

Local Law No. ____

Campsite, Recreational Vehicle, and Tent Law

Section 1. Title

This local law shall be known as the “Campsite, Recreational Vehicle, and Tent Law.”

Section 2. Legislative Intent and Purpose

It is the intent and purpose of this local law to regulate and control campsites, recreational vehicles, and tents within the Town of Oneonta hereinafter set forth.

Section 3. Definitions

1. Campsite - any place where bedding, sleeping bag, or other material used for bedding purposes, or any stove or fire is placed, established, or maintained for a temporary place to live, whether or not such place incorporates the use of any tent, lean-to, shack, or any other structure, or any vehicle or part thereof.
2. Recreational vehicle. - A vehicular camping unit primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel or seasonal use that either has its own motive power or is mounted on or towed by another vehicle. Recreational vehicles include, but are not limited to, camping trailers, fifth wheel trailers, motor homes, park trailers, travel trailers, and truck campers.

Section 3. Tent and Recreational Vehicle Locations

1. It shall be unlawful within the limits of the Town of Oneonta for any person to park any mobile home, house trailer or recreational vehicle on any street, alley, highway, or other public place, including public parks, between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
2. No person who is the owner or user of any mobile home, house trailer, recreational vehicle, or tent shall park or otherwise locate said vehicle equipment or tent upon any premises within the Town of Oneonta for the purpose of using the same for living, sleeping or eating quarters, nor shall any such person use or occupy any such trailer equipment for living, sleeping or eating therein except in a duly authorized mobile home park or campground.

3. One unoccupied recreational vehicle may be parked or stored on private property, provided that no permanent living quarters shall be maintained therein. Recreational vehicles shall be stored on the premises in accordance with Town of Oneonta Code §58-16(B).

Section 4. Tent Camps

1. Tent camping shall be authorized and allowed only with the provisions of Town of Oneonta Code Chapters 58 and 103. Exemptions from the requirements of this section include:
 - a. Temporary tent camping for any local unit of the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, or similar organizations.
 - b. On private property with the permission of the property owner or occupant, provided that such tent camping is temporary and limited to the owner or occupant or family and guests without compensation.

Section 5. Campsites

1. Camping shall be authorized and allowed only with the provisions of Town of Oneonta Code Chapters 58 and 103.
2. It is prohibited for persons from occupying a “campsite” on all public property, such as parks, benches, or rights of way.
3. Recreational vehicles and/or tents may be used on private property for temporary living quarters in such instances when a property owner has visiting guests, or for personal use by the property owner. Any person wishing to use a recreational vehicle as a temporary living facility must first obtain a permit from the Code Enforcement Office to do so. Such permit application must demonstrate:
 - a. That there will be an adequate potable and sanitary water supply.
 - b. That there will be an adequate self-contained septic holding tank for the actual use and demand and that such a tank will be emptied at a commercial facility specifically designed for such discharge.
 - c. That the recreational vehicle is properly licensed and registered as required by law.
 - d. That the recreational vehicle is property connected to electrical service if required and such connection cannot be powered by a generator.
 - e. All recreational vehicles used must be located on a lot owned by the applicant and outside of any right-of-way such as a street or sidewalk.

In no event shall a recreational vehicle be utilized as or considered to be a permanent dwelling.

Section 6. Enforcement.

1. Rules, regulations and forms. - The Enforcement Officer shall have the authority to make, adopt and promulgate such written rules, regulations and forms as deemed necessary for the proper enforcement and administration of this chapter and to secure the intent thereof. Such rules, regulations and forms shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this chapter or any other ordinance of the Town of Oneonta, nor shall they have the effect of waiving any provisions of

this chapter or any other ordinance. Such rules, regulations and forms shall have the same force and effect as the provision of this chapter and be subject to the same penalties for violation thereof. Such rules, regulations and forms shall be submitted to the Town Board by the Enforcement Officer, which shall move to approve, reject or modify such rules, regulations or forms within 60 days after submission. Failure to so move shall be construed to constitute approval thereof. Said rules, regulations and forms as approved by the Town Board shall be on file with the Town Clerk and available to public view.

2. Term of permit. A permit is required for any temporary occupancy of a recreational vehicle or tent on private property that is longer than 7 days. Permits are available in the Code Office. Property owners must state the length of their, or their guests, stay. A permit may be valid for up to 30 days and may be renewed three times during a 12-month period.
3. Entry and inspection. - The Enforcement Officer shall have the right to enter upon, examine and inspect, or cause to be entered, examined and inspected, any building or property at any time for the purpose of carrying out his duties and to determine compliance by request and with provisions of this chapter. A written report of each such examination and inspection shall be prepared on an appropriate form and kept on file by the Enforcement Officer.

Section 7. -Penalties for offenses.

1. Whenever, in the opinion of the Enforcement Officer, after property examination and inspection, there exists a violation of any provision of this chapter, of any site plan approved hereunder or of any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, the Enforcement Officer may issue an appearance ticket, returnable in the Town Court of the Town of Oneonta to the person owning, operating, occupying or maintaining the premises, including a mortgagee or vendee in possession, assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or any other person or entity in control of the premises.
2. Any person found in violation of this chapter shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250 or imprisonment for a term not to exceed 15 days, or both. Each week that such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.