

ABANDONED VEHICLE INSTRUCTIONS

DEFINITION OF AN ABANDONED VEHICLE:

- ANYTHING WITH TIRES AND A SERIAL NUMBER. IE: CAR, TRUCK, MOTORCYCLE AND TRAILERS.
- **A BOAT IS NOT CONSIDERED AN ABANDONED VEHICLE;** YOU MUST GO THRU THE DNR TO APPLY FOR THAT.

A VEHICLE IS CONSIDERED ABANDONED AFTER 30 DAYS.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TO COMPLETE A T-22B FORM.

- THIS FORM IS A CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION – THE FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY A DEPUTY SHERIFF OF SAID COUNTY WHERE THE VEHICLE IS LOCATED. THE DEPUTY WILL HAVE TO INSPECT THE VEHICLE AT ITS LOCATION.

TO APPLY FOR AN ABANDONED VEHICLE:

- YOU MUST GO TO YOUR LOCAL TAG OFFICE IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH IT WAS ABANDONED.
- COMPLETE A MV-603 FORM; YOU MAY OBTAIN THIS FORM FROM THE TAG OFFICE OR OUR WEBSITE. THE FEE IS \$2.00.
- THIS WILL RECORD THE VEHICLE AS ABANDONED, ITS LOCATION AND TO WHOM IS DECLARING IT ABANDONED.
- YOUR TAG OFFICE WILL RESEARCH THE VEHICLE AND DETERMINE THE LEGAL OWNER AND/OR LEASEHOLDER. THEY WILL PRINT OUT A LETTER THAT MUST BE COMPLETED, MAIL A COPY BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO ALL PARTIES THAT HAVE BEEN RESEARCHED. BE SURE TO MAKE A COPY OF THE LETTER AND RETAIN ALL CERTIFIED RECEIPTS TO SUBMIT TO THE COURTS.
- IF THE VEHICLE SHOULD COME BACK “*NOT ON FILE*” IT MUST BE ADVERTISED IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF THE VEHICLE AND LOCATION FOR 2 CONSECUTIVE WEEKS. ONCE AGAIN, KEEP A COPY OF THE ADVERTISEMENT TO SUBMIT TO THE COURTS.
- AN ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF CHARGES MUST BE SUBMITTED. IE: COURT COST, ADVERTISING, POSTAL FEES, STORAGE CHARGES (UP TO \$20.00 A DAY MAY BE CHARGED).
- A COURT ORDER MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED. YOU MAY OBTAIN THIS FORM OFF OUR WEBSITE, <http://www.effinghamcounty.org>, OR IN OUR OFFICE. THE COST OF THE COURT ORDER APPLICATION IS \$10.00.
- AFTER THE COURT ORDER AND ALL PAPERWORK IS SUBMITTED, IT WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE JUDGE.
- WHEN YOUR COURT ORDER HAS BEEN PROCESSED, YOU MAY SALE THIS AT PUBLIC AUCTION, YOU MAY TAKE SEALED BIDS OR ADVERTISE THE VEHICLE. AFTER THE VEHICLE HAS BEEN SOLD, GIVE THE BUYER THE COURT ORDER AND A BILL OF SALE. THEY MAY THEN APPLY FOR A TITLE.
- AT THE TIME OF SALE, THE “REPORT OF SALE” FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO OUR OFFICE. IF BY CHANCE THE VEHICLE IS SOLD FOR MORE THAN IS OWED, THE DIFFERENCE MUST BE REMITTED TO THE COURT.

ANY QUESTIONS MAY BE REFERRED TO THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF EFFINGHAM AT 912-754-2124