

CHAPTER 6 GENERAL PROVISIONS**Sections**

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600 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 600.1 This chapter contains rules prescribing standards for safety equipment, materials, and the condition of motor vehicles driven in the District of Columbia; requirements for annual inspection of all motor vehicles registered in the District; and the procedure under which approved, rejected, and condemned vehicles shall be processed.
- 600.2 No person shall drive, move, or permit the operation or use of any vehicle which is mechanically unsafe, improperly equipped, or otherwise unfit to be operated.
- 600.3 Any police officer or other authorized agent of the District may inspect and test the lights, brakes, steering assembly, tires, equipment horn, emission control equipment, exhaust emissions, or other device required by this title at any time a vehicle is on the public streets or public space.
- 600.4 Any police officer or other authorized agent of the District may order the removal of an unsafe or improperly equipped vehicle from any public street or space to one of the official District Inspection Stations for reinspection notwithstanding the fact that the vehicle displays an approved inspection sticker.
- 600.5 When notified by the Director, a registrant shall present his or her vehicle for mechanical inspection at a time and place designated by the Director.
- 600.6 The Director is authorized, in his or her discretion, to provide for inspection by District personnel at a location other than a District inspection station, of the vehicles in any fleet of five hundred (500) or more motor vehicles registered in the District in the name of one (1) owner, if the owner does the following:
- (a) Constructs, or otherwise provides for, facilities and equipment for the inspection of the vehicles substantially equivalent, as determined by the Director, to the motor vehicle inspection facilities and equipment operated by the District; and
 - (b) Conforms to a schedule for the inspection of the vehicles agreed upon, orally or in writing, between the owner and the Director.

602 INSPECTION STICKERS

- 602.1 The Director is authorized to issue inspection stickers and provide for the attachment of inspection stickers to motor vehicles.
- 602.2 Inspection stickers may indicate approval, rejection, or condemnation of any vehicle, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- 602.3 Vehicles bearing special bus identification, current dealer tags, transport tags, special use paper tags, or historic motor vehicle tags shall be exempt from the inspection sticker requirements of this section.
- 602.4 It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, park, or permit to be operated or parked on public space any vehicle bearing current District of Columbia tags, except a vehicle exempt under the provisions of § 602.3, unless there is displayed on the right side of the vehicle's windshield one of the following:
- (a) A current District of Columbia inspection sticker;
 - (b) A temporary sticker issued by the Director; and
 - (c) A temporary registration certificate issued by a registered District of Columbia dealer or repair shop when transferring ownership for registration purposes.
- 602.5 Whenever a person located in the District of Columbia acquires a motor vehicle which displays on the windshield a valid approved safety inspection sticker issued by any State that has a compulsory motor vehicle inspection law, that vehicle may be operated without the requirement of any other inspection sticker for a period of fifteen (15) days from the date of acquisition of the vehicle or until issuance by the Director of a sticker containing the words TEMPORARY STICKER - NEWLY REGISTERED VEHICLE, whichever is the shorter period.
- 602.6 After the fifteenth (15th) day, the vehicle shall be presented for official inspection as required and shall display only the inspection sticker issued by the Director.
- 602.7 A vehicle owned by a non-resident and currently registered in another jurisdiction shall display the proper inspection sticker issued for the vehicle in accordance with the requirements of the issuing jurisdiction.

603 VEHICLE INSPECTION: APPROVED VEHICLES

- 603.1 If, upon mechanical inspection of any vehicle, the Director determines that it conforms to the equipment standards contained in the current District Inspection Manual, the Director shall issue to the registrant or person desiring registration an approved inspection sticker for a motor vehicle or trailer.
- 603.2 The inspection sticker will permit the operation and use of the motor vehicle or trailer until the registrant or person desiring registration is notified by the Director to present the motor vehicle or trailer for another inspection; Provided, that the registrant or other person has complied with the provisions of this title and all other applicable provisions of law.

- 603.3 If a registrant or a person who desires registration to whom an approved inspection sticker was issued, loses or disposes of his or her legal title to the vehicle, the person who acquires it, or that person's agent, may operate the vehicle bearing the sticker until such time as that person is required by the Director to present the vehicle for inspection; Provided, that the person has complied with the provisions of this title and all other applicable provisions of law.

604 VEHICLE INSPECTION: REJECTED VEHICLES

- 604.1 If, upon mechanical inspection of any motor vehicle, the Director determines it does not conform to the equipment and exhaust emission standards in the current District Inspection Manual, the Director shall issue to the registrant or person desiring registration a rejection sticker.
- 604.2 If, upon mechanical inspection of any trailer, the Director determines it does not conform to the equipment standards in the current District Inspection Manual, the Director shall issue to the registrant or person desiring registration a rejection sticker.
- 604.3 If a rejection sticker is issued, the operation and use of the vehicle will be permitted for twenty (20) days from the date of issuance; Provided, that the registrant or the person desiring registration to whom the rejection sticker was issued continues to hold legal title to the vehicle; and Provided further, that the registrant or other person has complied with this title and all other applicable provisions of law.
- 604.4 A registrant, or any person desiring registration, to whom a rejection sticker was issued shall not park or permit the parking of the vehicle on any public space after the expiration date of the rejection sticker.
- 604.5 In the event a registrant or a person who desires registration, and to whom a rejection sticker was issued, loses or disposes of legal title to the vehicle, the person, or his or her agent who acquires it, may operate the vehicle during the remainder of the twenty (20) day period provided in § 604.3.
- 604.6 If it is determined pursuant to this section that the owner or registrant of a public vehicle for hire shall be issued a rejection sticker, the Director shall issue either a red rejection sticker or a yellow rejection sticker.
- 604.7 A red rejection sticker shall be issued to the owner or registrant of a public vehicle for hire when the Director has determined that the vehicle does not conform to those standards of the Manual and in chapter 7 of this Title that, in the discretion of the Director, affects the safe operation of the public vehicle for hire or health of the vehicle's passengers, including but not limited to, steering, brakes, exhaust, smoke, extensive body damage, glazing, or emissions.
- 604.8 A yellow rejection sticker shall be issued to the registrant or owner of a public vehicle when the Director has determined that the vehicle did not comply with any requirement set forth in the Manual and Chapter 7 of this title.
- (a) Identification color;

- (b) Trade signs and insignia;
- (c) Rate signs and zone maps;
- (d) Upholstery;
- (e) Sanitation;
- (f) Cruising light; and

604.9 A person issued a red inspection sticker for a public vehicle for hire shall not be permitted to operate that vehicle as a public vehicle for hire until the vehicle is determined to be in compliance with the standard set forth in the Manual and in chapter 7 of this title.

604.10 A person issued a yellow inspection sticker for a public vehicle for hire shall be permitted to continue to operate that vehicle as a public vehicle for hire for a period not to exceed twenty (20) days or for a longer period as determined by the Director in his or her discretion.

604.11 If a motor vehicle fails the emissions testing portion of the mechanical inspection, it shall be issued a rejection sticker pursuant to § 604.1. The vehicle shall not qualify for issuance of an approval sticker at that time under § 603.1, even if it meets all safety-related portions of the inspection. An approval sticker shall only be issued upon the vehicle's passing an emissions test.
