Prohibited Vehicles & Equipment in Residential Zoning Districts

CITY OF SALINAS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
65 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 758-7206

What are the Prohibited Vehicle and Equipment Regulations?

The Salinas Zoning Code regulates the parking and storage of certain vehicles and equipment in residential and other specified zoning districts.

These regulations are intended to minimize adverse impacts associated with large vehicles and heavy equipment by limiting the types, number, and locations of vehicles and equipment that may be parked or stored.

Which Vehicles are Prohibited?

Prohibited vehicles include:

- Commercial vehicles;
- Truck tractors;
- Semi-trailers;
- Independent trailers;
- Walk-in vans and walk-in trucks;
- Panel trucks;
- Tow trucks;
- Flatbed pickups;
- Vehicles with utility boxes mounted on the vehicle chassis;
- Vehicles designed for food or equipment sales or transport;
- Vehicles equipped with power attachments or tools;

- Vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of five tons; and
- School buses or passenger-carrying vehicles exceeding 16 persons in capacity or 21 feet in length.

Certain exceptions apply as described below.

What Types of Equipment are Prohibited?

Heavy equipment includes special mobile equipment that is not primarily used to transport people or property and is only incidentally operated or moved over a highway.

Examples include:

- Ditch-digging equipment;
- Asphalt spreaders;
- Bituminous mixers;
- Bucket loaders;
- Tractors other than truck tractors;
- Graders;
- Road rollers;
- Earth-moving equipment;
- Scrapers;
- Power shovels;
- Draglines; and
- Self-propelled cranes.

What About Inoperable Vehicles and Equipment?

Inoperable vehicles and equipment include vehicles or equipment that are not legally registered to operate on a public street, as well as dismantled portions of vehicles or equipment.

Inoperable vehicles and equipment may not be parked or stored in residential and other applicable zoning districts except as specifically allowed for temporary parking or storage.

Where Can Prohibited Vehicles and Equipment Be Parked or Stored?

Generally, heavy equipment, inoperable vehicles and equipment, and prohibited vehicles may not be parked or stored in the front, corner side, rear, or interior side yard of residential and other applicable zoning districts.

They also may not be parked or stored on the street under the provisions of the Zoning Code.

The Zoning Code provides limited exceptions for temporary parking and storage and certain qualifying vehicles.

Is Temporary Parking or Storage Allowed?

Yes. Temporary parking or storage of heavy equipment, inoperable vehicles and equipment, and prohibited vehicles is allowed for up to **24 hours during a seven-day period**.

After the temporary period expires, the vehicle or equipment must be removed unless another exception under the Zoning Code applies.

Are There Exceptions for a Prohibited Vehicle?

Yes. One prohibited vehicle may be parked or stored in a **rear or interior side yard** when:

- The vehicle does not exceed a GVWR of five tons or 20 feet in length; and
- The vehicle is screened from adjoining lots and public streets by a solid fence or wall six feet in height.

Are Utility Vehicles Allowed?

One vehicle not exceeding a GVWR of five tons that is owned and operated by a water, gas, electric, or telephone public utility and used for emergency service to prevent injury or hazard to the general public may be parked on a lot in a residential district.

Are Tow Trucks Allowed?

One **light-duty Class A tow truck** with a manufacturer's GVWR of **10,000 to 19,500 pounds** may be parked on a lot in a residential district when it is used for emergency service to prevent injury or hazard to the general public.

The tow truck must be registered with a city, county, or state agency to provide emergency towing services.

What About Recreational Vehicles?

Recreational vehicles are subject to separate parking and storage requirements, including regulations governing where they may be stored, temporary loading and unloading, screening, and temporary guest occupancy.

Refer to the City's **Recreational Vehicle Storage in Residential Zoning Districts** information bulletin and Section 37-50.190 of the Salinas Zoning Code for additional information.

Are There Penalties for Violating These Regulations?

Failure to comply with the City's vehicle and equipment parking and storage requirements may result in Code Enforcement action and penalties as authorized by the Salinas Municipal Code.

Property owners and residents are responsible for ensuring that vehicles and equipment located on their property comply with applicable City requirements.

How to Obtain More Information

For additional information regarding prohibited vehicles and equipment, contact:

CITY OF SALINAS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION
65 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 758-7206

Refer to **Section 37-50.190 – Recreational Vehicles, Prohibited Vehicles, and Equipment Parking and Storage** of the Salinas Zoning Code for current requirements.