



Permit Holders' Responsibilities

WHERE DOES THE PERMIT ENTITLE ME TO PARK?

The permit allows you to park in any designated space marked by the international symbol of access. In the cities of Winnipeg and Brandon, it allows up to a maximum of four consecutive hours of free parking at meters on city streets (this does not apply to meters in parking lots). Also, in Winnipeg, Brandon and Selkirk the permit extends one and two hour street parking to four hours. This does not alter restrictions such as no parking zones, loading zones, rush hours or any other restricted times. Please note that the University of Manitoba has special regulations. Be sure to familiarize yourself with them before parking there.

PERMIT COURTESY

If you experience “good” and “bad” days with your disability, we ask that you please consider the needs of others and only use the parking permit when it is necessary. If you are having a “good” day and a regular parking space nearby is available, please leave the designated space for someone who needs it more than you. In addition, if you remain in the vehicle while a companion is running errands, you may not occupy a designated parking space. **The permit is not to be used in a situation where you are dropped off at the door of an establishment.**

REUSABLE PERMIT – VALIDATION STICKERS

You will be mailed a renewal application before the permit expires. Once the renewal application is approved, you will receive new validation stickers to change the expiry date on the existing permit. You are responsible for the permit, even after it has expired. **All expired permits must be returned to the Parking Permit Program office.**

WHEN DO I RENEW?

All permits have a validation period and expire on the last day of the month indicated on the permit. You will automatically receive a renewal notice in the mail a minimum of six weeks prior to your expiration date. Using the parking permit after it has expired constitutes a violation under the Highway Traffic Act.

WHEN AND HOW TO DISPLAY PERMIT?

Provincial legislation requires the permit to be displayed when a vehicle is parked in a disabled persons parking space, on the rear-view mirror, the sun-visor, or the dashboard in such a manner that it is clearly visible and legible from the outside of the vehicle.

It is recommended that you display the permit on the rear-view mirror of the vehicle unless you are physically unable to do so. In this location, the permit is most visible to the authorities who must be able to read the permit number and expiry date to determine the validity of the permit and prevent abuse of the program. Failure to display the permit so that it is fully visible and legible from outside of the vehicle may result in a parking violation and fine (\$75 - \$150 in the City of Winnipeg). Operating a motor vehicle while the permit is displayed on the rear-view mirror is an offence under The Highway Traffic Act (obscured vision). **Therefore, ensure that the permit is displayed only when parked.**

IS PERMIT TRANSFERRABLE BETWEEN VEHICLES?

As the permit holder, you may use the permit in any vehicle, whether you are the driver or a passenger. **The permit is ONLY to be used when the permit holder is in the vehicle.** Any abuse or misuse will result in the cancellation of the parking permit. It is an offense to alter, deface, duplicate or tamper with the permit.

PERMIT LOST OR STOLEN?

Notify the Parking Permit Program immediately. A new permit will only be issued after you provide our office with a police incident report number. A replacement fee applies. Note: if the permit is improperly used by anyone and it has not yet been reported lost or stolen, the permit may be cancelled and you will not be able to receive a replacement in the future. Ensure that your vehicle's doors are locked and the windows secured. **Permits that are found after replaced as lost, must be returned immediately.**

HOW DO I CARE FOR THE PERMIT?

The permit is important so it should be protected like a credit card. There is always a possibility it may be stolen so be sure to take precautions. With exposure to the cold weather and hot sun, the plastic becomes brittle so the permit is best carried in and out of your vehicle as needed, rather than stored in the vehicle full-time.

WHAT IF THE PERMIT IS NO LONGER NEEDED?

If for any reason the parking permit is no longer required by the individual to whom it was issued, **it must be returned without delay (even if expired)** to the Parking Permit Program office. Using another individual's permit is a punishable offense under the Highway Traffic Act. Parking permits remain the property of the Parking Permit Program.

MOVING OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Your current address and telephone number must be on file in our office. If for any reason we are unable to contact you, your file will be closed and your parking permit will be cancelled. It is your responsibility to ensure that we have your correct information at all times.

IS THE PERMIT RECOGNIZED OUTSIDE THE PROVINCE?

Your Manitoba parking permit can be used across Canada, the United States and Europe. Travelers with disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the regulations of the destination they are planning to visit.

HOW CAN I HELP STOP THE ABUSE OF DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES?

If you find a vehicle occupying a designated parking space without the required parking permit on display, report it to the facility owner or manager. The owner or manager may decide to have the vehicle removed. If no action is taken, contact the Parking Permit Program or law enforcement. Report the permit number with expiry date, location, time, date, a brief description of the occupants and make of vehicle with license plate number. You might also speak to your councillor or MLA about the need for more stringent enforcement. **For your own safety, do not confront suspected abusers.** Calls are handled in the strictest of confidence.

ENFORCEMENT

The Society for Manitobans with Disabilities' Parking Permit Program issues permits to persons with physical disabilities who experience significant restrictions in their mobility. Responsibility for the enforcement of the program rests with the municipal authorities, who patrol both private and public parking facilities and issue parking tickets where appropriate.

WHY ARE SOME DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES WIDER THAN OTHERS?

Many permit holders use a vehicle equipped with a wheelchair lift or a large door that must be fully opened to safely exit and re-enter. These vehicles require a wider space or an outside parking space (end of a row). If you do not require this extra space and another designated parking space is available, please use it instead.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to become a volunteer for the Parking Permit Program and help distribute Offense Notices, please contact the office. These notices are designed to resemble a parking ticket, but are a simple reminder. They are placed on the vehicle's windshield when parked in a designated parking space without a valid permit.