TOWN OF BELGRADE

SUPPLEMENTAL JUNKYARD AND AUTO GRAVEYARD ORDINANCE.

The intent of this Ordinance gives authority to Town Selectpersons to regulate dumps, junkheaps and auto graveyards. It extends the restrictions which already exist on state and town roads to town ways, public easements, and private roads. It adds certain items of machinery to the existing definition of a junkyard. Finally it amends the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to give legal effect to these restrictions in areas covered under Shoreland Zoning.

Definitions from MSRA Title 30, Section 2451 as supplemented:

1. Automobile Graveyard:

shall mean a yard, field or other area used as a place of storage other than temporary storage by an establishment or place of business which is engaged primarily in doing auto body repair work for the purpose of making repairs to render a motor vehicle serviceable, for 3 or more unserviceable, discarded, worn-out or junked motor vehicles.

2. Junkyard:

shall mean a yard, field or other area used as a place of storage for:

- A. Discarded, worn-out or junked plumbing, heating supplies, household appliances and furniture.
- B. Discarded, scrap and junked lumber.
- C. Old or scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel and other ferrous or nonferrous material.
- D. Garbage dumps, waste dumps and sanitary fills.
- E. Snowmobiles, snowblowers, lawn mowers and other discarded machinery or equipment.

3. Highway:

shall include town ways, public easements and private roads.

4. Shoreland areas:

no permits for new junkyards and auto graveyards shall be issued for a locations in which a use is prohibited under the Belgrade Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.



CONDUCT OF HEARING

- 1. 1. The Chairman shall give a statement of the application.

 EXAMPLE: Modern Auto and Parts Salas Go
 - EXAMPLE: Modern Auto and Parts Sales Co., operated by Ralph Armentino, Jr., located on the northerly side of Route 25, any town.
 - 2. The applicant shall present the facts in connection with his application for an automobile junkyard or "automobile graveyard."
 - The Board shall have an opportunity to question the applicant.
 - 4. All those in support of the application shall be heard.
 - 5. The Board shall have the opportunity to question those in support of the application.
 - 6. Those in objection to the application shall be heard.
 - 7. The Board shall have the opportunity to question those in objection to the application.
 - 8. The Board shall have the opportunity to question anyone who was heard.
 - TO MAINTAIN ORDERLY PROCEDURE, EACH SIDE SHALL PROCEED WITHOUT INTERRUPTION BY THE OTHER.
 - 9. It is suggested that the Board reserve their decision until they have an opportunity to discuss the applications as a Board.

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

Legal Services Community Drive Augusta, Maine 04330-9411

WILLIAM W. LIVENGOOD REBECCA WARREN SEEL RICHARD P. FLEWELLING ELLERBE P. COLE JOSEPH J. WATHEN

Telephone (207) 623-8428

INFORMATION PACKET

SUBJECT: JUNKYARDS/AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARDS

This packet includes the following attachments:

MDOT Informational Bulletin (including 30-A M.R.S.A. Sections 3751-3760, MDOT regulations and interpretations, and sample permit forms), revised March 1989;

Application/Permit for Junkyards and Automobile Gravyards

P.L. 1993, c. 173 (amending 30-A M.R.S.A. Sections 3751-3756);

DEP Solid Waste Regulations, Chapter 408, Section 2(A) thru (C), effective May 24, 1989;

Ordinance to Regulate Automobile Graveyards, Junkyards and Automobile Recycling Businesses.

Important issues and considerations include:

Grandfathering. Although an existing facility may be "grandfathered" for zoning or land use purposes, no junkyard, automobile graveyard or automobile recycling business, existing or proposed, is exempt from the statutory requirements for a local permit (issued by the municipal officers) since permits regularly expire as does the owner's right to continue operating (30-A M.R.S.A. §3753).

Multiple Permits. Junkyards, automobile graveyards and automobile recycling businesses with a local permit may also require a license from the Department of Environmental Protection and a permit from the Secretary of State (see attachments). These licenses and permits are administered separately and the issuance of one does not require officials to approve the others.

