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### Auto registration fine appeals deadline at University of Montana is April 7

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IMMEDIATELY

sale/js  
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state + csAUTO REGISTRATION  
FINE APPEALS DEADLINE  
AT UM IS APRIL 7

MISSOULA---

Students, faculty and staff at the University of Montana who have received tickets in two campus parking areas since Jan. 27 for failing to register motor vehicles have until April 7 to appeal their cases for possible refund of no-registration fines.

J.A. Parker, UM Physical Plant director, said a no-fine moratorium from Jan. 27-April 7 has been declared for vehicle drivers parking in lot T behind the new University Center and along the campus perimeter drive, which joins the east ends of Beckwith and 5th Streets.

The moratorium is result of a number of complaints submitted by drivers at the UM Physical Plant Security Office for no-registration tickets given out in the two parking areas by UM security police. Those receiving tickets between Jan. 27 and April 7 may appeal their fines at the office because the Traffic Board already has returned no-registration fines to a number of the complainers.

"At first the Traffic Board felt those parking in the two areas were justified in demanding return of the no-registration fines," Parker explained, "but upon review of the decision the Board decided fines should be paid after a reasonable length of time is allotted to inform those parking in the two areas of University traffic regulations."

Parker said a number of those complaining about the tickets feel registration stickers shouldn't be required in parking lot T because it is a metered area, and along the perimeter drive because they claim the drive doesn't belong to the University.

In answer to the complaints Parker emphasizes that both areas belong to the University and therefore they both are governed by University regulations. One requirement is that all vehicles used on University property must be registered at the Physical Plant Security Office.

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Fine for failing to register a motor vehicle is \$5 plus mandatory purchase of a registration decal, which is in effect during the three quarters of the academic year.

Parker said the State Board of Regents in 1966 authorized the University in Missoula and the other units of the Montana University System to assess up to \$5 per quarter or \$15 per year per car as a vehicle registration fee.

Registration fees vary among the university system units, with the UM charging \$3 per quarter or \$9 per year for each vehicle registered since the fall of 1967.

"The parking regulations," Parker emphasized, "are for the convenience of all users of University facilities."

Parker said the vehicle registration fees are used to provide hard surfaces and lighting for campus parking lots. Registration also aids in vehicle-owner identification in case some vehicles have to be moved for removal of snow or for the convenience of emergency vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances.

Ray Chapman, student union director at UM, and Parker are studying the possibility of changing a number of the 167 parking meters in parking lot T from the present one-hour time limits to two-hour and five-hour limits to allow more time for University Center visitors to attend luncheons and conferences. To avoid overtime parking fines now the meters must be fed at least once an hour between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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