



WATERGATE

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Parking FAQ

Why do I see so many cars on Watergate streets without stickers?

Many of the unstickered vehicles you see on the streets belong to contractors or in-unit service providers (maids, caretakers, etc.). There is a sign in sheet for in-unit service providers at the Property Patrol office, and they must sign in every day that they are on site.

Watergate obviously doesn't care about parking, the office and Property Patrol never do anything about it.

Property Patrol issues tickets on a daily basis and submits these tickets to the office. The Resident Coordinator then tracks the tickets in an extensive spreadsheet (28 pages with data from approximately 1500 tickets entered). Any cars that are issued two warning tickets are then added to a tow on sight list and are towed away if they are seen on WG streets again. The tow on sight list currently has 34 cars entered on it that will be towed immediately if they are seen.

Please also keep in mind that for every car that we tow, before towing Property Patrol first has to do multiple checks—they have to double check the license in our database to make sure it doesn't belong to someone who may have lost a sticker or gotten a bumper replaced, they have to check vacation forms to make sure the vehicle doesn't belong to a resident on vacation, and they have to check the daily sign in sheet to verify that the vehicle doesn't belong to someone who has signed in. Please also bear in mind that there is usually only 1 Patrol officer on duty, so if he has any other pressing issues/emergencies/phone calls/etc. to attend to, he may not be able to call a tow truck at the very moment that he sees an unregistered vehicle on the streets. Tows, therefore, are not generally an immediate occurrence, thus it is very possible that the offending vehicle may leave Watergate property before Property Patrol has a chance to get the tow truck here.

Why can't we tow away unstickered cars immediately? Why even issue warning tickets?

Some of these unstickered cars belong to in-unit service providers. Some of them could also be vehicles that belong to new residents who have not yet had a chance to register their vehicle. Issuing a warning ticket prompts them to properly register their car.

It's also possible that an unstickered vehicle could belong to a resident who just got a new car, or whose bumper (and, therefore, the sticker) was removed. The warning ticket can again serve as a prompting to get their vehicle registered.

People may also simply not be aware of the rule about having a sticker on your vehicle to park on Watergate Streets. The warning ticket brings this rule to their awareness.

While we understand that it is frustrating to see unstickered vehicles on the streets, there are simply too many potential variables to take into account for us to do immediate tows, and we don't want to tow away a vehicle that belongs to a Watergate resident without first giving them a chance to get the vehicle registered. Almost every tow we do results in a fight/debate with the person who was



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towed and the office/Property Patrol that is very consuming of staff time. The warning tickets help cut down the time of these confrontations and help save the Association money as they strengthen our documentation when people try to request/demand towing reimbursements.

Further, the parking violation spreadsheet shows that out of the 1200 (as of the date of this writing) cars that have been ticketed, only about 20% of these vehicles were repeat offenders. ***The tickets have thus been effective in clearing unregistered vehicles from WG streets about 80% of the time.***

Why do I see vehicles on the streets for more than five days at a time?

When residents go on vacation, they sometimes leave their vehicle parked in the streets for long stretches of time. This is within the rules as long as they have submitted a vacation form to the office that denotes the space number they will have their car in whilst they are out of town.

If you do notice a vehicle parked in one space for a long stretch of time, please report it along with the space number that it is parked in to the WCA office so that we can follow up accordingly.

I've reported cars on the streets to the office and nothing has been done.

The office/Property Patrol needs as much information as possible to act on these reports. Telling us that "there are a lot of cars who have been parked for too long on Admiral" makes follow up action very difficult. When submitting a report to the office, please include the parking space and license plate number and, if possible, a permit sticker number so that we can track accordingly.

Further, just because the car has not been removed from the streets does not mean that action has not been taken. The car may belong to someone who has a vacation form on file, or it may belong to a resident who is in the hospital or is unable to move it right away. We follow up on all reports that provide us with the information we require, either by issuing tickets and eventually towing or, when possible, contacting the owner of the vehicle to let them know they are in violation of Watergate rules.