

# DISABLED-ACCESSIBLE PARKING ETIQUETTE TIPS

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 1

Please respect the rules of the disabled parking stall. *Never* park in a space reserved for people with disabilities unless you have a valid disabled placard or license plates and only if it is absolutely necessary. It's the courteous thing to do—and it's the law! There are more accessible parking placards than spaces so be mindful of others who might need an accessible space more than you.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 2

Always display your accessible parking permit when parked in a designated disabled-accessible parking spot. It is required by law. You may have a permit that legally entitles you to use the space, but if you don't display it properly, you could be receive a parking ticket.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 3

*Do not* let others use your disabled-accessible parking permit when you are not present. The assigned owner of a disabled-accessible parking permit *must* always be present whenever the permit is being used. *Do not* lend your permit to family members or friends. Ignoring this rule could result in hefty fines for you and the person who borrowed the permit, including the permit being revoked.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 4

Even when a parking lot is full, you may not park in an available disabled-accessible stall, even for a few minutes. By law, only authorized disabled parkers are allowed to park in a disabled-accessible parking space at all times.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 5

If there is a regular parking space that is not designated as disabled-accessible, but meets your parking needs, please take it. Disabled-accessible parking placards/plates do not mandate one must only park in the designated reserved spots.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 6

Remember: not all disabilities are visible. It is easy to look at a person parked in a disabled-accessible spot who is not using a cane, walker, wheelchair, or other assistive devices, and presume that they should not be parked there. There are chronic conditions and/or invisible disabilities that qualify. Please don't jump to conclusions.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 7

*Do not* use a disabled-accessible parking permit once it's expired. If you still need to use it after expiration, please apply for a new one or renew it.

## Parking Etiquette Tip # 8

Please don't use a designated disabled "Van Accessible" space if you do not need the extra space or are not driving a van. If other disabled-accessible parking stall are available, leave the van accessible spaces open for vehicles equipped with wheelchair lifts. The van space should be the last stall selected if you are not driving a van.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 9**

Please do not put discarded shopping carts in a disabled parking space or the striped loading zone beside it. Drivers with disabilities may have difficulty relocating the cart safely out of the way prior to parking.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 10**

*Never* park on the striped lines/no parking area(s) located beside a disabled-accessible parking stall. It's an important loading and unloading zone for those using wheelchair lifts and/or assistive devices to get in and out of their vehicle.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 11**

If you see a van with a wheelchair sticker on the side, try not to park near it because that is where the chair loads and unloads and the individual will need extra room to maneuver.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 12**

Please do not remain parked in a designated disabled-accessible parking stall longer than necessary.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 13**

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) sets regulations for disabled-accessible parking spaces. Ignoring or violating these guidelines can result in stiff fines for the violating offender and/or the owner of the parking lot or business.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 14**

Don't be upset if a law enforcement officer asks to see your disabled permit registration/receipt and driver's license/State ID; they are only making sure the right people are using these parking spaces.

### **Parking Etiquette Tip # 15**

Drivers caught parking illegally in a designated disabled-accessible parking space in Aurora can be expected to be issued a parking citation with a fine of **\$150**.