

SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Northwest Regional Council
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Disabled Person Parking Permits

A parking privilege is granted by the Department of Licensing when an applicant meets the criteria listed below. The license plates, placards and identification card are issued as an identifier to law enforcement, parking enforcement, private business, or anyone who needs to know that a person has the right to park a vehicle in a disabled person parking area.

Eligibility:

People qualify for disabled parking placard if at least one of the following apply:

- Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest.
- Have limited walking ability because of arthritic, neurological or orthopedic conditions.
- Have such severe disability that they cannot walk without help from another person or the use of a brace, cane, prosthetic device, wheel chair, or similar device.
- Use portable oxygen.
- Are legally blind with limited mobility.
- Are severely restricted by lung disease.
- Have cardiac disease resulting in:
 - marked limitation of physical activity. (They are comfortable at rest, but less than ordinary physical activity causes fatigue, palpitation, shortness of breath or transient, spasmodic chest pain associated with coronary heart disease) **or**
 - an inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort; symptoms and discomfort may be present at rest and increase with physical activity.
- Have acute sensitivity to automobile emissions that limits or impacts or impairs their ability to walk and is comparable in severity to the above conditions.

Permit applications must be completed by a licensed physician. Permanent privileges are renewed every five years without physician re-certification. Temporary privileges are good for six months and require a new application and physician's certificate.

Regulations Changed:

Effective June 11, 1998, regulations have been tightened to eliminate fraudulent use of the Disabled Person Parking Permit. The new law requires possession of an official photo ID for new and renewed permanent permits. It also increases fines for falsifying information in order to procure a permit, for unauthorized use of the parking permit, and for use of a disabled parking space without a permit.

Where to Find Applications:

Applications are available at the Skagit County Auditor's office on the second floor of the courthouse annex. Completed application may be mailed to the Skagit County Auditor, Licensing Division, PO Box 1306, Mount Vernon WA 98273.