

DICKSON TOWNSHIP  
MANISTEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**DICKSON TOWNSHIP JUNK ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE NO. 3-30-1968

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AND CONTROL  
THE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF JUNK WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP;  
TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF BLIGHTED STRUCTURES  
AND BUILDINGS; TO REGULATE THE OPERATION OF JUNKYARDS;  
TO PROVIDE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT HEREOF AND TO PROSCRIBE  
PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND  
TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH

THE TOWNSHIP OF DICKSON ORDAINS:

Section 1 Title, Purpose and Legal Basis

1.01 This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Dickson Township Junk Storage and Disposal Ordinance of 1997", and shall be known in the short form as the "Junk Ordinance".

1.02 The purpose of this Ordinance is to regulate and control the storage and disposal of junk within the unincorporated areas of Dickson Township, in order to promote the public health, safety and welfare; to protect land values; to provide for safety for residents in the area from dangerous junk; to protect the groundwater lying beneath the Township; to reduce the incidence of blight and vermin; and to protect aesthetics in the Township and to regulate matters of legitimate Township concern. This Ordinance is specifically designed to:

- (1) Define certain terms used herein.
- (2) Regulate the volume and conditions under which a person may store junk on one's own land.
- (3) Regulate and coordinate with the Township Zoning Ordinance the use and operation of junkyards in the Township.
- (4) Provide for enforcement and a system of due process for removal of junk from one's land.
- (5) Provide for other miscellaneous provisions necessary for regulation of the Township's affairs.

1.03 This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to Section 1 of 1945 PA 246, being MCL 41.181 as amended, and 1929 PA 12, being MCL 445.451 as amended;.

Section 2 Definitions

2.01. The following terms shall have the meanings herein assigned, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

1. **BLIGHTED STRUCTURE OR BUILDING** means any dwelling, garage or outbuilding or any factory, shop, store, warehouse or any other structure or building, or part of a structure or building which, because of fire, wind or other natural disaster or physical deterioration is no longer habitable as a dwelling, or useful for the purpose for which it is intended.

2. **FARM** means a business enterprise engaged in agricultural production (and otherwise known as farms, ranches, dairies, nurseries, orchards) of crops, livestock and trees, and:

- a) Includes forty (40) or more acres of land in one ownership which is primarily devoted to agricultural use; or
- b) Has five (5) or more acres of land in one ownership, but less than forty (40) acres, devoted primarily to agricultural use, which has produced a gross annual income from agriculture of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year or more per acre of cleared and tillable land; or
- c) Has been designated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture as a specialty farm in one ownership which has produced a gross annual income from an agricultural use of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) or more.

3. **JUNK** means:

- d) Old scrap ferrous or nonferrous material, trash, rubber, cloth, paper, rubbish, refuse, litter, unused furniture;
- e) Materials from demolition, waste building materials;
- f) Any junked, abandoned, scrap, dismantled or wrecked (including parts of, or items held for salvaging parts) automobiles, vehicles, farm equipment, boats, trailers, mobile homes, appliances and all other machines;

but, shall not include:

- a) Items being held for a customer while parts are being sought for its repair;
- b) Items that are classic or antique, kept and collected for their antique or collectable value; and

- c) Items and junk kept at a licensed Type I, II, or III landfill for purposes disposal of solid waste, incineration, recycling and resource recovery.

4. JUNK AUTOMOBILE means any motor vehicle required to be licensed under the laws of the State of Michigan which is not licensed for a period in excess of sixty (60) days, except stock-in-trade of a duly licensed new or used automobile dealer, or, whether licensed or not, is inoperative for a period in excess of sixty (60) days, and is visible from roads or adjacent parcels.

