

Saraland Junk Vehicle Reporting Guide



"Help us keep Saraland beautiful! Junk vehicles and abandoned boats are not just eyesores; they can impact property values and public safety. If you see a vehicle that has been abandoned or is inoperable and left in public view, you can report it to the Saraland Building Department at (251) 675-5103. Let's work together to keep our neighborhoods clean and vibrant."

1. What Qualifies as a "Junk Vehicle"?

Under Saraland Municipal Regulation § 19-13, it is unlawful to store "abandoned or junk motor

vehicles" on private property in a way that creates a public nuisance. A vehicle generally falls

under this category if:

- It is Inoperable: It cannot be safely operated or moved under its own power.
- It is Unclaimed/Abandoned: It has remained on private property for more than 48 hours without the owner's or lessee's consent.

- It Lacks Legal Requirements: It is missing a current license tag or other legal requirements for operation.

Note on Boats: While the ordinance specifically highlights motor vehicles, the city's broader "litter and public nuisance" codes apply to any large, discarded items (including boats or trailers) that are partially dismantled, wrecked, or discarded and left in public view.

2. The "Enclosed" Exception

Residents should be aware that these regulations typically do not apply if the vehicle or boat is kept in a completely enclosed building (such as a garage) that is not visible from the street or neighboring properties.

3. How to Report a Violation

In Saraland, the Building Department handles code enforcement for private property.

- Office to Contact: Saraland Police Department Environmental / Code Enforcement Officer
- Phone Number: (251) 675-5331 non-emergency number, and ask for the Environmental Officer

What to include in the report:

To help the Environmental/Code Enforcement Officer, residents should provide:

- Exact Location: The street address where the vehicle is located.
- Vehicle Details: Make, model, color, and (if visible) license plate number.
- Condition: Briefly describe why it is a nuisance (e.g., flat tires, broken windows, overgrown weeds, missing engine).

4. Vehicles on Public Streets

If the junk vehicle or boat is abandoned on a public road or right-of-way rather than private property, residents should contact the Saraland Police Department non-emergency line at (251) 675-5331.

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