

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2025 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-002-2025

Chapter No. 2

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Olson

Introduced by Council Members Olson, Watson, Harrison, Ivey, Boughs, Fisher,

Oriadha, Dernoga, Hawkins and Blegay

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction March 18, 2025

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Watercraft Parked on County Roads

For the purpose of prohibiting the parking of watercraft on public streets, roads, highways, and rights of way within the County; to establish fines and penalties for parking a personally-owned watercraft on public streets, roads, highways, and rights of way in the County; to permit the towing and impounding of any personally-owned watercraft after a certain number of violations; and generally relating to the prohibition of parking a personally-owned watercraft on public streets, roads, highways, and rights-of-way in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

Section 26-101.

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition, 2024 Supplement).

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

Section 26-135.

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition, 2024 Supplement).

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

Section 26-162.

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition, 2024 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 26.101 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

DIVISION 1. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

Sec. 26-101.- Definitions.

(a) For the purposes of this Subtitle, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them hereunder:

* * * * *

(24) Watercraft means any vehicle or device which may transport a person on water and shall be identified as, but not limited to:

(A) Bass Boats;

(B) Fishing Boats;

(C) Cabin Cruisers;

(D) Inflatable Boats;

(E) Pontoon Boats;

(F) Deck Boats;

(G) Runabouts;

(H) Dinghies;

(I) Any other personally or corporately owned and operated vehicle designed to traverse water; and

(J) Any vehicle designed to traverse water that is parked on a trailer displaying valid registration, invalid registration, or no registration.

(b) Whenever any words and phrases used herein are not defined herein but are defined in the State laws regulating the operation of vehicles, any such definition therein shall be deemed to apply to such words and phrases used herein, except when the context otherwise requires.

SECTION 2. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 26-135 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby added:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

DIVISION 8. PARKING REGULATIONS.

Sec. 26-135 [Reserved.] Public parking of watercraft restricted; enforcement; penalty; impounding.

(a) No person shall park any watercraft on any public County streets, roads, highways, or rights-of-way at any time.

(b) Any owner found in violation of this Section shall be subject to the following penalties:

(1) A warning notice placed on the watercraft notifying the owner to remove the watercraft off all public County streets, roads, highways, or rights-of-ways within seventy-two (72) hours;

(2) A Two Hundred and Fifty Dollar (\$250) fine for a first offense; and

(3) A Five Hundred Dollar (\$500) fine for each subsequent citation issued.

(c) For the purpose of defining the penalty under this Section, each violation shall be considered a separate offense and eligible for a separate citation Twenty-Four (24) hours after the last citation was issued.

(d) Any watercraft that has not been moved from a public County street, road, highway, or right-of-way after the second violation of this section may be subject to tow and impoundment by the Revenue Authority or the County Police Department. The impoundment of the watercraft shall be enforced pursuant to Division 18 of this Subtitle.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 26-162 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

DIVISION 14. ABANDONED VEHICLES.

Sec. 26-162. Abandoned vehicles prohibited.

(a) No person shall leave any abandoned vehicle at any place within the County and no owner, lessee, or custodian in charge of any lot, field, road, street, lane, or other property shall permit any abandoned vehicle to remain on such property within the County.

(b) **Abandoned vehicle** means any motor vehicle, trailer, watercraft, or semitrailer:

(1) That is either inoperable or in disrepair and left unattended on public property for more than forty-eight (48) hours;

(2) That has remained illegally on public property for more than forty-eight (48) hours;

(3) That has remained on public property for more than forty-eight (48) hours; and

(A) Is not displaying currently valid registration plates; and/or

(B) Is displaying registration plates of another vehicle; and/or

(C) Is in violation of Section 26-122.01 of this Subtitle;

(4) That has remained on private property for more than forty-eight (48) hours; and

(A) Is inoperable in that one or more of its major mechanical components, including but not limited to engine, transmission, drive train, and wheels, is missing or not functional unless such vehicle is kept in an enclosed building or as permitted by Subtitle 13 or Subtitle 27 of the Code; or

(B) Is not displaying currently valid registration plates; or

(C) Is displaying registration plates of another vehicle.

(c) Any partially dismantled, wrecked, or junked motor vehicle or watercraft may be presumed to have been or be abandoned.

(d) Any person issued a citation for a violation of [this Section shall be subject to a fine of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each violation.] Section 26-162(a) shall be subject to a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) for a first violation, five hundred dollars (\$500) for a second violation and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each additional violation.

(e) Curbstoning, as defined in Section 26-122.01 of this Subtitle, shall be subject to a fine of up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for each offense.

(f) Any person issued a citation for a violation of this section may be subject to criminal prosecution under Maryland Code, Criminal Law §10-110 for illegal dumping.

(g) The Revenue Authority of Prince George's County shall be authorized to enforce this Code provision.

(h) The Department of Environment, the Police Department, or its agent responsible for removing or storing abandoned vehicles on behalf of the Revenue Authority may not be held liable for any damage to an abandoned vehicle that may occur during removal, storage, or

1 custody of the abandoned vehicle.

2 (i) Beginning on September 1st, 2025, the County's Department of Environment, the
3 Department of Public Works & Transportation, the Revenue Authority, and the Police
4 Department shall transmit a joint biannual report to the Council. The biannual report shall
5 identify:

6 (1) The number of complaints reported through the County's 3-1-1 system under this
7 section;

8 (2) The number of pending and resolved complaints under this section; and

9 (3) Any other relevant information pertaining to the removal, storing, impoundment,
10 and disposal of abandoned vehicles.

11 SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby
12 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,
13 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of
14 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining
15 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this
16 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such
17 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
18 or section.

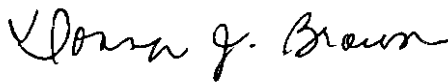
19 SECTION 5. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
20 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 8th day of April, 2025.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: 
Edward P. Burroughs III
Chair

ATTEST:


Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: May 6, 2025 BY: 
Tara H. Jackson
Acting County Executive