

MISSION

The Mission of the Elsmere Bureau of Police regarding Abandoned, Stored and Towed Vehicles is to achieve the following:

1. To enhance the town of Elsmere's physical image by towing abandoned, dismantled, and inoperable vehicles on town streets.
2. Encourage residents to comply with the applicable State of Delaware and Town Code sections through education and enforcement.
3. Provide information on how to get towed vehicles released.
4. Reduce the crowding of Town streets with abandoned and inoperable vehicles.
5. Deter major repairs on Town streets. Major repairs such as replacing an engine or transmission is not permitted.

What is an Abandoned Vehicle?

Any vehicle which is:

Inoperable, dismantled, wrecked, displaying expired registration plates (at least 30 days), Missing major components (engine, transmission, tires, lights, any body panels)

Inoperable for which it is designed

Vehicles situated on private property or upon any State or Public Highway for a period of 24 hours without being removed.

Any vehicle on a public roadway which has not been moved for a period of 10 business days after notice has been posted.

NOTE: The Town Code Enforcement or Police Officer shall post a notice on an abandoned vehicle, which states the vehicle be removed by a stated day an time (not less than 24 hours after posting notice).(Town Code Section 211-2)

However, any Police Officer or Code enforcement Officer can Tow a vehicle deemed hazardous after making an attempt to contact the registered owner of the vehicle. (Town Code Section 211-6)



Authority to Tow and Impound (Town Code 215-7)

Whenever any vehicle of any kind or character shall be found on any street, highway, alley or roadway within the Town, wrecked, abandoned or parked in violation of any law of the State or the provisions of any Ordinance of the Town or any Resolution of the Council of the Town of Elsmere..... Such vehicle shall be removed by authority of the Elsmere Public Safety Department.....

What Should you do if you suspect a car to be abandoned or hazardous?

Contact the Elsmere Bureau of Police at (302) 998-1173 during normal business hours (Monday thru Friday, 8am—4pm)

Contact the Code Enforcement Office at (302) 998-2215 during normal business hours (Monday thru Friday, 8am—4pm)
Or, call the non-emergency number at (302) 573-2800

Vehicle Release Tips

Here are some tips to make the vehicle release process easier for those whose vehicle was towed by the Elsmere Police Department or Town of Elsmere code Department.

- Vehicles are released by the Elsmere Police Department **ONLY!** You can get a release during normal business hours (Monday thru Friday, 8am—4pm).
- Please arrive with the following documents: a current valid driver's license, registration or title if available, proof of valid insurance and case number if applicable.
- Only the registered owner, his/her agent or legal owner can get a vehicle release. If you are not one of these people, go to the DMV and transfer the vehicle registration to your name. If acting on behalf of the registered owner, you need a notarized letter or power of attorney from the registered owner.
- If your vehicle was towed for expired registration you must first go to the DMV and pay your fees before coming to the Police Department.
- No vehicle will be released without the proper paperwork.

Cost for Vehicle Release:

Towing for the Town of Elsmere is contracted through:

First State Towing
424 Old Airport Rd
New Caste, DE 19720
(302) 994-9244

- \$150.00 (minimum) for the initial tow of the vehicle.
- \$45.00 (minimum) per day storage fee
- Additional fees could be added for difficult tows or storage fees.

The Town of Elsmere is not responsible for setting or collecting of any fees for towed vehicles. Any questions regarding fees or payment should be directed to First State Towing.

Administrative Offices - Monday thru Friday 8am till 4pm
Closed Holidays

If you leave a message on a Friday after 4pm it will not be answered till Monday morning.
Call 911 on Weekends and Holidays

ELSMERE BUREAU OF POLICE

11 Poplar Avenue

Phone: 302-998-1173

Fax: 302-998-9922

E-mail: christopher.workman@cj.state.de.us

Elsmere Bureau of Police



Towed, Stored or Abandoned Vehicles

Protecting and Serving
the Town of Elsmere Since 1919

Phone: (302) 998-1173