

For immediate release

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Remove Junk Vehicles from Springtime Landscape – for Free

The snows of winter have melted, revealing a spring landscape of primroses, daffodils, green grass and... junk vehicles.

If rusting heaps of metal aren't your idea of springtime beauty, local officials have a deal for you. The Lewis and Clark County Junk Vehicle Program will haul away your unwanted vehicle – for free.

If you own a junk vehicle you'd like to get rid of, contact the Environmental Services Division of Lewis and Clark Public Health at 447-8351, or stop by the office in Room 230 of the City-County Building, 316 North Park Avenue. You'll be asked to turn over the title and fill out a form releasing the vehicle to the county. You'll get a sticker to place on the vehicle, targeting it for removal. The county will haul it away within about two weeks.

Montana was one of the first states to enact a junk vehicle law, in 1973. The intent was to help preserve the state's natural beauty. The program is funded through a small fee that residents pay when they license their vehicles. Materials salvaged through the program are recycled.

Any motorized vehicle designed for highway use may be removed through the program, including cars, pickup trucks, semi-tractors, buses, and motorcycles. The vehicle doesn't have to have tires. Large vehicle parts, like engines and pickup boxes, also may qualify for removal.

The program is not authorized to remove trailers, snowmobiles, trailer homes, camper shells, pickup toppers, watercraft, or other miscellaneous equipment not designed for highway use. Owners may dispose of these at the Lewis and Clark County Landfill, 4075 Deal Lane, at a cost of \$23 per ton.