

## CHAPTER 51

# JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES

### 51.01 Definitions

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**51.01 DEFINITIONS.** For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. “Junk” means all old or scrap copper, brass, lead, or any other non-ferrous metal; old or discarded rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber, debris, waste or used lumber, or salvaged wood; dismantled vehicles, machinery and appliances or parts of such vehicles, machinery or appliances; iron, steel or other old or scrap ferrous materials; old or discarded glass, tinware, plastic or old or discarded household goods or hardware. Neatly stacked firewood located on a side yard or a rear yard is not considered junk.
2. “Junk vehicle” means any motor vehicle which lacks a current registration, or current insurance, or current license, or two or more wheels or other component parts, the absence of which renders the vehicle totally unfit for legal use on highways.
3. “Vehicle” means every device in, upon, or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway or street, excepting devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, and includes without limitation a motor vehicle, automobile, truck, motorcycle, tractor, buggy, wagon, farm machinery, or any combination thereof.

**51.02 JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES PROHIBITED.** It is unlawful for any person to store, accumulate, or allow to remain on any private property within the corporate limits of the City any junk or junk vehicle.

**51.03 JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES A NUISANCE.** It is hereby declared that any junk or junk vehicle located upon private property, unless excepted by Section 51.04, constitutes a threat to the health and safety of the citizens and is a nuisance within the meaning of Section 657.1 of the *Code of Iowa*. If any junk or junk vehicle is kept upon private property in violation hereof, the owner of or person occupying the property upon which it is located shall be prima facie liable for said violation.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3a])*

**51.04 EXCEPTIONS.** The provisions of this chapter do not apply to any junk or a junk vehicle stored within:

1. A garage or other enclosed structure; or
2. The premises of a business enterprise operated in a district properly zoned therefor, when necessary to the operation of said business enterprise, as authorized under the Zoning Ordinance of the City. This exception does not permit the business enterprise to store vehicles or allow accumulations of junk in a manner that results in the dense growth of weeds, brush, and grasses in and around the vehicles or junk, nor to allow such vehicles or junk to become a habitat for rats, mice, snakes or any other

vermin or insects. No more than 15 junk vehicles may be present on any business premises at any given time.

**51.05 NUISANCE ABATEMENT.** Nuisance abatement under this chapter shall be conducted pursuant to Section 50.05 of this Code of Ordinances.