

Definition & Storage of Junk Vehicles

Prior to September 12, 2012; if a person stored a Junk Motor Vehicle (by definition) outside of a completely enclosed building they would be in violation of the Bath Charter Township Code of Ordinances.

The recent adoption of **Ordinance Number 15.3** redefines Junk Motor Vehicles and allows for some exterior storage under certain conditions. The Ordinance amendments state in part:

Junk vehicles shall mean any wrecked or dismantled vehicle, including, but not limited to, cars, trucks, tractor trucks and trailers, utility trailers, mobile homes, recreation vehicles (motorcycles, boats, travel trailers, motor homes, campers, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and trailers), and other similar vehicles which are not licensed for use upon highways of the State and shall also include, whether licensed or not, any vehicle which is inoperable or does not have all of its main component parts attached.



The storage of up to two (2) junk vehicles outside of a completely enclosed building shall be permitted, provided all such vehicles are:



(1) Fitted with a vehicle cover specifically designed for the vehicle(s) involved; or

(2) Kept behind a fence or berm approved by the Township's authorized official which creates a visual barrier of said vehicle(s) from view from any public road right-of-way or any adjacent property. The foregoing restrictions shall not, however, apply to:

(i) Storage of such vehicles on land where such use is specifically permitted by the Bath Charter Township Zoning Ordinance;

(ii) Storage of vehicles on any parcel of land which are temporarily inoperable for a period not to exceed six (6) months when said condition is the result of damage resulting from an accident, collision or minor mechanical failure; provided, however, that such vehicles are not in any manner dismantled, and retain substantially all main component parts. A six (6) month extension may be granted upon providing written proof to the authorized Township official that the vehicle is in the process of maintenance or repair and/or is involved in a disputed insurance claim or similar matter, and additional time is, in fact, required for settlement of such dispute or repair before such vehicle(s) can be removed.

(iii) One (1) fully operable motor vehicle which has been redesigned or reconstructed for a purpose other than that for which it was manufactured (e.g., stock car racer) may be stored outside of an enclosed building only if no building or structure capable of housing said vehicle is located on the premise; provided further, however, that no such vehicle may be stored in any front or side yard area of any such premises.

The Ordinance Amendments in their entirety may be viewed on the Township's webpage at www.bathtownship.us. For further information please contact the Ordinance Compliance Department at (517)641-5165.