

Traffic Ordinance of the Town of Blue Hill, Maine

Originally Adopted and Effective: November 4, 2024

Certified By: /s/ E. Best 11/4/2024

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Municipal Officers Date

Attest: True Copy /s/ S. Lavallee 11/4/2024

Town Clerk Date

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1 General Provisions

1.1 Title

This Ordinance shall be known as the "Traffic Ordinance of the Town of Blue Hill, Maine" or the "Blue Hill Traffic Ordinance" and shall be referred to herein as the "Ordinance."

1.2 Repeal of Other Ordinances

Any and all previous traffic ordinances adopted by the Blue Hill Select Board are hereby repealed.

1.3 Authority

This Ordinance is adopted by the Blue Hill Select Board pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Maine, Article VIII-A, and [30-A M.R.S. § 3009](#), as amended.

1.4 Purposes

1.4.1 To promote public safety, facilitate traffic flow and control speed on the travel ways and streets in the Town of Blue Hill.

1.4.2 This Ordinance does not exempt any person from compliance with all other applicable laws and regulations.

1.5 Severability and Conflicts

In the event that any section, subsection or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, that declaration shall not be deemed to affect the validity of any other section, subsection or provision of this Ordinance. To this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

If any provision of this Ordinance is in conflict with a provision of any other lawfully adopted rule, regulation, ordinance, or statute, the more restrictive provision shall be deemed to apply.

1.6 Definitions

For the purpose of interpreting this Ordinance, terms used herein and defined in [29-A M.R.S. § 101](#) shall have the meanings provided in that statute. In addition, the following terms and their derivations shall have meanings as follows:

1.6.1 **Sign:** Any sign, signal, marking, display, device, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other visual apparatus or thing, other than traffic control devices installed at the direction of Maine DOT or the Town of Blue Hill.

1.6.2 **Restricted Area:** Those areas of the Town of Blue Hill described as follows:

1.6.2.1 The traffic roundabout at the intersection of Tenney Hill, Beech Hill Road, Mines Road (Route 15), and South Street (Route 172), specifically the area within a circle with a radius of one-hundred seventy (170) feet (approximately intersecting with the outermost aluminum street light poles on each of the four streets accessing the roundabout).

1.6.2.2 The traffic island at the intersection of Tenney Hill, Main Street, and Water Street.

2 Parking Restrictions and Parking

2.1 Town-wide parking restrictions

When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall park any **motor vehicle** or any part thereof at any time (other than specifically permitted times described below) on **public ways** or specified portions thereof. Any **motor vehicle** parked in violation of these restrictions (and not specifically excepted as described below) shall be ticketed and may be towed at the discretion of the Town.

- 2.1.1 Unless otherwise indicated by signs or marks on the street, all vehicles shall be stopped or parked on the right-hand side of the street only, in the direction in which the vehicle is facing, and as close to the curb or side of the street as is practical (but fully within the limits of any marked parking spaces).
- 2.1.2 No person shall park at any time in the travel lanes (inside the white edge lines) on any **public way** unless one of the following exceptions applies:
 - 2.1.2.1 Mechanical problems or breakdown;
 - 2.1.2.2 Emergency situations; or
 - 2.1.2.3 Maintenance, construction, repair, or installation of utilities on the **public way** by any State or municipal agency or utility company.
- 2.1.3 No person shall park, stand, or leave a **motor vehicle** within ten (10) feet of any intersection, within ten (10) feet of a crosswalk, in any area marked by white or yellow cross-hatching lines, obstructing a driveway, or on a public sidewalk.
- 2.1.4 In order to facilitate snow removal from Town streets and to minimize the potential for damage to privately owned vehicles, no vehicle shall be parked at any time on any **public way** during any winter storm or during any other period of time identified via at least four (4) hours' notice on the Town website.

2.2 Parking Spaces

The Town provides parallel and other marked parking spaces on Main Street, Parker Point Road, Tenney Hill, Union Street, and Water Street. Subject to the restrictions noted in section 2.3 hereof, these spaces are available for use by the public at any time, except as set forth elsewhere in this Ordinance.

- 2.2.1 Marked parking spaces are for use by **motor vehicles** only, unless such alternative use is the subject of a permit issued under Section 2.6 (Temporary Permit Parking) hereof.

