

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD, NJ  
ORDINANCE NO. 3 - 2013**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 350 OF THE CITY OF  
NORTHFIELD CODE ENTITLED TOWING**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Northfield, Atlantic County, is of the opinion that the public interest will best be served by adopting additional provision and revisions to §350 of the Code of the City of Northfield;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Northfield as follows:

1. Chapter 350 of the Code of the City of Northfield is hereby amended as follows (deleted language is ~~stricken~~; additional language is underlined):

§ 350-1. Title. – No Change.

§ 350-2. Definitions. – No Change.

§ 350-3. Services to be provided by towing operators. – No Change.

§ 350-4. Duties of towing operators.

A. A licensed towing operator shall provide a compound which ~~must be located within a four mile radius of the Northfield City Hall and~~ shall at all times be in compliance with all New Jersey statutes and regulations, as well as all ordinances promulgated by the City of Northfield. The compound shall be serviced by roads which are not subject to any tolls.

B. – J. – No Change.

K. The licensed towing operator shall see to it that said tow trucks shall be operated in such a fashion as will produce adequate service to the public as determined from time to time by the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield. During adverse weather and heavy traffic conditions, the licensed tow operator shall arrange to make available additional tow trucks to stand by as necessary to serve the City of Northfield. It is the stated purpose of this chapter to provide towing service and road service to the City of Northfield which will result in emergency towing and/or road service within a maximum of ~~40~~ 15 minutes from the time that the licensed towing operator is notified by the City of Northfield Police Department. Should the tow operator fail to respond as provided herein, the City of Northfield Police Department reserves the right to cancel the

tow and call upon the next available licensed tow operator on the rotation list.

L. No Change. – No Change.

§ 350-5. Qualifications of towing operators.

A. – No Change.

B.(1) – B.(5) – No Change.

(6) Upon ~~completion~~ submission of the application form, the Clerk of the City of Northfield shall furnish the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield with a copy of said application. The Chief of Police of the City of Northfield or his designee, upon receipt of said application from the Clerk of the City of Northfield ~~by the towing operator~~, shall conduct an investigation of the towing operator and its operation. Said investigation by the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield or his designee shall consist of an inspection of the proposed compound, an inspection of the tow trucks and whether the towing operator and his employees or officers meet with the requirements of this chapter.

(7) – No Change.

(8) Such certificate of insurance shall provide that the insurance policy will not be canceled or materially changed without 30 days ~~40 days~~ prior written notice addressed to the Clerk of the City of Northfield.

C. – H. – No Change.

§ 350-6. Licensing of towing operators.

A. – B. – No Change.

C. Each licensed towing operator will be charged a non-refundable ~~an annual~~ application fee of ~~\$100~~ \$500. Said fee shall be paid upon the submission of the signed application to the Clerk of the City of Northfield and shall be nonrefundable. Each licensed towing operator will be charged a non-refundable annual renewal fee of \$250.

D. – E. – No Change.

F. Within three (3) business days of the ~~Upon completion~~ submission of ~~the~~ a complete application form, the Clerk of the City of Northfield shall furnish the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield with a copy of said application.

G. The Chief of Police of the City of Northfield, upon receipt of said application from the Clerk of the City of Northfield ~~towing operator~~, shall conduct an investigation of the towing operator and its operation.

H. Said investigation by the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield shall include but not necessarily be limited to ~~consist of~~ an inspection of the proposed compound, an inspection of the tow trucks and a determination as to whether the towing operator meets the requirements of this chapter. ~~The Chief of Police has 14 days to complete said investigation after receipt of said application by the Clerk of the City of Northfield.~~

I. ~~If the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield, a~~ After due the investigation authorized by ~~deems the towing operator to be in compliance with all of the terms and provisions of this chapter,~~ the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield shall report to the Clerk, in writing, whether or not the towing operator meets the requirements of this chapter. ~~If the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield takes no action within 10 days of the receipt of the application by the Clerk of the City of Northfield, the Clerk shall consider that the towing operator meets with the requirements of this chapter and add the name of that towing operator to the list of licensed towing operators.~~

J. If the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield advises the Clerk of the City of Northfield that the towing operator meets the requirements of this chapter and of the approval of the towing operator, said towing operator shall be added to the list of licensed towing operators of the City of Northfield and notified in writing accordingly.

K. If the Chief of Police ~~deems~~ determines that the towing operator does not meet the requirements ~~not in compliance with any provision~~ of this chapter, he shall report, in writing, to the Clerk of the City of Northfield his determination, findings and ~~with~~ reasons for his rejection/denial of the application of the towing operator. The Chief of Police shall simultaneously supply a copy of his report to the applying towing operator and the Council for the City of Northfield.

L. Any towing operator ~~who is aggrieved by the actions of the Chief of Police rejection-rejecting-~~ rejection-rejecting- ~~denial of an application to be added to the list of licensed towing operators of the City of Northfield-his application shall,~~ upon written notice provided to the Chief of Police and the Clerk of the City of Northfield, within seven calendar days of that rejection/denial, shall be entitled to a hearing before the ~~of the full~~ Council of the City of Northfield. ~~Copies of the notice to the Clerk shall be served upon members of City Council.~~

M. – N. – No Change.

§ 350-7. Use and number of licensed towing operators by City; suspension of licenses.

A. – No Change.

B. In the event that more than one towing operator shall become a licensed towing operator, the towing services needed by the City of Northfield shall be rotated among licensed towing operators for time periods to be prescribed by the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield on an equal basis. Each new licensed towing operator shall initially be placed last on the rotary list. The maximum number of licensed towing operators providing towing services to the City of Northfield at any given time shall be capped at four (4) licensed towing operators. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if at the time of the adoption of this Ordinance, there are more than four (4) approved licensed towing operators, said licensed towing operators shall remain licensed and able to provide towing services in the City of Northfield until said towing operators' licenses are suspended, terminated or revoked.

C. – G. – No Change.

H. Any license issued by the City of Northfield may be terminated upon the finding that the licensed towing operator provided fraudulent or inaccurate application information; violated any federal, state or municipal regulations; has provided unsatisfactory service; or has violated any Department of Insurance rules or regulations. In this event, upon receipt of written direction from the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield, ~~the~~ the City Clerk shall suspend the offending licensed towing operator's license and remove his name from the list of licensed towing operators.

I. Any towing operator ~~who is~~ aggrieved by the actions of the Chief of Police of the City of Northfield or the Clerk of the City of Northfield in suspending the licensed towing operator's license and/or removal of his name from the list of licensed towing operators of the City of Northfield, upon written notice provided to the Chief of Police and the Clerk of the City of Northfield within seven calendar days of that suspension/removal, shall striking its name from the list of towing operators shall, upon notice to the Clerk, within seven days of being stricken from the list of towing operators, be entitled to a hearing before the ~~by the full~~ Council of the City of Northfield.

§ 350-8. Enactment of rates and fees. – No Change.

2. All Ordinances or portions thereof which are inconsistent in whole or in part with the provisions contained herein are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistency.

3. This Ordinance shall take effect following its advertisement, public hearing and adoption in accordance with the law.

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Mary Canesi, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Vince Mazzeo  
Mayor

The above Ordinance was introduced and passed on its first reading at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Northfield, New Jersey held on March 12, 2013, and will be taken up for a second reading, public hearing and final passage at a meeting of said Council held April 9, 2013, in Council Chambers, City Hall, Northfield, New Jersey.

FIRST READING:	March 12, 2013
PUBLICATION:	March 16, 2013
SECOND READING:	April 9, 2013
PUBLICATION:	April 13, 2013