

It PAYS to know about Disabled Parking Regulations

Each year, the City of Roanoke writes approximately 750 tickets for violations of disabled parking regulations (also referred to as 'handicapped parking'). Many of these tickets could have been avoided simply by knowing more about the applicable parking guidelines, and taking steps to comply with them.

This brochure has been developed to provide information about disabled parking: proper placement of placards, general guidelines, and frequently asked questions.

We hope you'll take a few minutes to review this information, so that your next parking experience in the City of Roanoke is a positive one.



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Disabled Parking in the City of Roanoke

*Information about parking,
ticketing, and regulations*

Sec. 20-76. Parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities.

(a) No person shall park or leave standing any motor vehicle not displaying a disabled parking license plate, an organizational removable windshield placard, a permanent removable windshield placard or a temporary removable windshield placard ... in a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities that limit or impair their ability to walk or for a person who is not limited or impaired in his ability to walk to park a vehicle in a parking space so designated except when transporting a person with such a disability in the vehicle.

General guidelines

If your vehicle has a disabled parking license plate, or a properly displayed disabled parking placard, you may park in a designated disabled space for an unlimited amount of time.

If your vehicle has a disabled parking license plate, or a properly displayed disabled parking placard, you may park in a timed space (2-hour, 1-hour, etc.) for **up to 4 hours**. For example, you could park for four hours in spot where the sign reads “30-minute parking.”

There are *no waivers* for parking in a loading zone, in front of a fire hydrant or in a fire lane, where it says “No Parking,” or any other location that is permanently restricted for regular vehicles. Such zones are off-limits at all times.



Proper placement of placards

Disabled parking placards must be displayed in the windshield of the vehicle (not on the dashboard) with the permit number facing the street. Patrol vehicles must be able to see the placard from both the front and rear of the vehicle. For greater privacy, masking the driver information on the reverse side of the placard is allowed.

Improper placement of placards

On the seat:

Wrong



On the floor:

Wrong



Types of disabled parking placards

Permanent



For drivers with long-term disabilities. Good for 5 years.

Temporary



For drivers with short-term disabilities. Good for 6 months.

Frequently asked questions

Q: What is the fine or penalty for parking in a disabled zone improperly?

A: The fine is \$125 for a violation of Section 20-76. The State Code sets forth a minimum penalty of \$125, up to \$500, for parking illegally in a disabled space.

Q: Why did I receive a \$25 fine for Failure to Properly Display a Placard?

A: Section 20-76 of the City Code sets forth a penalty or fine of \$25 for parking in a disabled zone without proper display of a placard.

Q: I have a hang-tag, but it's worn out and would not stay on the rear-view mirror. Why did I get a ticket?

A: It is each person's responsibility to ensure that his or her disabled parking placard will hang properly. Drivers have an obligation to replace any worn or damaged placards at the Division of Motor Vehicles.