2.3 Parking Lots

The Town provides off-street parking as follows, with site-specific restrictions noted:

- 2.3.1 Fire Station vicinity (off Water Street)
 - 2.3.1.1 The long parking spaces to the east of the Fire Station are intended for **motor vehicles** with trailers (using the Town Wharf boat launch ramp).
 - 2.3.1.2 Spaces to the northwest of the Fire Station are for the exclusive use of the Fire Department and Fire Station visitors

- 2.3.1.3 No parking in front of the Fire Department or ambulance bays.
- 2.3.2 28 Water Street
 - 2.3.2.1 Public parking spaces southeast of the building.
- 2.3.3 Water Street (between 28 Water Street and 49 Water Street)
 - 2.3.3.1 Public parking spaces on the southeast side of the lot.
- 2.3.4 Town Hall (18 Union Street)
 - 2.3.4.1 Restricted parking is available at the Town Hall, with spaces to the north, west, and northeast of the building.
 - 2.3.4.1.1 These spaces are reserved for Town Office staff, and those persons doing business at the Town Hall, from 7:00 AM until 4:00 PM on weekdays. Violators will be subject to having their vehicles towed pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance.
- 2.3.5 Town Park (at end of Water Street)
 - 2.3.5.1 Restricted parking is available at the Town Park only during the hours the park is open. No overnight parking is allowed.
- 2.3.6 AA Field (off Union Street)
 - 2.3.6.1 Public parking is available adjacent to the fields (across from 219 Union Street).
- 2.3.7 Blue Hill Consolidated School (off High Street)
 - 2.3.7.1 Restricted parking is available in the lots at 60 High Street.
 - 2.3.7.1.1 No parking from 7:00am to 5:00pm on days the school is in session, except for persons having business with the school or attending school functions/activities.
- 2.3.8 Mill Stream Bridge (off Main Street) vicinity
 - 2.3.8.1 Public parking is available to the southwest of 75 Main Street.
- 2.3.9 Town Wharf (off Water Street) and South Blue Hill Wharf (at end of Wharf Road)
 - 2.3.9.1 Restricted parking is available in the lots adjacent to the two Town wharves.
 - 2.3.9.1.1 Parking in these lots is governed by the Rules and Regulations for Blue Hill Waters and Associated Facilities as adopted by the Blue Hill Select Board.

2.4 Accessible/Disability Parking

Parking is restricted to vehicles displaying a disability plate or placard issued pursuant to [29-A M.R.S. §§ 521-523](#) (or similar evidence issued by another state) at the following locations when identified by signage with the international symbol for accessibility.

- 2.4.1 There are two (2) parking spaces at the Blue Hill Town Hall; a parallel parking space to the north of the building and a head-in space to the south of the building.

2.5 Specific public way parking restrictions

No person shall park, stand, or leave a **motor vehicle** in the following specified areas or under the specified circumstances:

2.5.1 Ellsworth Road (Route 172)

2.5.1.1 *While the Blue Hill Fair is open to the public*, within ten (10) feet of either side of the traveled way between the driveway at 319 Ellsworth Road and the driveway at 162 Ellsworth Road (approximately 3,950' of roadway).

2.5.1.2 Within ten (10) feet of either side of the traveled way from the entrance to 137 Ellsworth Road to 97 Ellsworth Road.

2.5.2 Falls Bridge Road (Route 175)

2.5.2.1 Within ten (10) feet of the north side of the travelled way in the vicinity of the Town property at The Nub between the metal guard rails to the northwest and south of the property (approximately 150' of roadway).

2.5.2.2 In the vicinity of the Falls Bridge, from the Town property at The Nub to the driveway for 143 Falls Bridge Road), *except*:

2.5.2.2.1 Two motor vehicles may park on the side of the southbound road north of the bridge, provided they may do so safely and entirely outside of the associated travel lanes.

2.5.3 High Street

2.5.3.1 Within ten (10) feet of either side between the intersection with Tenney Hill and the intersection with Union Street (approximately 450' of roadway).

