

**Chapter 654**  
**Open Storage of Motor Vehicle Nuisances on Private Property**

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**Note:** Originally adopted as part of the Sanitary, Sanitation and Health Code adopted by Ordinance 689 of October 14, 1996 and Ordinance 697 of July 14, 1997. Retitled and renumbered by Ordinance 780 of May 4, 2009. Formerly known as Section 654.016.

**654.1 Definitions.** As used in this Section, the following words and terms shall have the meanings indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

- a. "Enforcement Officer" means any individual empowered by the Borough of Cambridge Springs to enforce ordinances or any police officer.
- b. "Motor Vehicle" means any type of mechanical device, propelled by a motor, in which persons or property may be transported upon public streets or highways, including trailers or semi-trailers pulled thereby.
- c. "Nuisance" means any condition, structure, or improvement which shall constitute a danger or potential danger to the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the Borough of Cambridge Springs.
- d. "Owner" means the actual owner, agent, or custodian of the property on which motor vehicles are stored, whether an individual, partnership, association, corporation, or other legal entity.

In this Chapter, the singular shall include the plural; the plural shall include the singular; and the masculine shall include the feminine and the neuter.

**654.2 Motor Vehicle Nuisances Prohibited.** No owner, lessee or other person shall maintain a motor vehicle nuisance upon the open private grounds of such owner, lessee or other person within the Borough of Cambridge Springs. A motor vehicle nuisance shall include any motor vehicle which is unable to move under its own power or has any of the following physical defects:

- a. Broken windshields, mirrors or other glass, with sharp edges.
- b. One or more flat tires or tubes which could permit vermin harborage.

- c. Missing doors, windows, hood, trunk or other body parts which could permit animal harborage.
- d. Any body parts with sharp edges, including holes resulting from rust.
- e. Missing tires resulting in unsafe suspension of the motor vehicle.
- f. Upholstery which is torn or open which could permit vermin harborage.
- g. Broken head-lamps or tail-lamps with sharp edges.
- h. Disassembled chassis parts apart from the motor vehicle stored in a disorderly fashion or loose in or on the vehicle.
- i. Protruding sharp objects from the chassis.
- j. Broken vehicle frame suspended from the ground in an unstable manner.
- k. Leaking or damaged oil pan or gas tank which could cause fire or explosion.
- l. Exposed battery containing acid.
- m. Inoperable locking mechanism for trunk or any door.
- n. Open or damaged floor boards, including trunk and fire-wall.
- o. Damaged bumpers pulled away from the perimeter of the vehicle.
- p. Broken grill with protruding edges.
- q. Loose or damaged metal trim and clips.
- r. Broken antennae.
- s. Suspended on unstable supports.
- t. Does not display a valid current inspection sticker or registration plate. An inspection sticker and registration plate will not be considered valid if not in compliance with the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code.
- u. Such other defect which could threaten the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Borough of Cambridge Springs.

**654.3 Storage of Motor Vehicle Nuisances Permitted.**

- a. Any owner, lessee, or other person who has one or more motor vehicles as defined in Section 654.2 hereof may store such vehicle(s) in the Borough of Cambridge Springs only in strict compliance with the regulations provided herein. Such person, owner or lessee must first apply for a permit for either temporary or permanent storage and pay a fee to the Borough of Cambridge Springs pursuant to a Resolution of the Borough Council. The motor vehicle nuisance(s) must be stored within a garage or other enclosed building, or outside with an opaque fence at least 6 feet high which is locked at all times when unattended.
- b. With the special approval of Borough Council, motor vehicle nuisances may also be stored outside in an area enclosed by a chain-link fence, at least 6 feet

high, screened by shrubbery around the perimeter to the height of the fence, with an unobstructed gate capable of admitting fire or other emergency equipment. Such gate shall remain locked at all times when unattended. In addition, all gas and oil or other flammable liquid shall be removed from the motor vehicle and it shall be kept free of vermin infestation while being

stored. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit the storage of motor vehicle nuisances contrary to the provisions of the Zoning Code, other ordinances, and all state and federal regulations and laws.

**654.4 Inspection of Premises; Notice to Comply.**

- a. The Enforcement Officer is hereby empowered to inspect private property on which motor vehicles are stored to determine if there is compliance with the provisions of this Section, or if any condition, structure, or improvement constitutes a nuisance or poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the public, in which case he shall issue a written notice to be served personally or by registered or certified mail upon the owner of said premises, or if the owner's whereabouts or identity is unknown, by posting the notice conspicuously upon the offending premises.
- b. Said notice shall specify the condition or structure or improvement complained of, and shall require the owner to commence to remove or otherwise rectify the condition or structure or improvement as set forth therein within 10 days of mailing or posting of said notice, and thereafter to fully comply with the requirements of said notice.

**654.5 Authority to Remedy Noncompliance.** If the owner of grounds on which the motor vehicles are stored does not comply with the notice to abate the nuisance, within the time limit prescribed, the Borough of Cambridge Springs shall have the authority to contact a licensed salvager to have the vehicle removed at the owner's expense. The Borough of Cambridge Springs shall have the right and power to enter upon the offending premises to accomplish the foregoing if the violation, in the discretion of a Borough police officer, is an immediate threat to the safety of any property or person.

**654.99 Penalties.**

- a. Whoever violates Section 654.2 shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine not less than \$100.00, nor more than \$300.00, and, in default of payment, to undergo imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of such Section continues shall constitute a separate offense.
- b. The remedies provided herein for the enforcement of Chapter 654, or any remedy provided by law, shall not be deemed mutually exclusive; rather, they may be employed simultaneously or consecutively, at the option of the Borough Council.