Local Ordinances. Municipalities may enact ordinances imposing additional standards on junkyards, automobile graveyards and automobile recycling businesses (30-A M.R.S.A. §3755), but without them, the municipal officers may consider only the statutory requirements in reviewing an application for a local permit (Spain v. City of Brewer, 474 A.2d 496 [Me. 1984]). No ordinance may completely ban these facilities from a community, however.

Enforcement. A local permit may, after notice and hearing, be suspended or revoked by the municipal officers for violation of any condition of approval or applicable requirement (30-A M.R.S.A. §3758). Operation of a junkyard, automobile graveyard or automobile recycling business without a valid local permit is a land use violation enforceable under 30-A M.R.S.A. §4452 and may also be enjoined as a nuisance under 17 M.R.S.A. §2802. Although the State Police and county sheriffs are authorized to enforce the law, as a practical matter, the responsibility rests primarily with the municipal officers.

Auto Recycling. Effective June 30, 1992, the Legislature amended the statutory definition of "automobile graveyard" (30-A M.R.S.A. §3752[1]) to include "automobile dismantling, salvage and recycling operations." This amendment does not yet appear in the MDOT Informational Bulletin attached. Effective October 13, 1993, the Legislature enacted special application requirements and operation standards for "automobile recycling business permits," which are valid for five years. These amendments do not appear in the attached MDOT Informational Bulletin either, but they are attached separately. MDOT has not yet developed application or permit forms for the new five-year auto recycling business permit, but the traditional junkyard/automobile graveyard forms can readily be modified for this purpose.

Proximity to Water Supplies. Also effective June 30, 1992, the Legislature amended the statutory limitations on local permits (30-A M.R.S.A. §3755) to prohibit the issuance of new permits for automobile graveyards located within 100 feet of pre-existing wells that serve as a public or private water supply (unless the well serves only the owner's or operator's residence); existing automobile graveyards are not "grandfathered" (see "Grandfathering" above) except as to wells installed after June 30, 1992, provided they already have a permit. This amendment also does not appear in the attached MDOT Informational Bulletin.

"Junk" Defined. The statute (30-A M.R.S.A. §3752) does not explicitly define terms such as "unserviceable" or "scrap," and it has often been argued that vehicles or materials are not "junk" if they have some potential use or value to the owner. The Maine Supreme Court disagrees, however, and defines

"unserviceable" as being "not ready for use or not presently useable" as opposed to "incapable of being serviced" (Town of Pownal v. Emerson, 639 A.2d 619 [Me. 1994]). This is consistent with MDOT's longstanding interpretation (see MDOT Informational Bulletin attached). Thus, a property owner cannot avoid the local permit requirement simply by claiming that he plans eventually to use or sell junked items.

NOTE:

This packet is intended for general information only. For additional information or specific legal advice, contact local counsel or MMA's Legal Services.

PRF:akd

Issued April 15, 1990 Revised July 1, 1992 Revised October 13, 1993 Revised June 10, 1994 Revised April 7, 1995

Title 30-A M.R.S.A., Sections 3751-3760 Chapter 183 SUBCHAPTER I

Effective March 1, 1989 AUTOMOBILE JUNKYARDS

SECTION

SECTION

3751. Purpose. 3752. Definitions. 3753. Permit required. 3754. Hearings.	3758.	Provisions regarding nuisances unaffected. Violation.
275E ##_##	3760.	Rules. Relocation, removal, disposal, compensation and condemnation.

Section 3751. Purpose

Junkyards and so-called "auto graveyards" have been steadily expanding and frequently encroach upon highways. These junkyards and graveyards have become a nuisance and a menace to safe travel on public ways, often distracting the attention of drivers of motor vehicles because it appears cars are parked on the highway or that an accident has occurred. It is declared that such junkyards and automobile graveyards are a nuisance and are properly subject to regulation and

Section 3752. Definitions

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

- Automobile graveyard. "Automobile graveyard" means a yard, field or other area used to store 3 or more unserviceable, discarded, worn-out or junked motor vehicles as defined in Title 29, section 1, subsection 7, or parts of such vehicles.
 - A. "Automobile graveyard" does not include any area used for temporary storage by an establishment or place of business which is primarily engaged in doing auto body repair work to make repairs to render a motor vehicle serviceable.
 - Highway. "Highway" means any public way. 2.
- Interstate System. "Interstate System" means those portions of the Maine Turnpike and the state highway system incorporated in the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, as officially designated by the Department of Transportation.
- Junkyard. "Junkyard" means a yard, field or other area used to store:
 - A. Discarded, worn-out or junked plumbing, heating supplies, household appliances and furniture;
 - B. Discarded, scrap and junked lumber;
 - C. Old or scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel and other scrap ferrous or nonferrous material; and
 - D. Garbage dumps, waste dumps and sanitary fills.