2.5.4 Main Street

2.5.4.1 Within ten (10) feet of the north side of the traveled way between the western driveway at 98 Main Street and the driveway at 162 Main Street (approximately 830' of roadway).

2.5.4.2 On the south side of the traveled way in the vicinity of the traffic island at the intersections with Water Street and Washington Street (approximately 40' of roadway).

2.5.5 Mill Street

2.5.5.1 Within ten (10) feet of the traveled way on any portion of Mill Street.

2.5.6 Mountain Road

2.5.6.1 *While the Blue Hill Fair is open to the public*, within ten (10) feet of either side of the traveled way between the intersection with the Ellsworth Road (Route 172) and the driveway at 121 Mountain Road (approximately 2,950' of roadway).

2.5.7 Parker Point Road

2.5.7.1 Within ten (10) feet of the west side of the traveled way between the driveway for 5 Parker Point Road and the driveway for 49 Parker Point Road (approximately 1,275' of roadway).

2.5.8 Union Street

2.5.8.1 Within ten (10) feet of the south side of the traveled way between the easternmost driveway for 44 Union Street and the intersection with High Street (approximately 170' of roadway).

2.5.8.2 Only compact automobiles, which can fit entirely between the curb and the white "fog line" marking the edge of the traveled way, may park between the easternmost driveway for 44 Union Street and the driveway for the Town Hall (18 Union Street). However, no vehicles may park within thirty (30) feet northwest of the driveway entrance to the Town Hall (18 Union Street).

2.5.8.3 Within ten (10) feet of the north side of the traveled way between the driveway for 231 Union Street and 159 Union Street (approximately 925' of roadway).

2.5.9 Water Street

2.5.9.1 In the vicinity of Horton Emerson Park, between the parking lot for 28 Water Street and the Town Wharf (approximately 250' of paved lane adjacent to the park).

2.5.10 Wharf Road

2.5.10.1 As specified in the "Rules and Regulations for Blue Hill Waters and Associated Facilities" in effect.

2.6 Temporary Permit Parking

2.6.1 A property owner or contractor may apply to the Road Commissioner temporary permit that will allow the contractor to park one (1) *motor vehicle*, trailer or dumpster in an otherwise restricted area in the immediate vicinity of the work site for up to nine (9) hours per day from May to October and without a daily limit from November to April. The permit shall be valid for up to thirty (30) days and can be renewed.

2.7 Temporary Parking Restrictions

2.7.1 The Select Board and Road Commissioner are hereby authorized to place temporary traffic control signs in the vicinity of places of assemblage or any building in which entertainment, plays, shows, exhibitions, and the like are given, either regularly or otherwise, and for such period as the Select Board or Road Commissioner in their discretion may deem appropriate under the circumstances.

3 Traffic Control

Traffic control in Blue Hill shall be accomplished with posted signs and road markings such as those identifying parking spaces and crosswalks. All signs and pavement marking used for traffic control shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Traffic control sign and cross walk locations are as follows:

