Code of Virginia
Title 46.2. Motor Vehicles
Subtitle III. Operation
Chapter 12. Abandoned, Immobilized, Unattended and Trespassing Vehicles; Parking
Article 1. Abandoned Vehicles

§ 46.2-1200. Definitions

As used in this article:

"Abandoned motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer that:

1. Weighs at least 75 pounds; and

2. (i) Is left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours in violation of a state law or local ordinance;

(ii) has remained for more than 48 hours on private property without the consent of the property's owner, regardless of whether it was brought onto the private property with the consent of the owner or person in control of the private property; or

(iii) is left unattended on the shoulder of a primary highway.

"Scrap metal processor" means any person who is engaged in the business of processing motor vehicles into scrap for remelting purposes who, from a fixed location, utilizes machinery and equipment for processing and manufacturing ferrous and nonferrous metallic scrap into prepared grades, and whose principal product is metallic scrap.

"Vehicle removal certificate" means a transferable document issued by the Department for any abandoned motor vehicle that authorizes the removal and destruction of the vehicle.

1968, c. 421, § 46.1-555.1; 1978, c. 348; 1989, c. 727; 1997, c. 431;2009, c. 664;2011, cc. 487, 824; 2020, c. 977.

The chapters of the acts of assembly referenced in the historical citation at the end of this section(s) may not constitute a comprehensive list of such chapters and may exclude chapters whose provisions have expired.