

Williamstown Police Department

825 Simonds Rd

Williamstown, MA 01267

(413) 458-5733

(413) 458-4100 fax

Chapter 266: Section 120D. Removal of motor vehicles from private ways or property; procedure; penalties; liability for removal and storage charges; release of vehicle.

Section 120D: No person shall remove a motor vehicle which is parked or standing on a private way or upon improved or enclosed property unless the operator of such vehicle has been forbidden so to park or stand, either directly or by posted notice, by the person who has lawful control of such way or property. No vehicle shall be removed from such way or property without the consent of the owner of such vehicle unless the person who has lawful control of such way or property shall have notified the Chief of Police or his designee in a city or town, or, in the city of Boston the Police Commissioner, or a person from time to time designated by said Police Commissioner, that such vehicle is to be removed. Such notification shall be made before any such vehicle shall be removed, and shall be in writing unless otherwise specified by such Chief of Police or Police Commissioner and shall include the address from which the vehicle is to be removed, the address to which the vehicle is to be removed, the registration number of the vehicle, the name of the person in lawful control of the way or property from which such vehicle is being removed, and the name of the person or company or other business entity removing the vehicle.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO TOW A MOTOR VEHICLE

If you intend to tow a motor vehicle from private property *without* the consent of the owner of the vehicle, certain guidelines must be met as described in M.G.L. C 266, S 120D.

1. You must be the Owner or the Authorized Designee of the owner of the property.
2. The vehicle's owner must be notified by:
 - A. Signage: Your property must be posted "No Parking-Tow Away Zone Unauthorized Vehicles Will Be Towed At The Owners Expense".
 - B. Directly: Every *reasonable* effort must be made to contact the owner of the Vehicle and advise him/her to remove the vehicle in person, by Registered/Certified mail, a witnessed phone call or a witnessed oral Notification.
3. Police Department notification of intent to tow must be made in writing prior to towing.
4. We require that you copy the format below and use it as notification to the Police Department.

ADDRESS VEHICLE WILL BE TOWED FROM _____

ADDRESS VEHICLE WILL BE TOWED TO _____

STATE AND REGISTRATION # OF VEHICLE BEING REMOVED _____

NAME OF PERSON IN LAWFUL CONTROL OF PROPERTY _____

NAME OF TOW COMPANY _____

DATE OF REMOVAL _____

5. Once the above has been accomplished, you must:
 - Fill out the information requested above
 - Submit the information to the Police Department *before* the tow
 - YOU call the tow service of your choice, advise them of the situation and that you have complied with the procedure set forth by the General Laws.