Chapter 755

AUTO SALVAGE, REPAIR AND MATERIALS HANDLING FACILITIES

Section 755-1 Purpose, Intent, and Authority

A. Purpose. To promote public health, safety, and environmental protection by regulating the siting and operation of auto salvage, repair, and materials handling facilities. Ensuring the proper storage and disposal of sensitive and hazardous materials to prevent nuisances and environmental pollution.
B. Intent. To establish standards for site design, maintenance, and operation; Protect groundwater, surface water, and air quality; Minimize visual, noise, and traffic impacts; Ensure compliance with state and federal environmental and licensing laws.
C. Authority. Adopted under powers granted to counties by the Illinois Counties Code 55 ILCS 5, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act 415 ILCS 5, and other applicable statutes.

Section 755-2 Applicability and Exemptions

A. Applicability. This Ordinance applies to all new, expanded, or modified auto salvage yards, recycling or materials handling facilities, and specific locations of auto repair facilities in the unincorporated areas of Carroll County, IL.
B. Exemptions:

1. Licensed auto dealership businesses conducting incidental repairs.
2. On-farm equipment repair.
3. Vehicle repairs made within an enclosed building, with no more than six (6) vehicles stored outdoors at one time, and all vehicles comply with Chapter 740 Hazardous Dilapidated Motor Vehicles.

Section 755-3 Definitions

Repair Facility- A business primarily engaged in repairing, maintaining, or customizing motorized equipment, boats, or vehicles, including mechanical, electrical, body, or paint work.

Salvage Yard / Recycling Facility- Land or structures used for dismantling, storing, crushing, or recycling of vehicles and similar materials for resale or scrap.

Fluid Management System- Containment and storage infrastructure for oils, fuels, antifreeze, transmission fluid, and other hazardous materials.

Hazardous Material- is defined as a waste that, due to its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, biological or infectious characteristics, may significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or illness, or pose a substantial threat to health or the environment.

Junk Vehicle- Any inoperable, wrecked, dismantled, or abandoned vehicle stored outdoors for more than thirty (30) days.

Materials Handling Facility (MHF)- A site or facility engaged in the onsite collection of bulk waste and recycling materials. Where materials are stockpiled, sorted, processed, loaded, and transferred for disposal or further processing. Materials include but not limited to: residential and commercial waste, construction and demolition debris, metals, plastics, glass, tires, electronics, chemicals, biomass, other recyclables, and similar commodities.

Screening- Fencing, walls, or vegetation that obscure outdoor storage areas from public view.

Sensitive Receptor- Residences, schools, parks, or similar public areas deemed sensitive to noise, dust, or visual impacts.

Section 755-4 Permit Requirements

A. Special Use Permit required following standards established in County Chapter 700; however, repair facilities are exempt as an allowed use within the Business (B-1) and Commercial (C-1) Districts.
B. State Licenses. The operator must maintain and submit proof of a valid Illinois Secretary of State auto recycler or repairer licenses and all Illinois EPA permits as required. Proof of licensure shall be submitted within three months of the issuance of the County Special Use Permit and upon request of the Zoning Officer.
C. Transfer. Permits and licenses are non-transferable.

Section 755-5 Application Requirements

A. Application form and fee.
B. Ownership and operator contact information.
C. Site plan showing property boundaries, structures, access roads, drainage, screening, and storage areas.
D. Narrative describing operations, maximum inventory, and management practices.
E. Spill Prevention and Response Plan.
F. Fire protection and emergency access plan.
G. Proof of required state/federal permits.
H. Proof of notification to adjoining property owners (250 ft radius).
I. Financial Assurance Required. The owner or operator shall provide financial assurance to the County. Repair Facility: $15,000 or $1000 per vehicle storage capacity, whichever is greater**.** Auto Salvage Yard/Materials Handling Facility: $30,000 or $1000 per vehicle storage capacity, whichever is greater. Financial assurance may be provided in one of the following forms:

    1. Performance bond issued by a surety company licensed to do business in the State of Illinois.
    2. Irrevocable letter of credit from a financial institution.
    3. Any other financial guarantee agreement approved by the county.

Section 755-6 Siting and Separation Standards

A. Minimum Lot Size Requirements. Lots shall comply with applicable standards of the zoning district in which the property is located.

B. Setbacks. Vehicle storage, buildings, and dismantling areas: 50 ft from all property lines. 300 ft from the nearest sensitive receptor building.
C. Groundwater Protection. Concrete or asphalt pads under dismantling and fluid-drain areas. No storage or dismantling in flood zones or wetlands.