5. Primary System. "Primary System" means that portion of the state highway system which the Department of Transportation has by official designation incorporated into the Federal-Aid Primary System.

Section 3753. Permit required.

No person may establish, operate or maintain an automobile graveyard or junkyard without first obtaining a nontransferable permit from the municipal officers of the municipality in which the automobile graveyard or junkyard is to be located, or from the county commissioners of the county of any unorganized territory in which the automobile graveyard or junkyard is to be located. Permits issued under this section are valid until the first day of the following year.

Section 3754. Hearings.

Municipal officers or county commissioners, as provided for in section 3753, shall hold a public hearing before granting a permit to establish, operate or maintain an automobile graveyard or junkyard. They shall post a notice of the hearing at least 7 and not more than 14 days before the hearing in at least 2 public places in the municipality or unorganized territory and publish a notice in one newspaper having general circulation in the municipality or unorganized territory in which the automobile graveyard or junkyard is to be located. The municipal officers or county commissioners shall give written notice the application to the Department of Transportation by mailing a copy of the application at least 7 days and not more than 14 days before the hearing.

Section 3755. Limitations on permits

- 1. Highways; Interstate and Primary Systems. No permit may be granted for an automobile graveyard or junkyard within 1,000 feet of the right-of-way of any highway incorporated in the Interstate and Primary Systems or within 600 feet of the right-of-way of any other highway, except for:
 - A. Those automobile graveyards or junkyards which are kept entirely screened to ordinary view from the highway at all times by natural objects, plantings or fences;
 - (1) Screening required by this paragraph must be well constructed and properly maintained at a minimum height of 6 feet and acceptable to the municipal officers or county commissioners. It must comply with the rules adopted by the Department of Transportation. The permit shall specify that compliance with these rules is required; and
- B. Those automobile graveyards or junkyards located within areas which have been zoned for industrial use and located more that feet but less than 1,000 feet from the right-of-way of any high incorporated in the Interstate and Primary Systems.

- 2. Public facilities. No permit may be granted for an automobile graveyard or junkyard which is:
 - A. Located within 300 feet of any public park, public playground, public bathing beach, school, church or cemetery; and B. Within ordinary view from that public facility.
- 3. Limitation on new permits. No permit may be granted for any automobile graveyard or junkyard established after October 3, 1973, and located within 100 feet of any highway.
- 4. Rules. No permit may be granted for an automobile graveyard or junkyard that does not comply with the rules adopted under section 3759. Municipal officers or county commissioners as provided for in section 3753 may apply more stringent restrictions, limitations and conditions in considering whether to grant or to deny any permit for an automobile graveyard or junkyard adjacent to any highway.
- 5. Local ordinances. This subchapter shall not be construed to limit a municipality's home rule authority to enact ordinances with respect to automobile graveyards and junkyards which concern any other standards that the municipality determines reasonable, including, but not limited to:
 - A. Compliance with state and federal hazardous waste regulations;

B. Fire and traffic safety;

C. Levels of noise which can be heard outside the premises;

D. Distance from existing residential or institutional uses; and E. The effect on ground water and surface water, provided that municipal ordinances on ground water are no less stringent than or inconsistent with rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection concerning automobile graveyards and junkyards.

Municipal officers or county commissioners shall consider compliance with these local ordinances in deciding whether to grant or deny a permit for any automobile graveyard or junkyard and in attaching conditions of approval to the grant of a permit.

Section 3756. Permit fees.

