



## HEAVY VEHICLE & PARKING ON GRASS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### REGULATIONS

**1. Does the City have regulations regarding parking on the grass?**

Yes. Beginning October 1, 2021, Section 155.069 of the City's code of ordinances prohibits any vehicle, trailer, or recreational vehicle from being stopped or parked in the front, side, or rear yard of residentially zoned property except on an all-weather surface.

**2. Are larger lots or screened parking areas exempt from this ordinance?**

The City did hold public hearings on ordinance changes to parking in 2020. This topic was considered. Ultimately, the ordinance was adopted without exemption for larger lots or screened parking.

**3. Is there a limit to the number of vehicles that can be parked at a residence?**

As long as the vehicles are parked on an all weather surface, there is not a limit to the number of vehicles that can be parked at a single residence in Harker Heights.

**4. Does the City have regulations regarding heavy vehicle parking?**

Yes. Beginning October 1, 2021, Section 72.20 of the City's code of ordinances prohibits parking of Heavy Vehicles on any residential property and on some commercially zoned properties. However, a recreational vehicle can be parked on a residential property if it is parked on an all-weather surface and is not occupied as a residence or accessory dwelling.

**5. What types of vehicles are classified as heavy?**

A motor vehicle is classified as a Heavy Vehicle when it is greater than 20 feet in length, greater than 8 feet in width, greater than 10 feet in height, and exceeds a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds. Additionally, when trucks, truck tractors or the implement thereof exceeds a gross weight of 10,000 pounds (trailer plus load) it is considered a Heavy Vehicle. The following are exceptions to the Heavy Vehicle regulations: City owned vehicles, construction vehicles at an active construction site, public utility vehicles, emergency response vehicles, & tow trucks.

**6. Where can I park my heavy vehicle?**

Heavy Vehicles can be parked at a truck lot. Additionally, they can be parked on a commercially zoned (B-4; B-5; M-1; M-2) property that is owned or leased by the owner of the heavy vehicle. A zoning map is available on the City's website at <https://harkerheights.gov/gis-map> or you may call the Planning & Development office at 254-953-5647 for additional assistance.

**7. Is there a limit to the number of vehicles that can be parked on the street?**

As long as parking is authorized on the public street, there is not a limit to the number of vehicles that can be parked on the street in Harker Heights. Vehicles parked on the street are under the



jurisdiction of the Harker Heights Police Department. Please call Non-Emergency Dispatch at 254-953-5400 to report issues with vehicles parked on the street.

**8. Are there restrictions for the length of time a vehicle can be parked in the street?**

Per Section 72.15 of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances, in general only boats and trailers are not permitted to park in the street for more than 72 hours in any 7-day period or for any length of time more than twice in any 30 day period. Residents can apply at the Planning & Development Department's counter at City Hall to get a 7-day permit from the City Manager.

**9. Is temporary parking for loading/unloading on a residential property allowed?**

Upon issuance of a temporary use permit in the associated zoning district and pursuant to the applicable regulations mobile structures or containers can be placed on a residential property. See Section of the Code of Ordiannces for additional information regarding temporary use permits.

**COMPLIANCE & PERMITTING**

**10. What materials are considered acceptable for an all-weather parking surface?**

All vehicles must be parked on an all-weather surface consisting of asphalt, concrete or other similar permanent hard surface material sufficient to prevent ruts, mud, dust, loose material, and other nuisances. Alternative parking surfaces include decomposed granite or pavers.

**11. Do I have to have a permit to put in an all-weather surface for parking?**

Yes. A flat work permit is required. This is to ensure the proposed location meets spacing requirements and does not impede stormwater runoff.

**12. What documents am I required to provide when I submit for a permit?**

Applicant shall fill out the permit application, provide a copy of the property survey or an aerial photo of the property, identify the materials to be utilized, and identify the location of the proposed improvement.

**13. What size does a parking spot need to be to comply?**

The paved parking surface must encompass the entire footprint of the vehicle. The footprint of a vehicle includes the entire surface area that will be under the vehicle while it is parked.

**14. Are there any restrictions on the location of an all-weather parking surface?**

The all-weather parking surface cannot block the flow of stormwater runoff and must meet the area restrictions in Section 155.069 of the code of ordinances. It must also be designed and installed such that any portion of a parked vehicle on private property is not located within any public Right-of-Way or drainage easement.