

TITLE VII – TRANSPORTATION  
STREETS AND ALLEYS

CHAPTER 175  
USE AND MAINTENANCE

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175.01 REMOVAL OF WARNING DEVICES. It shall be unlawful for a person willfully to 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)

175.02 OBSTRUCTING OR DEFACING. It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct, deface, or injure any street or alley in any manner.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

175.03 PLACING DEBRIS ON. It shall be 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, or any other debris, or any other substance likely to injure any person, animal or vehicle.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.369)

175.04 PLAYING IN. It shall be 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])

175.05 TRAVELING ON BARRICADED STREET OR ALLEY. It shall be 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.

175.06 USE FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES. It shall be 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 City.

175.07 WASHING VEHICLES. It shall be 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 shall not be construed to prevent any person from washing or cleaning his own vehicle or equipment when it is lawfully parked in the street or alley.

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

175.09 EXCAVATIONS. No person shall dig, excavate or in any manner disturb any street, parking or alley unless such person shall first obtain a permit therefore as hereinafter provided or as provided in other sections of the Code of Ordinances.

1. Application. Before such permit shall be granted, the person shall file with the City a written application. 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, for whom and by whom the excavation is to be made, and who will be responsible for the refilling of said excavation and restoration of the street or alley surface.
2. Public Convenience. Streets and alleys shall be opened in the manner which 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/property owner.
4. Bond Required. The applicant shall post with the City a penal bond in the minimum sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) issued by a surety company authorized to issue such bonds in the State. The bond shall guarantee the permittee's payment for any damage done to the City or to public property, and payment of all costs incurred by the City in the course of administration of this section.
5. Insurance Required. Each applicant shall also file a certificate of insurance indicating that the applicant is carrying public liability insurance in effect for the duration of the permit covering the applicant and all agents and employees for the following minimum amounts:
  - A. Bodily Injury - \$50,000.00 per person; \$100,000.00 per accident.
  - B. Property Damage - \$50,000.00 per accident.
6. Restoration of Public Property. Streets, sidewalks, alleys and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored to the condition of the property prior

to the commencement of the work, or in a manner satisfactory to the City, at the expense of the permit holder/property owner.

7. Inspection. All work shall be subject to inspection by the City. Backfill shall not be deemed completed, nor resurfacing of any improved street or alley surface begun, until such backfill is inspected and approved by the City. The permit holder/property owner shall provide the City with notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time when inspection of backfill is desired.
8. Completion by the City. Should any excavation in any street or alley be left open or unfinished for a period of twenty-four (24) hours or should the work be improperly done, the City has the right to finish or correct such work and the expense shall be charged to the permit holder/property owner.
9. Responsibility for Costs. All costs and expenses incident to the excavation shall be borne by the permit holder and/or 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.
10. Permit Issued. Upon approval of the application and filing of bond and insurance certificate, a permit shall be issued. A separate permit shall be required for each excavation.

175.10 PROPERTY OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE. The abutting property owner shall maintain all property outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines upon public streets and shall keep such area in a safe condition, free from nuisances, obstructions, and hazards and shall not keep, place, store, park or allow any item or object to remain in or upon such area including, but not limited to, vehicles, boats, construction or other debris, appliances, furniture, brush, lawn mowers, and storage containers except for the temporary placement of garbage containers on the scheduled pickup day. In the absence of a curb, such property shall extend from the property line to that portion of the public street used or improved for vehicular purposes. 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, but is not limited to, timely mowing, trimming trees and shrubs, and picking up litter and debris. The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to maintain the publicly owned property or right-of-way.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[c])  
(Amended by Ordinance No. 205)

175.11 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 property tax.

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

175.12 DUMPING OF SNOW. It shall be 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, and only after first making arrangements for such prompt removal at the owner's cost of the accumulation within a reasonably short time.

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

175.13 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 culver, 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 specifically assessed against the property as by law provided.