5. JUNKYARD means a business enterprise, or a part of a business enterprise, engaged wholly, or in part, in the purchasing, handling, storage, resale, recycling, conversion, or recovery of junk, and is a business which is included in the Standard Industrial Classification Manual of 1972 prepared by the U. S. Office of Management and Budget, classification 5093 and some enterprises in classification 5931, whether a part of a licensed landfill operation or not; but shall not include any part of a landfill as defined in the Solid Waste Management Act. Junkyard shall specifically include any business or operation required to have a Class C License (used vehicle parts dealer) under MCL 257.248, MSA 9.1948, as amended.

6. TOWNSHIP means Dickson Township.

7. PARCEL means any tract or contiguous tracts of land in the same ownership, whether one or more platted lots or parts of lots, as identified by a single property tax parcel number in the Township assessment roll.

8. PERSON means any natural person, firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or other unincorporated association of persons, and shall include all agents, servants and employees of such persons.

9. ROAD means a public or private road, highway, street, or right of way which affords the means of ingress or egress to abutting property and the means of travel past a parcel.

10. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT means the Michigan Solid Waste Management Act, 1978 PA 641, being MCL 299.401 et seq, as amended.

### Section 3. Unlawful Acts.

3.01. It shall be unlawful for a person to maintain or permit to be maintained any blighted structure or building.

3.02. It shall be unlawful for a person to store or accumulate junk except in the following manner:

- (1) So that no more than two large items of junk, as herein defined, are on the parcel;
- (2) So that junk is consolidated on one part of the parcel;
- (3) So that the junk is not visible from a road or from adjacent parcels or so that the junk is inside an enclosed building; **and**
- (4) So that it is not a nuisance.

3.03. Section 3.02 of this Ordinance shall not apply to farms, provided the storage of junk on a farm meets the following standards:

- (1) So that the junk is not visible from a road or from adjacent parcels or so that the junk is inside an enclosed building;
- (2) All junk from the operation of the farm is being kept on the premises for possible future use of the farm;
- (3) The depositing of the junk is not a violation of the Michigan Solid Waste Management Act or does not constitute fill in violation of any other state or local law; **and**
- (4) So that it is not a nuisance.

#### Section 4. Junkyards.

4.01. It shall be unlawful for any junkyard to accept business or to do business unless it is:

- (1) Permitted under the Township Zoning Ordinance in effect for the area by land use permit, special use permit, or certified as a non-conforming use;
- (2) Meets all of the following conditions:
  - (a) Has a Michigan Sales Tax license;
  - (b) If applicable to the junkyard in question, has records of sales and other transactions which are required by 1917 PA 350, the Second Hand Junk Dealers Act, being MCL 445.401, et seq. as amended;
  - (c) If applicable to the junkyard in question, has a valid Class C (used vehicle parts dealer) license issued by the Michigan Department of State, under MCL 257.248, as amended.
- (3) Is constructed, designed and operated according to all of the following standards:
  - (a) It is screened from view of all roads and from all adjacent parcels by means of an opaque fence or earth berm not less than eight (8) feet in height, or another form of screening, or a combination of the above;
  - (b) It is set back from parcel boundaries at least 100 feet, and is set back 100 feet from all road rights-of-way or

133 feet from the centerline of any road, whichever is greater;

- (c) It is designed and operated so that noise, under normal operational circumstances, does not exceed sixty (60) decibels at the boundary of the parcel and at the nearest road;
- (d) It is operated so that burning or incineration of junk or any other material does not result in smoke;
- (e) It is designed and operated to meet or exceed all applicable state and federal air pollution, surface and ground water quality standards, and otherwise is in compliance with all other state and federal laws intended for the protection of the environment or the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare;
- (f) It complies with 1966 PA 219, the Control of Junkyards Adjacent Highways Act, being MCL 252.201 et seq as amended; 1917 PA 350, the Second Hand Junk Dealers Act, being MCL 445.401, et seq as amended; the Solid Waste Management Act; and if applicable, 1949 PA 300, licensing of dealers in vehicles, being MCL 267.248, as amended;
- (g) No part of it is a landfill, as defined in the Solid Waste Management Act, even as an accessory function or use of the junkyard;
- (h) It is more than 1,000 feet from a school, campground, or park;
- (i) It is not otherwise adverse to the public health, safety, and welfare of the Township.

