INTRODUCTION:
Not being able to find a parking space in your neighborhood can be a frustrating experience. Like many major cities, the City of Ann Arbor has initiated a program that serves as a solution to many of the parking problems in residential neighborhoods. The Residential Parking Program (RPP). Residents with a valid RPP permit related to their specific RPP district will be exempt from the posted time limits.

The Residential Parking Permit (RPP) program allows vehicles owned by residents to park in an RPP neighborhood beyond the posted time limit without being ticketed.

This brochure answers some basic questions concerning the program and the criteria for requesting a neighborhood be designated as an RPP district.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:
If your neighborhood is participating in an RPP you will need to acquire and display a residential parking permit decal for every vehicle that will park beyond the posted time limit on neighborhood streets during the specified enforcement period.

If your neighborhood is considering an RPP, the following is required:

Each request must be made by a neighborhood association registered with the City of Ann Arbor’s Planning and Development Services Unit.

Each association is responsible for contacting residents, circulating a petition, and obtaining signatures for 60% or more of the households within the proposed RPP area. “Household” is defined as the street address.

The petition must specify the requested maximum time limit beyond which it will be illegal to park a vehicle without first obtaining and displaying a valid RPP permit for that specific district (i.e., two hours).

The petition must encompass a minimal area of four blocks, 16 block faces, or equivalent area or distance, all zoned for residential use. This requirement may be amended by staff due to extenuating circumstances unique to a specific area.

City staff will evaluate the petition request, ensure that the petition requirements are met, and make a recommendation to City Council as required.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:
Pay careful attention to the parking signs because parking enforcement is a necessary part of an effective RPP.

Vehicles may not park within four (4) feet of each side of a public or private driveway; within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant; within an intersection; within 20 feet of a crosswalk, or if none, then within 15 feet of the intersection of property lines at an intersection of streets; or within 30 feet upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign, or traffic control signal located at the side of a street. Any vehicle that is parked for a period of time so that it appears to be abandoned may be tagged and required to be removed within 48 hours. These rules apply even if the vehicle displays a valid RPP permit.

RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
What is a Residential Parking Program (RPP)?
Historically, RPPs were designated primarily for residential areas where there is a scarcity of convenient off-street parking for residents, where the majority of legal on-street parking spaces are utilized by commuters and non-residents, and where residents are experiencing traffic, noise, and safety problems.

The RPP seeks to alleviate a common set of problems found in cities with residential neighborhoods close to non-residential developments such as offices, stores, hospitals, restaurants, schools, and major transit routes.

The permit application is available through the City of Ann Arbor’s Customer Service Unit, P. O. Box 8647, Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647.

If an RPP is established in a neighborhood contiguous with the University of Michigan Central Campus, a maximum of five (5) permits will be issued per household regardless of the actual number of residents or vehicles registered at the household. Fraternities, sororities, and “group housing” are only eligible to apply through their management company or designee, allowing the City to process nine requests for that household.

How much does the permit cost? The $50 annual fee per resident vehicle was established by Council Resolution on May 19, 2008. Replacement permits can be purchased for $15 by removing & returning the old permit (or pieces that include the permit number).

When does the permit expire? Permits expire each calendar year on August 14th.

I have two cars. Can I get two permits? Permits are issued one per licensed driver, per household. If you have multiple vehicles and the same number of licensed drivers in the residence, each licensed driver may qualify upon proof of residency. Each Participating Household may purchase one transferable placard to be used on a vehicle of its choice (trucks over 5500 lbs do not qualify). Placard purchase rules vary, please see criteria. Note that RPP areas contiguous with UofM’s central campus are limited to five permits per household except as allowed by criteria.

Can I give my permit to someone else? No. The permit must be affixed to the vehicle noted on the application form. Permits are non-transferable. Only
If I sell my car can I get another permit? Yes. You must remove and return the old permit (or pieces that include the permit number) in order to receive a replacement for $15. You must provide required proofs of residency.

Where should I place my decal? Place your permit in the front windshield on the driver’s side of the vehicle (lower left).

Can my permit be revoked? Yes. If you falsify any information on the RPP application form or submit false documents in order to obtain a permit, or if you allow someone to use or display your parking permit, the permit will be revoked. The exception is the placard which is intended to be transferable.

How can service companies park in the neighborhood to work on my house? If a resident has a valid residential parking permit and needs to utilize a service provider who needs to park beyond the posted time limit, the resident may contact the Community Standards office at 794-6942 to request a temporary waiver for that one day. You may also fax them at 994-2612 or email them at CommunityStandards@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us. There is no physical permit issued for this temporary waiver.

If I have off-street parking, do I need a permit? No one is required to purchase a permit. Participation in the program is voluntary. However, if you choose not to participate you must obey the posted time limits in the area if you wish to park on the street and not receive a parking citation.

I drive a motorcycle. Can I get a permit? Yes. Proof of residency must be the motorcycle registration showing it is registered in your name, plus a second proof of residency (see “How Can I Apply For a Permit?”). The decal must be affixed on the front right wheel bar of the motorcycle.

Can I get a permit for my truck? Yes. If you operate a small pick-up truck or van (5,500 pounds or less) you are eligible for a permit if the vehicle is registered to you and you have the required proof of residency. Trucks weighing more than 5,500 pounds are subject to the restrictions covered in Chapter 126, Section 10:63 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Ann Arbor.

How can I be sure that the City will enforce the RPP regulations? When the RPP program is implemented an enforcement officer will be assigned to patrol your area on a regular basis. Officers will ticket individual vehicles that violate posted restrictions. The Dispatch Office can be reached at 994-2911.

I maintain two homes and my car is registered at the other address. Can I get a permit? Yes, as long as you provide a copy of the vehicle registration showing the vehicle is registered to you and one other proof of residence in the RPP District.

I am a resident with a valid handicap permit. Do I need an RPP permit to park in my neighborhood? Yes, however, the Council-approved criteria state that residents with handicapper permits shall have their fee waived. Proof of residency must still be provided (see “How can I apply for a permit?”), along with a copy of your valid handicap permit.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?
Call the Customer Service Unit at 734-794-6320