



150 Concord Street
Framingham, MA 01702
Ph: 508-532-5437
www.framinghamma.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11/27/2019

For further information, contact:

Kelly McFalls, Public Information Officer & Webmaster
Kmcfalls@framinghamma.gov
Tel: (508) 532-5437

Handicapped Accessible Parking Enforcement During the Holiday Season

Framingham, MA - The Framingham Disability Commission has provided funding through the HP Fine Account to the Framingham Police Department to increase their enforcement of vehicles parked illegally in Handicapped Accessible Parking spaces during the upcoming 2019 Holiday shopping season.

The increased enforcement program runs from November 23, 2019, to December 31, 2019. The enforcement program will also run at various times in 2020.

The purpose of this increased enforcement is to make the public aware that it is illegal to park in Handicapped Accessible Parking spaces or access aisles (striped area), without the proper plate or placard, and educate the public about proper use of Handicapped Placards and Plates. The access aisle, which is the 8-foot or 5-foot striped area that runs parallel to the Handicapped-designated space, is considered to be part of the space and no vehicle, including those with a valid plate or placard, is allowed to park in that striped access aisle.

The fine is \$300 for parking illegally in a Handicapped Accessible Parking space or the striped access aisle.

For more information and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit the MA Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) Division of Medical Affairs at <http://www.massrmv.com/MedicalAffairs.aspx>.

Also please review MassDOT's "DO NOT and DO" list of proper use of an HP Placard:

- Do Not drive while your disabled placard is hung from your rearview mirror.
- Do Not let anyone use your disabled placard parking privileges. Abuse of your disabled placard is punishable by:
 - First offense: \$300 fine from the City; \$500 fine from the State, potential loss of your disabled parking privileges; and a 30-day suspension of your operator's license.
 - Second offense: \$300 fine from the City; \$1,000 fine from the State, potential loss of your disabled parking privileges, and a 90-day suspension of your operator's license.
 - Third offense: \$300 fine from the City; \$1,000 fine from the State, potential loss of your disabled parking privileges, and up to a year-long suspension of your operator's license.
- Do Not park illegally. You must obey all parking rules and regulations or be subject to the fines imposed.
- Do Not park in cross-hatch areas (Zebra Stripes), which are reserved for van ramp/lift access. Parking on a crosshatch is subject to a \$300 fine.
- Do Not use the disabled placard/plate or disabled veteran plate parking privileges if you are not entering or exiting the vehicle.
- Do Not use your disabled placard in a vehicle weighing 10,000 lbs. or more.



150 Concord Street
Framingham, MA 01702
Ph: 508-532-5437
www.framinghamma.gov

- Do Not display your disabled placard when the vehicle is in motion. This is potentially a \$50 fine.
- Do Not leave your disabled placard in an unlocked vehicle.
- Do Not use your disabled placard after its expiration date. You may be fined.

- Do display your placard while parking in a handicapped-accessible location. It should be hung from your rearview mirror facing toward the front of the vehicle. You may use the privacy sleeve to cover personal information. The privacy sleeve **MUST** be removed if so requested by law enforcement.
- Do park in a handicapped-accessible location when you need to exit the vehicle.
- Do use your disabled parking privileges in any designated handicapped-accessible location.
- Do realize that (when used and displayed properly), your disabled parking privilege exempts you from parking meter fees in Massachusetts.
- Do obey all parking rules and regulations.

The goal of this program is to ensure that people do not park illegally during this holiday season or anytime and ultimately end the abuse of people parking illegally in handicapped-accessible spaces.

For further information or questions please contact the Disability Commission at our contact information below:

Website: <https://www.framinghamma.gov/2543/Disability-Commission>

Email: FraminghamDC@Gmail.com

voice mail: (508) 532-5540

###