Section 755-7 Site Design and Development Standards

A. Access. Direct access to a public road or highway; access from local residential or subdivision street prohibited.
B. Screening shall meet the following requirements:

1. Fencing. Minimum 8-ft fence or wall required.
2. Where required by the zoning district or when visible from a public roadway or adjacent property, screening may be required and provided through an opaque fence, vegetative buffer, or a combination thereof. Vegetative screening shall consist of evergreen plantings not less than five (5) feet in height at the time of installation and shall be maintained in a healthy condition to provide effective year-round screening.

C. Surface Stabilization. All dismantling, processing, or fluid-handling areas shall be paved or concreted.
D. Stormwater Control. Site stormwater drainage shall be contained, controlled.
E. Lighting. Any lighting used to illuminate an off-street parking areas or sign shall be full cut-off fixtures arranged to deflect light away from any adjoining residential property or from the public streets; light spill ≤ 0.5 foot-candles at property line.
F. Fire Access. Maintain 20-ft fire lanes, or as required by local fire district.

Section 755-8 Operational Standards

A. Vehicle Handling. Drain all fluids before dismantling or crushing; store drained vehicles on approved parking surfaces, no parking or holding vehicles in public roadways.
B. Fluid Storage. Label containers; use suitable and uncompromised tanks for containment.
C. Spill Prevention. Maintain absorbent materials and spill kits on-site.
D. Crushing and Shredding. Only in designated areas; noise not to exceed 65 dBA at property line.
E. Stacking Limits. Materials may not be stacked more than three (3) vehicles high or equivalent; maintain stable stacking configurations.
F. Hazardous Materials Management. All hazardous materials and waste handled per IEPA standards, and IPCB Title 35.
G. Waste Management. Waste materials shall be handled, stored, contained, and disposed to prevent nuisances, health risks, and environmental harm. No burning or disposal on site.
H. Pest Control. Regular abatement of weeds, rodents, and standing water.
I. Recordkeeping. Maintain logs of received/salvaged or sold vehicles, waste disposal, inspections, and incidents for 3 years.

Section 755-9 Inspection and Monitoring

A. Inspections. With 24-hour notice, County Officials may inspect facilities during business hours.

B. Review. Operation contingent upon satisfactory inspections.
C. Violations. Written notice will specify corrective actions, timeframes, and deadlines.

Section 755-10 Closure and Site Restoration

A. Notification. Provide written notice to County 60 days before permanent closure.
B. Closure Plan and Site Restoration. A plan shall be created and submitted that details the removal of vehicles, fluids, and debris; Upon the voluntary closure, abandonment, revocation, expiration, or any other forfeiture of a Special Use Permit, the property owner and/or permit holder shall, within a period not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, implement and complete the closure plan which shall include, at a minimum: the removal of all salvage materials, vehicles, parts, equipment, waste, and debris; the proper disposal of all hazardous or regulated materials in accordance with applicable laws. Restoration. Site must be stabilized and free from contaminants prior to release of financial assurance. Failure to complete the closure plan within the prescribed timeframe shall constitute a violation of the code.

Section 755-11 Enforcement and Penalties

A. Violations. It is unlawful to operate without required permits or in violation of required conditions of this chapter.
B. Upon evidence that a violation of this ordinance has been committed, the Zoning Officer will conduct the following:

    1. Notify the property owner of the violation by mail, giving a timeframe determined by the Zoning Officer in which to secure the permit, pay a fine or correct the violation.
    2. Upon a failure to comply with notice, a uniform non-traffic citation shall be issued upon the owner of property, which shall require an appearance before the circuit court.
    3. The State's Attorney may bring suit seeking to permanently enjoin any ongoing violation of this ordinance.
    4. Penalties may include stop-work orders, fines, permit revocation, and other actions as authorized by law.
    5. Violations may be fined up to $500 per offense. Each week a violation or failure to comply exists may constitute as a separate offense.
    6. A lien shall be imposed on the real estate or personal estate, or both, of the defendant in the amount of any debt due and owing the county for a violation of a county ordinance. 55 ILCS 5/5-43035 (d).

Section 755-12 Pre-Existing, Non-Conforming Uses

A. Existing Facilities. Any lawfully operating facility established prior to the adoption of this ordinance on date _____ 2026, shall be deemed a legal use, but shall be required to comply with the operation standards established within one (1) year upon passage of this ordinance and shall be subject to enforcement.
B. Expansion/Modifications. Any change that increases capacity, footprint, hours, or off-site impacts beyond previously approved thresholds will require a Special Use Permit and will trigger full compliance requirements.

Section 755-13 Severability

If any section or provision is declared invalid, remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

Section 755-14 Effective Date

This Ordinance takes effect upon passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED by the COUNTY BOARD of CARROLL COUNTY, Illinois, this __ day of ____, 2026.

ATTEST:
County Clerk: _____

Board Chair: _____