

This brochure is designed to inform you whether or not your vehicles are in compliance with the Indianapolis/Marion County Revised Code.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- 1. Revised Code.** You can view the entire Indianapolis/Marion County Revised Code online at [www.municode.com](http://www.municode.com).
- 2. Vehicles.** Any vehicle deemed abandoned under IC 9-22-1 of the Indiana State Code can be towed.
- 3. License Plates.** If any vehicle on your property, not located inside a garage, does not have a valid license plate, it is considered in violation of the Revised Code.
- 4. Towing.** Any vehicle towed from public or private property will be at the owner's expense.
- 5. Violations.** Failure to comply may result in citations, a court appearance, and fines up to \$2,500.

To report an inoperable or abandoned vehicle or other neighborhood concern, contact:

MAYOR'S ACTION CENTER

327-4MAC (4622)  
[www.indy.gov/mac](http://www.indy.gov/mac)

Revised: November 2010

## Department of Code Enforcement

Putting public safety and quality of life issues first through efficiently and effectively administering:

- LICENSES
- PERMITS
- INSPECTIONS



For a complete list of services and resources, visit [www.indy.gov/dce](http://www.indy.gov/dce) or contact us via:

1200 Madison Ave., Suite 100  
Indianapolis, IN 46225  
Phone: (317) 327-8700  
Fax: (317) 327-8696

### LOBBY HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday  
Noon - 5 p.m.

Friday  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



## INOPERABLE & ABANDONED VEHICLES



REPAIR • SELL • DONATE •  
JUNK • STORE •  
OR LICENSE IT

## WHAT IS AN INOPERABLE VEHICLE?

### Inoperable motor vehicle means:

1. A motor vehicle, racing vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, camper, boat, airplane, bus, truck, or similar vehicle from which a removed engine, transmission or differential parts or that is otherwise partially dismantled or mechanically inoperable; or
2. Any motor vehicle, racing vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, camper, boat, airplane, bus, truck, or similar vehicle, which cannot be driven, towed or hauled on a city street without being subject to the issuance of a traffic citation by reason of its operating condition or the lack of a valid license plate.

### Examples of inoperable vehicles:

- Any vehicle (car, truck, RV, etc.) without a valid license plate and not stored in a garage.
- Any vehicle with one or more flat tire(s).
- Any vehicle, where a front windshield is required, is missing or heavily damaged.
- Any vehicle that is otherwise unable to be driven on a public street due to mechanical problems.

**Abandoned vehicle:** A vehicle that is at least three (3) model years old, mechanically inoperable, and left on private property visible from public property for more than 20 days or left for more than 48 hours on private property without the property owner's consent can be considered abandoned and towed. **(IC 9-22-1)**

### Sec. 611-203. Certain vehicle declared a public nuisance.

The following vehicles hereby are declared to be a public nuisance:

1. Any vehicle parked or left standing unattended upon any street or public place in the city in violation of any of the provisions of this Code or of any statute of the state.
2. Any vehicle known to have been stolen or wrecked and left standing on any street or public place, or any vehicle the operator of which is unable to move such vehicle by reason of his or her incapacity from injury or arrest.
3. Any inoperable vehicle that is stored, maintained, or kept in violation of Section 621-127 of this Code, and is not the property of a member of the armed forces of the United States who is on active duty assignment.
4. Any vehicle upon which there is a police force hold or which has been involved in four (4) or more violations of traffic or parking ordinances of the city for which notices of traffic or parking violations have been issued pursuant to this chapter, which notices of traffic or parking violations have not been paid, presented for compromise payment or slated into court pursuant to this chapter, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

### Sec. 621-127. Inoperable vehicle on private property.

1. It shall be a violation of this Code to store, maintain, or keep any inoperable vehicle outdoors on private property in a zoning district, the provisions of which do not specifically permit such a use. A person's first and second violations of this section in a twelve-month

period shall be subject to admission of violation and payment of the designated civil penalty through the ordinance violation bureau in accordance with Chapter 103. A person's third and subsequent violations in a twelve-month period shall be subject to the enforcement procedures and penalties in section 103-3 of this code.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

**REPAIR IT:** Have the vehicle repaired at an auto repair garage.

**SELL IT:** Sell the vehicle before the date you are required to have it removed. (Do this by placing classified ads, etc., NOT by putting signs on the vehicle)

**DONATE IT:** The Salvation Army and The Volunteers of America are two non-profit organizations that accept vehicles as donations. There are likely more.

**JUNK IT:** Salvage (Junk) yards are listed in the Yellow Pages under Automobile Wrecking. Salvage dealers and will often pay you for your vehicle. However, you may have to pay to have it removed from your property, depending on the condition of the vehicle. You must have clear title to the vehicle.

**STORE IT:** Move the vehicle into your private garage or to a legal storage facility completely out of public view.

**LICENSE IT:** This can be done at your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).