

PROTOCOL to report vehicles

Illegally parked along Camino de Oeste per PIMA Sheriff 4-8-2024:

Anyone can call to report vehicles parked on either Camino de Oeste or Lessing Lane because both are public-owned streets. It doesn't have to be the Board or Manager; any resident or homeowner from Countryside Villas, Heights, Valley, or Manor can call.

OPTIONAL: To check if it's stolen or get more info on vehicle, this is helpful to sheriff:

- Look up license plate: <https://www.lookupaplate.com/arizona/AJB9374/> (you can change to other state besides Arizona, it will give you vin#)
- Look up vin# Free lookup vin# (must have 17 digits/newer car)
<https://driving-tests.org/vin-decoder/>

The Sheriff is the only one that enforces ticketing and towing, but residents have to call it in, or they won't ticket the vehicle because "they don't patrol it."

1. Call **PIMA Sheriff non-emergency line 520-351-4900**

You must provide: make, model, color, lic plate #, State, and date tags expire

2. When they ask the address say:

*"along the **shoulder** on Camino de Oeste 300 yards North of Lessing Lane, 85742"*

3. Explain: *"it's not a parking lot, it's public street parking on the shoulder"*

4. If it's for Lessing Lane, that's easier for them to find, however, make sure to tell them it is outside of the gated community and give the approximate address where the vehicle is closest to.

You may have to go to the location to show the officer exactly where the vehicle is, because Camino is a long street and there's no addresses marked.

EXAMPLES OF ITEMS TO REPORT:

- RVs parked there, most likely someone living in them
- Vehicles parked there with FOR SALE signs
- Unhitched trailers
- Trailers, campers, RVs, trucks, or vehicles over 8' ft wide (including mirrors) as they obstruct bicycle lane
- No inoperable vehicles nor **expired tags**; *PAVED SHOULDER cannot be used as a storage lot for any vehicle
- No parking in lane with hash lines (any portion on paved shoulder with hash lines is NOT for parking)
- No parking in bicycle lane—no portion of any parked vehicle may extend past parking line into bicycle lane

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR EXPIRED REGISTRATION & ABANDONED VEHICLES

EXPIRED REGISTRATION & ABANDONED VEHICLES



Grace / Notice Period

- When a deputy **green-tags a vehicle as abandoned**, the sheriff's rules allow a tow to be initiated **no sooner than 48 hours after the green tag is placed**. That means the vehicle must remain tagged and not moved for **at least 48 hours** before it can legally be towed by law enforcement.



Why this matters

- The green tag is essentially a legal “notice” under county procedures — it starts a **minimum 48-hour window** so owners have a chance to move the vehicle before enforcement.
- After that 48-hour period, deputies may arrange a tow if the vehicle still meets the criteria for removal.
- If the vehicle presents a **traffic hazard or obstruction**, that could justify removal sooner than the 48 hours.



State Definition of “Abandoned Vehicle”

Under Arizona Revised Statutes, an **abandoned vehicle** is defined as one that:

- Is the type that *should* be registered, and
- Has been abandoned on a public highway, public property, or elsewhere in the state.

Evidence that a vehicle has been **left unattended for 48 hours on a public road** is *prima facie evidence* that it's abandoned.

This means:

- ◆ If it sits on the public right-of-way without movement for 48+ hours, police can presume it is abandoned.
- ◆ Expired registration is a **factor** that law enforcement *can consider* when evaluating abandonment, but it is **not conclusively determinative on its own** — there must be other evidence of abandonment.