#### Section 5. Pre-existing Junkyards.

5.01. Upon the enactment of this Ordinance, the Township Planning Commission shall cause to be made an inventory of all junkyards presently in business in the unincorporated portions of the Township. Such inventory shall include a site plan of each junkyard, a general inventory of the nature and extent of junk, and such other information as the Township Planning Commission deems relevant.

5.02. Any junkyard in business in the Township at the time of enactment of this Ordinance shall be allowed to continue in business as a junkyard on the parcel of land, or portion of the parcel of land, where it is presently located and in operation, except as otherwise provided in Sections 5.03 and 5.04 of this Ordinance.

5.03. A junkyard in business under Section 5.02 of this Ordinance, which:

- (1) Ceases to operate for one year or more;
- (2) Enlarges so as to occupy more land than was occupied and used at the time of enactment of this Ordinance, as shown on the inventory site plan made pursuant to Section 5.01 of this Ordinance; or
- (3) Relocates to different land than was occupied and used at the time of enactment of this Ordinance, as shown on the inventory site plan made pursuant to section 5.01 of this Ordinance;

shall be required to comply with all aspects of this Ordinance.

5.04. A junkyard in business in the Township at the time of enactment of this Ordinance shall, by September 30, 1997, be brought into compliance with Section 4.01(1), 4.01(2), 4.01(3)(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (i).

#### Section 6 Violations: Civil Infractions

6.01. This Ordinance is enforceable by all law enforcement agencies and officers authorized to act within the Township and by the Township Zoning Administrator who are hereby designated as the authorized local officials to issue civil infraction citations.

6.02 Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction. Violation of this Ordinance, and its penalties, shall be judicially enforced through the 85th Judicial District Court.

6.03 Enforcement for violations of this Ordinance shall be as follows:

- (1) Unless immediate action is necessary (upon determination by the authorized local official that there is a danger to the health or safety of anyone in the township), the individual violating this Ordinance shall be served personally, or through first class mail, with a notice of violation requiring that the violation be corrected within thirty (30) days of the notice;
- (2) Upon failure to correct the violation, or in cases when immediate action is necessary, a person violating this Ordinance shall be issued a citation requiring their appearance in the 85th Judicial District Court. A person who violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction and shall be fined not less than \$150.00, nor more than \$500.00, plus costs.
- (3) A person who violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction and when having been previously found responsible or admitted responsibility for violation of this Ordinance in a civil infraction proceeding, shall be fined not less than \$300.00, nor more than \$500.00, plus costs;

- (4) A person who violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction and when having been on at least two prior occasions found responsible or admitted responsibility for violation of this Ordinance in a civil infraction proceeding, shall be fined \$500.00, plus costs;

#### Section 7 Violations: Civil Action

7.01. The Township or any other person adversely affected by a violation of this Ordinance, may commence an action in the Circuit Court for Manistee County for an injunction, or other appropriate remedy, to prevent, enjoin, abate, correct or remove junk, blighted structures or buildings or junkyards operated, permitted, accumulated, stored or maintained in violation of this Ordinance, and to prevent, enjoin, abate or otherwise prohibit the continuation of such violation. The rights and remedies provided herein are cumulative and in addition to all other remedies provided by law.

#### Section 8 Severability

This Ordinance and the various parts, sections, sub-section, phrases and clauses thereof are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, sub-section, phrase or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid, it shall not be affected thereby. The Township Board hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, sub-section, phrase, sentence and clause therefore irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, sub-section, phrases, sentences or clauses be declared invalid.

#### Section 9 Repeal

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent they are in conflict, but only to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

#### Section 10 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day following its publication as required by law.

