

CHAPTER 135

STREET USE AND MAINTENANCE

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135.01 REMOVAL OF WARNING DEVICES. It is unlawful for a person to willfully remove, throw down, destroy or carry away from any street or alley any lamp, obstruction, guard or other article or things, or extinguish any lamp or other light, erected or placed thereupon for the purpose of guarding or enclosing unsafe or dangerous places in said street or alley without the consent of the person in control thereof.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

135.02 OBSTRUCTING OR DEFACING. It is unlawful for any person to obstruct, deface or injure any street or alley in any manner.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

135.03 PLACING DEBRIS ON. It is unlawful for any person to throw or deposit on any street or alley any glass, glass bottle, nails, tacks, wire, cans, trash, garbage, rubbish, litter, offal, leaves, grass, any petroleum products or oil, or any other debris or any other substance likely to injure any person, animal or vehicle or which, if washed into the storm sewer, could contaminate waterways or clog the storm sewer.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.369)

135.04 PLAYING IN. It is unlawful for any person to coast, sled, or play games on streets or alleys, except in the areas blocked off by the City for such purposes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])

135.05 TRAVELING ON BARRICADED STREET OR ALLEY. It is unlawful for any person to travel or operate any vehicle on any street or alley temporarily closed by barricades, lights, signs, or flares placed thereon by the authority or permission of any City official, police officer or member of the Fire Department.

135.06 USE FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES. It is unlawful to park, store or place, temporarily or permanently, any machinery or junk or any other goods, wares, and merchandise of any kind upon any street or alley for the purpose of storage, exhibition, sale or offering same for sale, without permission of the Council.

135.07 WASHING VEHICLES. It is unlawful for any person to use any public sidewalk, street, or alley for the purpose of washing or cleaning any automobile, truck equipment, or any vehicle of any kind when such work is done for hire or as a business. This does not prevent any person from washing or cleaning his or her own vehicle or equipment when it is lawfully parked in the street or alley.

135.08 BURNING PROHIBITED. No person shall burn any trash, leaves, rubbish, or other combustible material in any curb and gutter or on any paved or surfaced street or alley.

135.09 EXCAVATIONS. No person shall dig, excavate, or in any manner disturb any street, parking, or other portion within the street right-of-way except as hereinafter provided or as provided in other sections of this Code of Ordinances:

1. **Permit; Application.** No excavation shall be commenced without first obtaining a permit. A written application for such permit shall be filed with the City. The application shall give an exact description of the property, by lot and street number, in front of or along which it is desired to excavate, state the purpose and for whom and by whom the excavation is to be made, and who will be responsible for the refilling of said ditch and restoration of the street surface.
2. **Public Convenience.** Streets and alleys shall be opened in the manner that will cause the least inconvenience to the public and admit the uninterrupted passage of water along the gutter on the street.
3. **Barricades and Lighting.** Adequate barricades and warning lights meeting standards specified by the City shall be so placed as to protect the public from hazard. Any costs incurred by the City in providing or maintaining adequate barricades or warning lights shall be paid to the City by the permit holder.
4. **Restoration of Public Property.** Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the City, at the expense of the property owner.
5. **Inspection.** All work shall be subject to inspection by the City. Backfill shall not be deemed completed, and no resurfacing of any improved street or alley surface shall begin, until such backfill is inspected and approved by the City. The permit holder shall provide the City with notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time when inspection of backfill is desired.
6. **Completion by the City.** Should any excavation in any street or alley be discontinued or left open and unfinished for a period of twenty-four (24) hours or if the work is improperly done, the City has the right to finish or correct the excavation work, and the expense shall be charged to the permit holder and/or property owner.
7. **Property Owner's Responsibility.** All costs and expenses incident to the excavation shall be borne by the permit holder and property owner. The permit holder and owner shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by such excavation.
8. **Notification.** At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the excavation, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, the person performing the excavation shall contact the Statewide Notification Center and provide the center with the information required under Section 480.4 of the *Code of Iowa*.

135.10 MAINTENANCE OF PARKING OR TERRACE. It shall be the responsibility of the abutting property owner to maintain all property outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines upon the public streets, except that the abutting property owner shall not be required to remove diseased trees or dead wood on the publicly owned property or right-of-way. Maintenance includes timely mowing, trimming trees and shrubs, and picking up litter.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2c])

135.11 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN PARKING OR TERRACE. If the abutting property owner does not perform an action required under the above section within a reasonable time, the City may perform the required action and assess the cost against the abutting property for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2e])

135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])

135.13 DRIVEWAY CULVERTS. The property owner shall, at the owner's expense, install any culvert deemed necessary under any driveway or any other access to the owner's property, and before installing a culvert, permission must first be obtained from the City. In the event repairs are needed at any time with respect to culverts, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to make such repairs, and, in the event the owner fails to do so, the City shall have the right to make the repairs. If the property owner fails to reimburse the City for the cost of said repairs, the cost shall be certified to the County Treasurer and specially assessed against the property as by law provided.