3.1 Stop Signs

- 3.1.1 Ackley Farm Rd. at the intersection with Hinckley Ridge Rd..
- 3.1.2 Beech Hill Rd. at the intersection with Hinckley Ridge Rd.
- 3.1.3 Curtis Cove Rd. at the intersection with East Blue Hill Rd. (ME 176).
- 3.1.4 EP Ln. at the intersection with South St. (ME 172/ME 175).
- 3.1.5 EP Ln. at the intersection with Parker Point Rd.
- 3.1.6 Grindleville Rd. at the intersection with Mines Rd. (ME 15).
- 3.1.7 High Street at the intersection with Tenney Hill (ME 15).
- 3.1.8 High Street (northbound) at the intersection with Union St. (ME 177).
- 3.1.9 High Street (southbound) at the intersection with Union St. (ME 177).
- 3.1.10 High Street at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15).
- 3.1.11 Hinckley Ridge Rd. at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15).
- 3.1.12 Jay Carter Rd. at the intersection with East Blue Hill Rd. (ME 176).
- 3.1.13 Kingdom Rd. at the intersection with Hinckley Ridge Rd. (ME 177).
- 3.1.14 Mill Pond Ln. at the intersection with Falls Bridge Rd. (ME 175).
- 3.1.15 Mill St. at the intersection with High St.
- 3.1.16 Mountain Rd. at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15).
- 3.1.17 Mountain Rd. at the intersection with Ellsworth Rd. (ME 172).
- 3.1.18 Parker Point Rd. at the intersection with Tenney Hill (ME 15).
- 3.1.19 Parker Point Rd. at the intersection with Falls Bridge Rd. (ME 175).
- 3.1.20 Peters Hill Rd. at the intersection with East Blue Hill Rd. (ME 176).
- 3.1.21 Range Rd. at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15)—near 578 Pleasant St.
- 3.1.22 Range Rd. at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15)—near 1418 Pleasant St.
- 3.1.23 Stover Rd. at the intersection with Range Rd.
- 3.1.24 Tamworth Farm Rd. at the intersection with Pleasant St. (ME 15).
- 3.1.25 Tamworth Farm Rd. at the intersection with Hinckley Ridge Rd. (ME 177).
- 3.1.26 Turkey Farm Rd. at the intersection with Ellsworth Rd. (ME 172).
- 3.1.27 Tamworth Farm Rd. at the intersection with Hinckley Ridge Rd. (ME 177).
- 3.1.28 Water St. at the west intersection with Main St (ME 15).
- 3.1.29 Water St. at the east intersection with Main St (ME 15).

3.1.30 Wharf Rd. at the intersection with Falls Bridge Rd. (ME 175).

3.1.31 Woods Point Rd. at the intersection with East Blue Hill Rd. (ME 176).

3.1.32 York Rd. at the intersection with East Blue Hill Rd. (ME 176).

3.2 Yield Right of Way Signs

3.2.1 Water St. (east spur) at intersection with Water St. (west spur).

3.2.2 Beech Hill Rd. at the roundabout with South St., Tenney Hill, and Mines Rd.

3.3 Crosswalks

3.3.1 **Beech Hill Rd.:** at the roundabout with South St., Tenney Hill, and Mines Rd.

3.3.2 **High St.:** between the Blue Hill Consolidated School parking lot and the George Stevens Academy parking lot.

3.3.3 **Mines Rd. (ME 15):** at the roundabout with South St., Tenney Hill, and Beech Hill Rd.

3.3.4 **South St. (ME 172):** In the vicinity of 70 South St.

3.4 One-way Streets

3.4.1 Mill Street is one-way northbound from Main St. (ME 15) to Angel Ave.

3.5 School Zones

3.5.1 The portion of High Street between Union Street and Mill Street is a school zone. The provisions of [Title 29-A, §2074 \(1\)\(A\)](#) (Motor Vehicle Rules of the Road--Rates of Speed) apply in this zone.

3.6 Advisory Signs

3.6.1 The placement or removal of advisory traffic control signs shall not be considered an amendment to the Ordinance and may be ordered by the Select Board without holding a public hearing.

3.7 Private Roads

3.7.1 It is the responsibility of the owner of a private road to post traffic control signage where said road intersects a **public way**. In the absence of signage, it is the implied responsibility of vehicles on the private road to stop before entering the public road.

3.8 Speed Control

3.8.1 Physical obstructions used to control vehicle speed, commonly called "speed bumps," "speed tables," etc., may not be constructed on any Town street without the approval of the Select Board. The first-time approval for the installation of a speed bump shall be considered an amendment to the Ordinance. The replacement of any speed bump that is removed for the winter snow plowing season shall not be considered an amendment to the Ordinance and may be ordered by the Select Board without holding a public hearing.

3.8.2 Speed control obstructions are authorized at the following locations:

3.8.2.1 Two (2) on Curtis Cove Rd.

4 Signs Prohibited in Restricted Areas

The placement of *signs* within the *restricted areas* creates a traffic hazard that is dangerous to motorists and pedestrians. Unrestricted placement of signs within the Restricted Area reduces sight distances for motorists, creates a visual distraction to motorists, and impedes traffic flow.

- 4.1.1 No person shall place, maintain, or display any *sign* within any *restricted area* without the prior approval of the Select Board.
- 4.1.2 Every such prohibited *sign* is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and Maine DOT and the Town of Blue Hill are hereby empowered to remove or cause to be removed each such *sign* without notice.

