City of Dover – Downtown Parking

Frequently Asked Questions

How much does it cost to park, what are the time limits, how can I pay?
75 Cents per hour. Those using cash can pay for as little as 20 minutes (25 cents). Those using credit cards will have a minimum of one hour. There is a 3-hour on street limit and no limit in parking lots. The meter accepts Visa, Discover, Mastercard, tokens & coins. Debit cards will not work.

What do I do once I purchase parking?
The meter will dispense a receipt. Please return to your vehicle and place it face up on your driver’s side dash board.

When do you need to pay for parking?
Currently, paid parking is in effect, Monday through Friday from 9am to 7pm, except holidays.

How do I get discounted parking?
Tokens are available for purchase at a 33% discount and are available at the Police Station, Harvey’s and the Dover Chamber of Commerce. You may also consider getting a monthly pass.

Long-term downtown parkers are encouraged to purchase monthly permits for one of the convenient downtown parking lots. There is no time limit in these parking lots. The permits can be purchased at the Police Station M-F, 8:30am to 4pm.

$45 per Month
School Street lot, Orchard Street lot, Belknap Lot, Chapel Street and Main Street

$35 per month
First Street Lot

$30 per month
Third Street Lot

$20 per Month
Chestnut Street lot, Kirkland Street, Henry Law Avenue
Free
The Grimes Lot off of Portland Ave

General Parking Questions

Where do you park if you don’t want to pay a meter?
Some areas adjacent to the downtown as still free to park. Chapel Street, Broadway, the lower third of Second Street, and Chestnut Street have no meters but are limited to two hours.

What about snow removal and access to the meters?
As part of this program, the City will enhance the snow removal in the downtown core to make sidewalks readily accessible.

How do you pay for a violation?
You can mail in a check in the supplied yellow envelope or pay by cash, credit card*, or check in person at the Dover Police Department. If you come in other than when the parking clerk is available (M-F; 8:30am to 4pm) you may leave cash or checks in the secure drop slot in the lobby. To get instructions after hours on using a meter to pay a violation, see the on-duty dispatcher in the lobby or follow them below.

How do I pay a violation by credit card?
You can come to the lobby during the parking clerk’s hours as noted above or use the meter on Hale Street closest to the front of the police station. It is the only meter with a yellow button option.

1) Have your credit card ready in the proper orientation before proceeding. Metal strip facing down and on the right side.
2) Press the yellow button once. The screen will note “fine payment”.
3) Insert your credit card (no debit cards) all the way in until it is about 90% into the machine. There is a slight bump at first to keep water out of the machine. If you did not put your card in to the point it reads “remove card quickly”, it was not put in far enough.
4) Press “add time” to the amount you need to pay. There is a $1 service added. It starts and $16 and goes up in $5 increments. Tickets are normally $15, $30 and $50 depending on where it is in the late payment cycle.
5) IF THE SCREEN SHOWS ANY AMOUNT UNDER $16, IT IS STILL IN THE MODE TO DISPENSE A REGULAR PARKING RECEIPT. HIT CANCEL AND START AGAIN.
6) Once you get the amount you need to pay, hit the green “PRINT” button. The machine will validate your credit card and print a receipt.
7) YOU MUST LEAVE THE LARGER PART OF THE RECEIPT, KEEPING THE RIGHT SIDE FOR YOUR RECORDS, IN THE DROP SLOT IN THE LOBBY ALONG WITH YOUR TICKET TO GET PROPER CREDIT.

8) If you would like a phone call to verify we received your payment, make a note on the envelop with your phone number.