

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER 517, IDLING OF VEHICLES AND BOATS

Chapter 517

IDLING OF VEHICLES AND BOATS

§ 517-1. Definitions.

§ 517-2. Restrictions on idling; exceptions.

§ 517-3. Offences.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto 1998-10-2 by By-law No. 673-1998. Amendments noted where applicable.]

General References

Traffic and parking - See Ch. 950.
Highway Traffic Act, 1990 - See R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8.

§ 517-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BOAT - A ship or any other description of vessel not propelled by oars and includes a boat used exclusively for towing purposes, a water taxi and a boat used on water for living purposes.

IDLE - The operation of the engine of a boat or vehicle while the vehicle or boat is not in motion and not being used to operate auxiliary equipment that is essential to the basic function of the vehicle or boat, and "idling" has a corresponding meaning.¹

MOBILE WORKSHOP:

- A. A vehicle containing equipment that must be operated inside or in association with the vehicle; or
- B. A vehicle serving as a facility for taking measurements or making observations operated by or on behalf of a municipality, public utility or police, fire or ambulance service.

OFFICIAL - A police officer, police cadet, municipal law enforcement officer or any person authorized to enforce this chapter.²

TRANSIT VEHICLE - Public transit vehicles, tour buses and motor coaches.

¹ Editor's Note: The former definition of "layover," which immediately followed this definition, was repealed July 8, 2010 by By-law No. 775-2010. This by-law comes into force 30 days after the date of approval by the Regional Senior Justice of the set fines required for the offences created by this by-law. Set fine approval was received August 31, 2010.

² Editor's Note: The former definition of "stopover," which immediately followed this definition, was repealed July 8, 2010 by By-law No. 775-2010. This by-law comes into force 30 days after the date of approval by the Regional Senior Justice of the set fines required for the offences created by this by-law. Set fine approval was received August 31, 2010.

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VEHICLE - A motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor or road-building machine as defined in the *Highway Traffic Act* and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of non-muscular power, but does not include cars of electric or diesel electric railways running only upon rails.

§ 517-2. Restrictions on idling; exceptions.

[Amended 1999-5-12 by By-law No. 238-1999; 2010-07-08 by By-law No. 775-2010³]

- A. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle or boat to idle for more than one minute in a sixty-minute period.
- B. Subsection A does not apply to:
- (1) Police, fire or ambulance vehicles or police or fire boats engaged in operational activities or training activities, but not where idling is substantially for the convenience of one or more of the operator of or a passenger in the vehicle or boat;
 - (2) Vehicles or boats assisting in an emergency activity;
 - (3) Ferry boats operated by the City of Toronto or the Toronto Harbour Commissioners providing service to the Toronto Islands, including the Toronto Island Airport;
 - (4) Boats, unless the boat is at anchor or tied to a dock;
 - (5) Mobile workshops while they are in the course of being used for their basic function;
 - (6) Vehicles or boats where idling is required to repair the vehicle or boat or to prepare a vehicle or boat for service;
 - (7) Armoured vehicles where a person remains inside the vehicle while guarding the contents of the vehicle or while the vehicle is being loaded or unloaded;
 - (8) Vehicles or boats required to remain motionless because of an emergency, traffic, weather conditions or mechanical difficulties over which the operator of the vehicle or boat has no control;
 - (9) Vehicles or boats engaged in a parade, a race or any other event authorized by Council;

³ Editor's Note: This by-law comes into force 30 days after the date of approval by the Regional Senior Justice of the set fines required for the offences created by this by-law. Set fine approval was received August 31, 2010.

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- (10) Transit vehicles while passengers are embarking or disembarking;
- (11) A vehicle or a boat transporting a person where a medical doctor certifies in writing that for medical reasons the person in the vehicle or the boat requires that temperature or humidity be maintained with a certain range.

§ 517-3. Offences.

[Amended 1999-11-25 by By-law No. 746-1999]

Every person who contravenes any provision of this chapter is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*.⁴

⁴ Editor's Note: Under section 61 of the *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, a person convicted of an offence is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.