attached, as hereinafter defined, and is, in fact, regularly operated for its designed purpose;
 4. Such vehicles, boats, trailers, aircraft or conveyances are located in a duly licensed and properly zoned junkyard, salvage yard, new or used car dealer's lot, automobile repair facility or storage yard where such uses or operations are legally authorized under the Township Zoning Ordinance.
 5. Such vehicle or vehicles are awaiting repairs or delivery to owners at an authorized service station, garage, paint shop, or body shop registered with the State of Michigan pursuant to 1974 PA 300, as amended, provided such vehicle or vehicles are locked, licensed by the State of Michigan, and are not a public nuisance.
 6. Such vehicle, boat, trailer, aircraft or conveyance, although temporarily inoperable because of minor mechanical failure, has substantially all of its main component parts attached as hereinafter defined; is, where subject to a license or registration, licensed or registered by the State of Michigan; is not in any manner a dismantled vehicle; and the premises do not contain any such vehicle, boat, aircraft, trailer or conveyance for longer than 14 days in any one year.

"Main component parts" shall, for the purpose of this Ordinance, mean those parts required by State law or by necessity for its operation upon a public highway, waterway or airway.

- (B) No repairing, redesigning, modifying or dismantling work or operations shall be allowed upon any vehicle, boat, trailer, aircraft or conveyance or parts thereof upon any public right-of-way or public property (except for emergency minor repairs not exceeding one hour in duration) or upon any property not zoned for such purpose except such occasional minor work by the owner thereof as may infrequently be required to maintain the same in normal operating condition and as shall be accomplished within fully enclosed buildings or is at least ninety percent (90%) obscured from adjacent premises and roadways; will not constitute a nuisance or annoyance to adjoining property owners or occupants; and does not violate any provisions of the Valley Township Zoning Ordinance.
- (C) The foregoing shall not be construed to prohibit the storage of farm machinery, vehicles, equipment and material used for agricultural purposes upon an operating farm of not less than ten (10) acres. Farm equipment not in use but stored for parts shall be stored in an area at least ninety percent (90%) obscured from adjacent premises and roads.
- (D) A person, firm, or corporation is permitted to store out-of-doors, house or maintain up to two (2) motor vehicles that are unlicensed and/or inoperable for the purposes of restoring, maintaining, showing or tinkering with the same under the following conditions:
 - 1. The person, firm or corporation has title to the vehicle(s);
 - 2. The vehicle(s) is at least ninety percent (90%) covered by a tarpaulin or stored within a fully enclosed building when not being restored or tinkered with.
 - 3. The vehicle(s) is located behind the main building on the premises, behind a fence, natural land contours or evergreen screening or behind a shed or outbuilding on the premises.
 - 4. In no event shall vehicle(s) not presently being worked on or tinkered with be parked in the front yard or driveway of a residential premises and if presently being worked on, such front yard or driveway parking shall not occur for more than two (2) consecutive days.
 - 5. Parts of portions of hobby vehicles kept under this provision must be in compliance with Section III(B) and (C) of this Ordinance.

SECTION IV
NUISANCE

Any parking, storage, placement or operations in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be a public nuisance which may be enjoined or which may subject the violator to the fines and penalties herein provided for.

SECTION V
SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is declared void or unenforceable for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any portion of this Ordinance other than said part or portion thereof.

SECTION VI
SANCTIONS

Any person, firm, association, partnership, corporation or governmental entity who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by Michigan Statute which shall be punishable by a civil fine determined in accordance with the following schedule:

	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Fine</i>
- 1st Offense within 3-year period*	\$ 75.00	\$500.00
- 2nd Offense within 3-year period*	150.00	500.00
- 3rd Offense within 3-year period*	325.00	500.00
- 4th or More Offense within 3-year period*	500.00	500.00

*Determined on the basis of the date of commission of the offense(s).

Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which Valley Township has been put in connection with the municipal civil infraction. In no case, however, shall costs of less than \$9.00 nor more than \$500.00 be ordered. In addition, the Township shall have the right to proceed in any court of competent Jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining an injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate remedy to compel compliance with this Ordinance. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION VII
REPEAL

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed; however, legal proceedings presently pending on an Ordinance which is hereby repealed may proceed to judgment or decision and shall not be affected by this Ordinance.

SECTION VIII
EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect on June 15, 2003.

Adopted April 29, 2003.

VALLEY TOWNSHIP
Sally James, Clerk
2054 North M-40
Allegan, MI 49010
269-686-8302