The municipal officers or county commissioners shall collect, in advance from the applicant for a permit, a fee in accordance with the following schedule:

- 1. More than 100 feet from highway. Fifty dollars for each permit for an automobile graveyard or junkyard located more than 100 feet from any highway, plus the cost of posting and publishing the notice under section 3754; and
- 2. Within 100 feet from highway. Two hundred dollars for each permit for an automobile graveyard or junkyard located within 100 feet from any highway, plus the cost of posting and publishing the notice under section 3754.

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Section 3757.. Provisions regarding nuisances unaffected

This subchapter shall not be construed as in any way repealing, invalidating or abrogating Title 17, section 2802, or limiting the right of prosecutions under that section. Violation of this subchapter in the establishment, maintenance or operation of any automobile graveyard or junkyard constitutes prima facie evidence that the yard is a nuisance as defined in Title 17, section 2802.

Section 3758. Violation

- 1. Enforcement. The State Police as well as local and county law officers shall enforce this subchapter. Municipal officers or their designee may also enforce this subchapter.
- 2. Penalties. Whoever violates this subchapter or the rules of the Department of Transportation adopted under section 3759 shall be penalized in accordance with section 4506. Each day that the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.
- 3. Revocation or suspension of permit. Violation of any condition, restriction or limitation inserted in a permit by the municipal officers or county commissioners is cause for revocation or suspension of the permit by the same authority which issued the permit. No permit may knewooked or suspended without a hearing and notice to the owner or the operator of the automobile graveyard or junkyard. Notice of hearing shall be sent to the owner or operator by registered mail at least 7 but not more than 14 days before the hearing. The notice must state the time and the place of hearing and contain a statement describing the alleged violation of any conditions, restrictions or limitations inserted in the permit.

Section 3759. Rules

In the interest of uniformity and to establish guidelines for the municipal officers and county commissioners in the matter of adequate screening, the Department of Transportation shall adopt rules establishing minimum standards for screening of automobile graveyards and junkyards.

Section 3760. Relocation, removal, disposal, compensation and condemnation

1. Acquisition of land. If the Department of Transportation determines that the topography of the land adjacent to any portion of a highway incorporated in the Interstate or Primary Systems will not permit adequate screening, as required in sections 3751 to 3760, or that adequate screening would not be economically feasible, it may acquire by gift, purchase or condemnation any interests in property that are necessary to secure the relocation, removal or disposal of the automobile graveyards or junkyards.

- 2. Compensation. In the case of such acquisition, just compensation shall be paid to the owner for the relocation, removal or disposal of the following automobile graveyards and junkyards:
 - A. Those which were operating and in existence on May 11, 1966 and located in areas adjacent to any portion of a highway incorporated in the Interstate or Primary Systems, which exceed federal restrictions and for which federal funds are available to defray the costs;
 - B. Those in operation along any highway made a part of the Interstate or Primary Systems on or after May 11, 1966; and
 - C. Those in operation and established on or after May 11, 1966.
- 3. Procedures. The purchase, condemnation, negotiation, assessment of damage and appeal procedures shall be in accordance with this section and Title 23, section 153 to 159.
- 4. Use of federal funds. This section does not prevent the department from participating with the owner when federal funds are available to defray costs of screening junkyards whenever it is determined to be more feasible to screen rather than to be involved in the cost or impact of acquisition and relocation.

- 17- DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 - 229 OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
- CHAPTER 202 REGULATIONS FOR SCREENING JUNKYARDS

