

PARK Roanoke Newsletter

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PKNG - Stands for Parking and so much more.....

Every profession has its own share of acronyms and terminology and parking is no exception. Accountants like to pitch FIFO, LIFO, AP, AR, ROI, GASB, and FASB and architects use mindbenders AIA, IBC, ACT, CMU, and GWB like they are household words. So parking has its own language of equally mysterious lingo.

For starters terms such as Early Bird, Nests, and Bill Backs are bantered about but have little to do with bird watching. They are actually common parking terms. For example, Campbell Garage has an Early Bird rate of \$3 for entry before 9:00 a.m. This ensures a tidy discount for all-day parking. A nest is a term for a facility contained within another facility. Nesting is often used to control access to a specific area within a larger parking facility using access gates. A Bill Back allows for a validation program in which parkers may park for free or at a reduced rate and the merchant is billed later for the parking charges.

Have you ever thought a spitter was someone with a disgusting habit? In the world of parking, a spitter is a machine that issues the parking ticket upon entrance into a garage. Though sounding a little like football, "entry lane, passback, and quick response codes" are also parking terms:

- Entry Lane is the point at which a vehicle enters a parking facility.
- Passback control is a setting that requires entry and exit in a proper sequence in an access control system such as in a garage.
- Quick Response Codes (QR Code) is a popular two dimensional barcode which has imbedded web links. This can be scanned by a smartphone.

If that is not enough to baffle and confuse, let's not forget this guy..... the humble "bollard" - it's a device that helps promote traffic flow and safe parking. And who could forget handhelds, boots, joints, girders, foot candles, head-in, circulation, and arms.

- Handhelds are electronic citation issuance devices.
- Boots is a term for a Wheel Immobilization Device - used to render a vehicle stationary until the citations are paid.
- Joints are a division between sections of a floor or slab that permits expansion and contraction of the floor or slab.
- A girder is a main horizontal supporting member or beam in a structure.
- A foot candle is a unit of luminance on a surface.
- Head-in refers to parking whereby vehicles are parked front first in the parking stall.
- Circulation refers to a traffic flow pattern either on-street or off-street in a parking facility.
- Arms refer to gate arms which may be a wooden, plastic or metal barrier arm extending from a gate cabinet and controlling entry or exit from parking areas.



While all these terms are equally relevant in the parking industry, the term Access and Revenue Control "ARC" is one of the most important. Access and revenue control systems allow parking operators to identify the vehicle and record the time of entry. These systems can speed entry and exit from a facility and provide secure revenues and also alert the operator that a gate is malfunctioning.

And finally, who can forget, "deck, island, anchor, bay, and cruising" all reminiscent of your last cruise but words that have absolutely nothing to do with water. These terms hint at the various components of a garage structure and cruising is the practice of traveling along a street or facility in search of a parking space. There are few industries around where clients are referred to as transients (a person who pays for parking on a short term basis), tenants (parking provided to building tenants), parkers (patrons of a parking facility), and scofflaws (a repeat parking offender). The list goes on but you get the idea. Today's conversations are peppered with shortcuts and parking will continue to add to its dictionary. So just remember, a Spitter can be a good thing, an Early Bird will save you some serious coin, and beware of Booting at all costs.

Sign Up! Save Money.....Savings Ahead with Flexible Spending Accounts

Did you know that Parking and Transit charges are approved for Flexible Spending Accounts? Now is open enrollment at many employers. And, the savings are real! Depending upon your tax bracket, a \$35 per month parking garage rate translates to about \$25.00 or less when paid for with Flexible Spending Dollars. Contact your Human Resources Department for more information.



- **Did You Know?** PARK Roanoke has 4,100 parking spaces downtown! It's easy to PARK Once and enjoy all downtown has to offer.
- **Signing up for monthly parking is easy:**— call 343-0585 for details or visit us on the web. With a short application form, we can have you on your way to safe, convenient parking !
- **Market Lot Lunch Time**
Rate is \$1 from 11 am to 3 pm
- **Disabled drivers with a valid placard or license plate may park at any daily space in garages only and receive the first hour of parking for free until 4:00 p.m. Monday**
- **Early Bird Rate** is \$3 at Campbell Garage for entry before 9 am

Visit our Facilities:

Campbell Garage
Center in the Square
Church Avenue Garage
Elmwood Park Garage
Gainsboro Garage
Market Garage
Tower Garage
Elmwood Lot
Higher Education Lot
Market Lot
Warehouse Row Lot
Williamson Lot

Thank You for
Parking with Us!

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Stay Safe When Walking or Driving

It's always better to use the buddy system and to walk with a friend—especially at night—but sometimes walking alone can't be avoided. Make sure you follow these tips to stay safer:

1. Keep your car or house keys ready—this will eliminate fumbling in a purse for them which could be a distraction.
2. Walk with Confidence—and purpose. Keep your head up and don't be afraid to make eye contact with those you pass.
3. Trust your instincts—If you are followed don't go straight home; go to a nearby business or restaurant somewhere public and safe.
4. Carry a noisemaker—a personal alarm or whistle .
5. If driving home alone, don't delay in a parking lot or garage. Lock doors and windows and exit immediately.
6. Don't wear a mp3 player or talk on your cell phone, especially when alone at night.
7. Keep your eyes and ears open to suspicious behavior. Be prepared when walking alone at night by having your keys in one hand and cell phone in the other.
8. Another safety tip is to walk closely to another group of people at least until the point of safety. It gives the impression that you're with others, even when you're not.
9. Don't let someone prey on your kindness, especially at night. People may pretend to need help in order to lure you into an unsafe situation.
10. If you are driving and feel like you're being followed, don't go straight home. Drive to a public crowded, well-lit parking lot such as at a grocery store. Park by a police car if you can.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP.

EVERYONE DESERVES TO BE SAFE!



NAME THIS PHOTO:

- A. Pantheon
- B. Rotunda
- C. Church Avenue Garage
- D. NASA, Cape Canaveral