

## The Vermont Statutes Online

### Title 23 : Motor Vehicles

#### Chapter 021 : Title To Motor Vehicles

##### Subchapter 007 : Abandoned Motor Vehicles

(Cite as: 23 V.S.A. § 2151)

#### § 2151. Definitions

As used in this subchapter:

(1)(A) "Abandoned motor vehicle" means:

(i) a motor vehicle that has remained on public or private property or on or along a highway for more than 48 hours without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property and has a valid registration plate or public vehicle identification number that has not been removed, destroyed, or altered; or

(ii) a motor vehicle that has remained on public or private property or on or along a highway without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property for any period of time if the vehicle does not have a valid registration plate or the public vehicle identification number has been removed, destroyed, or altered.

(B) "Abandoned motor vehicle" does not include a vehicle or other equipment used or to be used in construction or in the operation or maintenance of highways or public utility facilities, which is left in a manner that does not interfere with the normal movement of traffic.

(2) "Landowner" means a person who owns or leases or otherwise has authority to control use of real property.

(3) "Public vehicle identification number" means the public vehicle identification number that is usually visible through the windshield and attached to the driver's side of the dashboard, instrument panel, or windshield pillar post or on the doorjamb on the driver's side of the vehicle. (Added 2003, No. 101 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2015, No. 158 (Adj. Sess.), § 77.)

Insert  
, trailer, , ATV, UTV, Snow mobile,  
, motor Boat

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(Cite as: 23 V.S.A. § 2153)

#### § 2153. Abandoned motor vehicle certification

(a) A landowner on whose property an abandoned motor vehicle is located shall apply to the Department for an abandoned motor vehicle certification on forms supplied by the Department within 30 days of the date the vehicle was discovered on or brought to the property unless the vehicle has been removed from the property. An abandoned motor vehicle certification form shall indicate the date that the abandoned motor vehicle was discovered or brought to the property; the make, color, model, and location of the vehicle; the name, address, and telephone number of the landowner; and a certification of the public vehicle identification number, if any, to be recorded by a law enforcement officer. This subsection shall not be construed as creating a private right of action against the landowner.

Change  
to 90 days

(b) Upon receipt of an abandoned motor vehicle certification form, the Commissioner shall attempt to identify and notify the owner of the vehicle as required by section 2154 of this title. If no owner can be determined by the Commissioner within the time period allowed by section 2154 of this title, the Commissioner shall issue a certificate of abandoned motor vehicle with appropriate title or salvage title, or both, and the vehicle may be disposed of in the manner set forth in section 2156 of this title. (Added 2003, No. 101 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2015, No. 158 (Adj. Sess.), § 77.)

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(Cite as: 23 V.S.A. § 2158)

#### § 2158. Fees for towing; public property; funding

Change to \$125,00

(a) A towing service may charge a fee of up to \$40.00 for towing an abandoned motor vehicle from public property under the provisions of sections 2151-2157 of this title. This fee shall be paid to the towing service upon the issuance by the Department of Motor Vehicles of a certificate of abandoned motor vehicles under section 2156 of this title. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall notify the Commissioner of Finance and Management who shall issue payment to the towing service for vehicles removed from public property. Payments under this section shall terminate upon the payment of a total of \$16,000.00 for towing abandoned motor vehicles from public property in any fiscal year. ~~A towing company shall not be eligible for more than 50 percent of this annual allocation.~~

(b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is authorized to expend up to \$16,000.00 of the Department's annual appropriation for the purpose of this section. (Added 2005, No. 175 (Adj. Sess.), § 53.)

Change to \$150,000

This fund has not been paid in many years, at least 10-15+. This amount even at the 15 year ago price only funds 400 vehicles. State of VT currently processes approx 1200



DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES  
Agency of Transportation

120 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05603-0001  
802.828.2000  
dmv.vermont.gov

**REQUEST FOR ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ request that the following vehicle:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant/Company

Year

Make

Model

Color

VIN

Was the vehicle identification number removed, destroyed or altered?  YES  NO

miles

kilo.

be certified as an abandoned vehicle and ownership transferred to me.

Odometer reading (check one)

Physical Location of Abandoned Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered: No  Yes  State: \_\_\_\_\_ Plate #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection Sticker: Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ You must include a letter providing the following information:

1. When and how you came into possession of the vehicle.
2. Name and address of owner.
3. Have you attempted to contact the owner?  YES  NO  
If YES, how and when? \_\_\_\_\_

**Effective July 1, 2004** A towing service may be eligible for a \$40.00 reimbursement for abandoned vehicles towed from **PUBLIC PROPERTY**. A specific amount has been allocated for this fund and reimbursement will cease when funds from this account have been exhausted.

§ Abandoned Motor Vehicle as defined: - VSA 2151

(a)(f) For the purposes of this subchapter, an abandoned motor vehicle means:

- A. A motor vehicle that has remained on public or private property or on or along a highway without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property for more than 48 hours, and has a valid registration or public vehicle identification number which has not been removed, destroyed or altered: or
- B. A motor vehicle that has remained on public or private property or along a highway without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property for any period of time if the vehicle does not have a valid registration plate or the public identification number has been removed, destroyed, or altered.

Was the vehicle towed from Private Property?  YES  NO If YES, Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Was the Vehicle towed from Public Property  YES  NO

If towed from public property, did it meet the definition of abandoned vehicle as described above prior to being towed?

YES  NO

Towing Info: Date Towed: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested By: Police Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Police Report # \_\_\_\_\_

*Has not  
Been  
issued*

I hereby request \$40.00 reimbursement for towing an abandoned motor vehicle from public property.  Yes ←

I certify the above information is true to the best of my knowledge under penalty of 23 V.S.A. §202, § 2083 and §2082.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant/Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (Street, No., or Box #)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Driver's License Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal ID #

CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE

## Title 20 : Internal Security And Public Safety

### Chapter 001 : Emergency Management

#### • § 39. Fees to the hazardous substances fund

(e) The state or any political subdivision, including any municipality, fire district, emergency medical service, or incorporated village, is authorized to recover any and all reasonable direct expenses incurred as a result of the response to and recovery of a hazardous chemical or substance incident from the person or persons responsible for the incident. All funds collected by the state under this subsection shall be deposited into the hazardous chemical and substance emergency response fund created pursuant to subsection 38(b) of this chapter. The attorney general shall act on behalf of the state to recover these expenses. The state or political subdivision shall be awarded costs and reasonable attorney fees that are incurred as a result of exercising the provisions of this subsection. (Added 1989, No. 252 (Adj. Sess.), § 27; amended 1989, No. 256 (Adj. Sess.), § 10(a), eff. Jan. 1, 1990; 1993, No. 194 (Adj. Sess.), §§ 7, 8, eff. June 14, 1994; 1999, No. 49, § 158; 2003, No. 42, § 2, eff. May 27, 2003; 2003, No. 163 (Adj. Sess.), § 27; 2005, No. 72, § 14; 2005, No. 209 (Adj. Sess.), § 27; 2007, No. 153 (Adj. Sess.), § 1.)

→ Hazardous Spill Response Clean up Company, Towing and Recovery company.