No excuse for abusing accessible parking

The City of Edmonton is reminding drivers that designated accessible parking stalls require proper parking permits with the proclamation of Accessible Parking Awareness Week, November 23 - 27, 2015.

Lazy is not a disability

"Accessible parking stalls are a necessity, not a privilege, for people with disabilities," said Mayor Don Iveson. "Together we can help protect our most vulnerable citizens by leaving accessible parking stalls for individuals who need them."

Drivers who use accessible parking stalls without valid permits may be putting fellow residents at risk.

"With the holiday season approaching, I would like to thank and continue to encourage all citizens of Edmonton to be mindful of where they park in the coming months" said Zachary Weeks of Edmonton's Accessibility Advisory Committee. "With the transition we are currently seeing as our baby boomers get older and winter safety a factor for everyone, the availability of wheelchair accessible parking stalls are at a premium."

Any vehicle parked in an accessible parking zone without a valid permit will be fined $250 and could have their vehicle towed and impounded.

"Over the past three years, our Parking Enforcement Officers have issued more than 10,000 tickets to people parked illegally in disabled parking stalls with an average of almost 3,600 a year," said Troy Courtoreille, acting director for Complaints and Investigations. "That's more than thirty-six hundred opportunities lost to those who legally and rightfully need these spaces."

Parking permits for people with disabilities are issued by Alberta Transportation. For application forms, visit any Alberta Registry Agent or the Service Alberta Driver-Vehicle Information website.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/accessibleparking

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