



City of Bellingham Parking Services Residential Parking Zone (RPZ) Permit Parking Terms

Contact us: Email parking@cob.org or call (360) 778-7780

Mail: 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham WA 98225

In Person: We are located in the Finance Department of City Hall.

The City recognizes that certain residential neighborhoods are impacted by a heavy concentration of vehicles not owned or operated by residents that cause undue congestion and unduly restrict residents' access to their homes. Therefore, the City has established residential permit parking zones (RPZ) where parking by non-residents is prohibited during restricted timeframes. It shall be a parking infraction to park in designated RPZ's during the posted restricted timeframe unless the vehicle has a valid RPZ or visitor's parking permit. For detailed information, see Bellingham Municipal Code 11.38.

- 1. Eligibility:** RPZ permits may be issued only to persons who reside in legal dwelling units within the RPZ and own or control a non-commercial motor vehicle not exceeding 10,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight. Visitor's permits may be issued only to persons who reside in a legal dwelling unit within the RPZ. No more than two RPZ permits and two visitor permits may be issued to each legal dwelling unit that is a single family home or duplex. Residents of buildings containing more than two legal dwelling units shall be limited to one RPZ permit and one visitor permit per unit.
- 2. Proof of Residency:** You may prove residency within the zone by submitting:
 - A valid drivers' license or vehicle registration showing your home address in a legal dwelling unit within the RPZ, or
 - A current (within the last 30 days) deed, lease, rental agreement, utility bill or other business document.
- 3. Proof of Ownership/Control of Motor Vehicle:** Proof of ownership/control of a vehicle may be established by submitting your valid vehicle registration or, if the vehicle is registered out of the area or is not owned by you, the vehicle registration together with a lease agreement and other documentation that establishes you have legal use/control of the vehicle.
- 4. RPZ Permit:** If approved, owner/residents' contact and vehicle information will be entered into our parking database. The City of Bellingham uses Nupark; a parking system that scans license plates to confirm permits. In addition, to comply with BMC 11.38, RPZ vehicle decals will be issued as a visual of who is eligible to park within the RPZ.
- 5. RPZ Permit Privileges:** RPZ permits are valid only for the vehicle for which issued. The permit exempts your vehicle from permit parking restrictions within the designated RPZ. The vehicle must be parked on or within a one-block radius of the block for which it was issued.
- 6. RPZ Permit Limitations:** A RPZ permit does not guarantee you a parking spot in front of your home or allow you to park in other restricted parking areas within the zone, such as near fire hydrants, on planting strips or sidewalks, in bus zones, or anywhere else where parking is prohibited. An RPZ permit does not allow you to leave your vehicle in one spot in the right-of-way in excess of the City's 72-hour limit.

(Continued on other side)

- 7. Vehicle Changes:** Once established with a RPZ permit, if you permanently change a vehicle, you may obtain a replacement permit by uploading a photo or scan of the vehicle registration for the new vehicle to be permitted to the online customer portal at <https://cob.nupark.com/portal> , or by bringing or mailing a copy of the registration to Parking Services at the address above. You will receive emailed notification when the permit is approved and issued.
- 8. Visitor Permits:** Visitor permits are valid for **temporary parking only**, for guest use while visiting the resident, service provider use, or the resident's use of a borrowed or rented vehicle. Permits must be hung from the rear-view mirror of the vehicle to be valid. Parking is authorized only within one block of the residence being visited and does not exempt visitors from other posted parking restrictions. Your guest should return the permit before leaving. If the permit is lost, a replacement can be requested by submitting a letter with your name, address, and reason for replacement. Only two replacement visitor permits will be issued each year. Additional visitor permits will not be issued until the next renewal period. If expecting more than two guests, you may obtain additional temporary passes by contacting our office.
- 9. Expiration:** All RPZ permits expire on October 1 of each year. We will initiate renewal in August. Permits can be renewed through the City of Bellingham website at www.cob.org/rpz, or at the Parking Services Office in the Finance Office of City Hall at 210 Lottie Street.
- 10. Violations:** Violations include providing false or misleading statements to acquire a permit. A violation of the residential parking requirements is a civil infraction and shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.