SUMMARY: Rules regulating the screening of junkyards

.01 DEFINITIONS

- A. Automobile graveyard. "Automobile graveyard" as used in this subchapter shall mean a yard, field or other area used as a place of storage, other than temporary storage by an establishment or place of business which is engaged primarily in doing auto body repair work for the purpose of making repairs to render a motor vehicles serviceable, for 3 or more unserviceable, discarded, worn-out or junked motor vehicles as defined in Title 29, section 1, subsection 7, or parts thereof.
 - B. Junkyard. "Junkyard" as used in this subchapter shall mean a yard, field or other area used as a place of storage for:
 - i. Discarded, worn-out or junked plumbing, heating supplies household appliances and furniture;
 - ii. Discarded, scrap and junked lumber;
 - iii.Old or scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel and other scrap ferrous or non ferrous material; and,
 - iv. Garbage dumps, waste dumps and sanitary fills.
 - C. Interstate System. "Interstate System" as used in this subchapter shall mean those portions of the Maine Turnpike and the state highway system incorporated in the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, as officially designated, or as may hereafter be so designated, by the Department of Transportation.
 - D. Primary System. "Primary System" as used in this subchapter shall mean that portion of the state highway system which the Department of Transportation has by official designation incorporated into the Federal-Aid Primary System or as may hereafter be designated by the Department.
 - E. Highway. "Highway" as used in this subchapter shall mean any public way.

.02 Screening

Screening may be accomplished by natural or man-made objects, plantings or properly constructed fences, any of which must completely screen the junkyard from ordinary view from any portion of any highway within the prescribed distances throughout the entire calendar year, all of which shall be outside of the highway right-of-way limits.

Natural or man-made objects may be interpreted to be:

- 1. Hills, gullys, or embankments. Such man-made objects must be constructed to blend with the landscape with loaming and seeding or other treatment as may be necessary to establish a natural appearance.
- 2. Buildings or other installations.
- 3. Combinations of above.

.03 Plantings

Trees, shrubs, or other vegetation of sufficient height, density and depth of planting or growth to completely screen the junkyard from ordinary view from any highway within the prescribed distance throughout the entire calendar year may be used for screening.

.04 Fences

Fences shall be so located and of sufficient height to completely screen the junkyard from ordinary view from any highway within the prescribed distances. Although the minimum height of any fence is is stated to be six feet, it must be emphasized that height must be sufficient to accomplish the complete screening from ordinary view. All fences shall be well constructed and maintained. Only sound undamaged material, uniform in appearance, and erected in a workmanlike manner will be acceptable.

.05 Suggested Materials

Posts: Wood - Sound, round or square, preferably cedar, hackmatack, spruce, or fir. Preservative treatment with creosote oil or cuprinol is suggested. 4"x 4" minimum (square) or 4" minimum diameter (round).

Metal - Steel pipe or structural section steel either galvanized or base coat painted with red lead or other rust inhibitive paint.

All posts to extend a minimum of 4 feet below ground level and to be set plumb. Recommended post spacing 8' to 12'. End and corner posts to be diagonal braced to nearest adjacent post.

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Stringers: Minimum 2 x 4 - Spruce or Fir - Sound and free of excessive or weakening knots, and relatively free from warp or wain, preferably treated with creosote or cuprinol after cutting to length. Solidly spiked to wood posts or bolted to metal posts. Three stringers for 6 or 8 foot height of fence, 4 stringers for 10 or 12 foot height. Over 12 foot height would require a special design.

Steel pipe or structural section stringers may be used. These should be either galvanized or base coat painted with red lead or other rust inhibitive paint.

.06 Facing Materials

Facing material may be wood, composite, sheet metal or plastic. Although new material will not be a requirement, bent, damaged, poor quality, scrap, discarded, mixed or conglomerate materials will not be acceptable.

Suggested materials would be sound, new or used boards; exterior grade hardboard or plywood; corrugated steel, aluminum, or plastic.

It is suggested that all fastenings be galvanized nails, spikes, bolts, clamps, etc., and that all wood materials be treated with either a creosote oil base stain or cuprinol (with color additive) to preserve and prolong the life of the fence and to present a uniformity of appearance.

Since wind damage is a problem with any fence, bracing may be required and certainly would be essential on any fence over 8 feet in height. In board fence construction, relief of wind pressure may be achieved by placing the boarding alternatively on outside and inside of stringers with the spacing to be such that edges overlap enough to present a solid appearance and effectively screen the junkyard from ordinary view.

BASIS STATEMENT: The Department is authorized by 30-A'M.R.S.A. 3759 to "make rules and regulations to establish minimum standards for screening of automobile graveyards and junkyards" in order to establish guidelines for municipal officers and county commissioners.

AUTHORITY: 30-A M.R.S.A. 3759.