5 Driveways and Entrances to Town Ways

- 5.1.1 No driveways entering upon Town ways or crossing property owned by the Town shall be constructed without first obtaining a permit from the Select Board or its designee.
- 5.1.2 All such driveways shall be so located that vehicles approaching or using the driveway will be able to obtain adequate sight distance in both directions along the road or to maneuver safely and without interference with traffic.
- 5.1.3 The Select Board (or designee) will be guided by the Maine Department of Transportation's Highway Driveway and Entrance Rules, as published in [17-229 C.M.R. Chapter 29956](#), in evaluating whether to issue the required permit.

6 Enforcement

6.1 Municipal Authority

- 6.1.1 The Select Board shall designate the persons, individually or by classification (i.e., law enforcement officers of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office), with the authority to issue Notices of Violation under this Ordinance, to assess fines under this Ordinance, to contract with a towing company and order vehicles towed, and to enforce unpaid violations in District Court.

6.2 Fines

- 6.2.1 Any person found in violation of any provision of this Ordinance by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be subject to a fine as follows:
 - 6.2.1.1 Violations under Sections 2.1, 2.3, or 2.5 (parking): \$50.00.
 - 6.2.1.2 Violations under Section 2.4 (accessible parking): \$200.00 pursuant to [30-A M.R.S. § 3009 \(D\)\(3\)](#).
 - 6.2.1.3 Violations under Section 4 (signs in restricted areas): \$50.00.
 - 6.2.1.4 Violations under Section 5 (driveway/entrance permits): \$200.00.
- 6.2.2 In addition to the applicable fine, the Town of Blue Hill is entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other direct costs (including any fees related to towing or storing a vehicle) incurred by the Town as a result of a violation of this Ordinance. All fines, fees and cost reimbursements accrue to the municipality and are payable to the Town of Blue Hill.

6.2.3 Persons charged with violating this Ordinance may waive court action by payment of a fee equal to 75% of the applicable fine (and reimbursement of any costs as identified in Section 6.2.2 hereof) within seven (7) days of receiving notice of the violation. Any such waiver and payment of fee and cost reimbursement shall be processed through the Town Clerk or a Deputy Clerk.

6.3 Towing

6.3.1 Any **motor vehicle** parked upon a public street of the Town in a place, manner or for a length of time prohibited by this Ordinance, or during any parking ban declared by the Municipal Officers or Road Commissioner (provided notice of such ban has been given at least four (4) hours prior to the ban to the public by notification on the Town's website at bluehillme.gov), is hereby declared to be an obstruction in the **public way** and a menace to the safety of the traveling public.

6.3.2 Any **motor vehicle** parked which constitutes an obstruction under this Section of this Ordinance may, at the request and under the direction of the Road Commissioner or a Municipal Officer, be towed to a suitable garage or storage space and impounded thereon until all fines, fees, and reimbursable costs established in this Ordinance are paid. The company towing the vehicle will be instructed not to release the vehicle until a receipt from the Town is presented, demonstrating that all such fines, fees and costs have been paid and upon payment, in full, to the towing company of all towing, storage, and other charges.

6.3.3 When any vehicle is towed pursuant to this Ordinance, the following procedure shall be followed:

6.3.3.1 Notice shall be sent to the registered owner of the vehicle by regular, first-class mail, postage pre-paid, within 24 hours following the tow.

6.3.3.2 The Notice shall contain the following information: registration number and brief description of the vehicle; name and address of person or company who performed the tow; location where the vehicle is stored; the provisions of the Ordinance which were violated and led to the tow; and the towing fee and any storage fee.)

6.3.4 The Town shall not be responsible or liable for any damage incurred by any illegally parked vehicle during towing or impoundment.

6.4 Petition to Void Notice of Violation

6.4.1 The recipient of a Notice of Violation issued pursuant to this Ordinance may seek to have the notice voided as follows:

6.4.1.1 Submit a complete Application to Void Traffic Ticket to the Town Administrator within thirty (30) days of the date of the ticket if the recipient believes the ticket was issued in error.

6.4.1.2 Submit a written appeal to the Select Board if the recipient disagrees with the Town Administrator's decision with respect to the application.