EFFECTIVE DATE*: Adopted on May 15, 1979 and filed on May 16, 1979; revised to reflect recodification from 30 M.R.S.A. to 30-A M.R.S.A. effective March 1, 1989.

^{*}HISTORICAL DERIVATION: Enacted May 11, 1966.

Application For Automobile Graveyard and/or Junkyard Permit

MUNICIPAL OFFICE USE ONLY

Te	ntative Date of Hearing	Application Received		
Time of Hearing		Permit No.		
Pla	ce of Hearing	Fce Paid \$		
	tifications sent by	Date		
	·	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		

То	the City/Town County			
	Ye			
Gra visi	iveyard and/or Junkyard at the following described locations of Title 30, Sections 2451-B to 2459, Chapter 481, Publ	n, operate or maintain an Automobile		
Ans	swer all questions in full.			
1.	Give location of Automobile Graveyard and/or Junkyard			
2.	Is this application made by or for a company, partnersh	•		
3.	Is this property leased? Property	owned by		
	Address:			
4.	How is "yard" screened? — Fence? (Type)			
	Embankment? Gully? Hill?	Other?		
5.	How far is edge of "yard" from center of highway?	Feet.		
6.	Can junk be seen from any part of highway? Yes	No		
7.	Was Junkyard Law, Requirements and Fees explained to	o you? Yes No		
S.	Is any portion of this "yard" on public property? Yes	No		
9.	Is "yard" within 300 feet of a Public Park, Public Playgr	cound, Public Bathing Beach, School,		
	Church or Cemetery? Yes No			
10.	When was "yard" established? By	whom?		
11.	When was last permit issued? To	whom?		
L Gor	by of Application to Gity/Pown	•		

¹ Copy of Application to Applicant 1 Copy of Application to Applicant 1 Copy of Application to State Police, Augusta 1 Copy of Application to State Highway Commission by Registered Mail

authorized by the owner, individuand to receive the permit under the	lual, partnership, comp he law.	oany or corporati	1	plication
Signed by:	For:			11111
		Name of Company	- Corporation, Partners	ship, Indiv.
Address:	***************************************	······································	,	
Make complete sketch of "yard." properties. Show distance (in fee ber or Local Road Name. Name intersection, bridge or other know	et) from edge of "yard of nearest City/Town	l" to center of his	chway Eull in Dou	do Muss
Tax Map No		Circle Correct	N	•
Lot No.		Direction	E W	
Zone			S	
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	·······	***************************************		***************************************
	Road Name or			
То	Route No.		То	
		************************************	,	***************

The undersigned certifies that the above information is true and correct to the best of his/ her knowledge and that he/she is the owner or agent of the property or that he/she has been duly

Permit To Be Displayed On Premises CITY/TOWN, MAINE Permit Number Fcc Paid \$..... **Hermit** To establish, operate or maintain an automobile graveyard or junkyard. Subject to existing rules, regulations and any amendments that may be made thereto, under the provisions of Title 30-A, Sections 3751 to 3760, and such additional standards as may be set forth in applicable local ordinances. This permit is hereby granted upon condition that the automobile graveyard or junkyard does not violate any of the above Sections of Title 30-A, or any applicable local ordinance. Business Name Street or Highway Number P. O. Address City/Town _____ This permit expires December 31, 19 unless sooner revoked by the Municipal Officials. Municipal Officers:

Certified	Truc	Copy

City/Town Clerk,

I Copy to Applicant

¹ Copy to Municipality

I Copy to Department of Transportation

¹ Copy to State Police

Restrictions And/Or Conditions:	
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	#
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Recommendations of Department & T	•
Recommendations of Department of Transportation:	·
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Recommendations of State And/Or Local Police:	

·	
Violations:	
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TOWN OF BELGRADE

SUPPLEMENTAL JUNKYARD AND AUTO GRAVEYARD ORDINANCE.

The intent of this Ordinance gives authority to Town Selectpersons to regulate dumps, junkheaps and auto graveyards. It extends the restrictions which already exist on state and town roads to town ways, public easements, and private roads. It adds certain items of machinery to the existing definition of a junkyard. Finally it amends the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to give legal effect to these restrictions in areas covered under Shoreland Zoning.

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