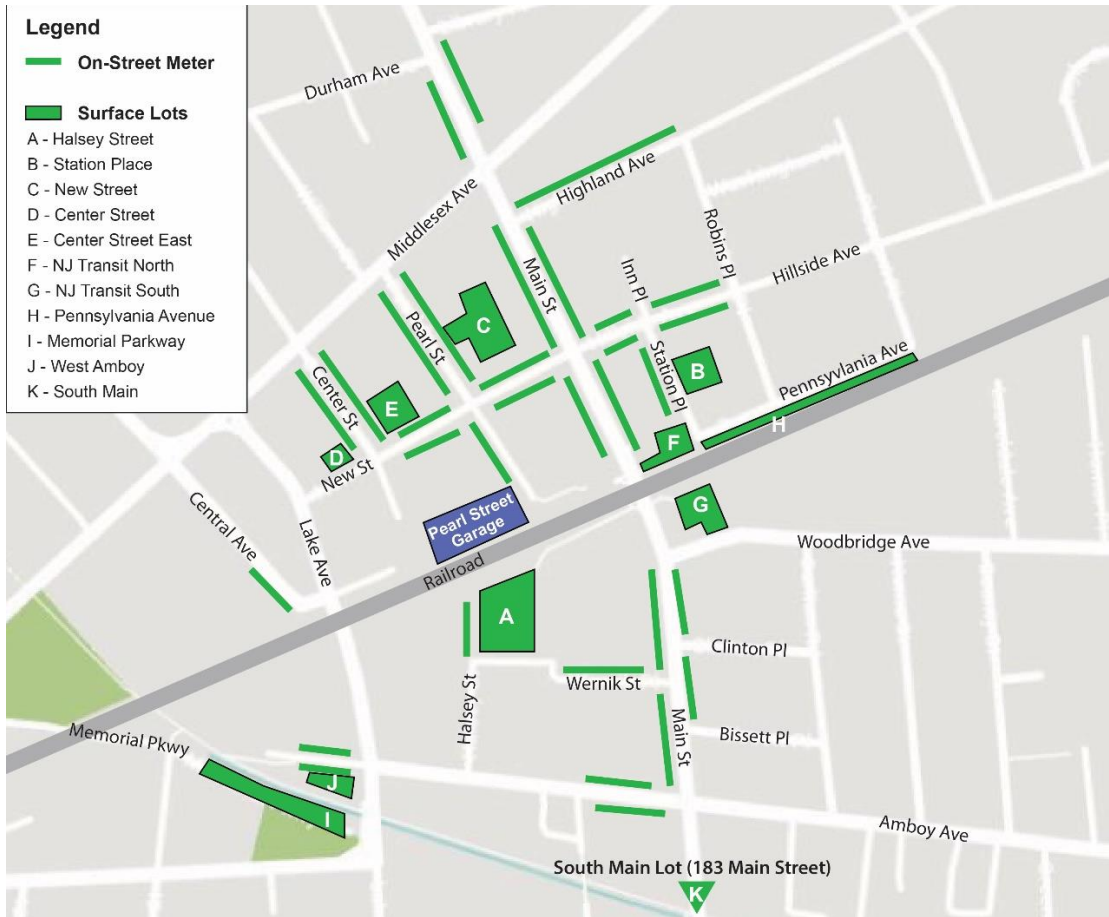


Metuchen Parking Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Parking Locations

Public parking can be found at the locations pictured below:



Short-Term Parking

1. Where is short-term parking available?

- At on-street meters for up to 2 hours.
- In Center Street Lot, Center Street East Lot, and New Street Lot for up to 4 hours.
- In Halsey Street Lot for a maximum of 24 hours.

- In South Main Lot, Station Place Lot, and the NJ Transit Lots.
- At the Pearl Street Garage, parking is available hourly, daily, and for up to 21 days. Please note that long-term parkers pay less by purchasing a parking permit.

2. What are the rates for short-term parking?

- \$1.00/hour at on-street meters.
- \$1.00/hour for the first two hours and \$2.00/hour for the next two hours in Center Street Lot, Center Street East Lot, and New Street Lot.
- \$0.50/hour in the NJ Transit Lots, Station Place Lot, Halsey Street Lot, and South Main Lot.
- \$5.00 for the first 3 hours at the Pearl Street Garage. [Click here](#) for short-term rates.

3. How do I pay for parking?

- Credit/debit cards at credit-enabled meters and pay stations. American Express, Discover, VISA and Mastercard are accepted.
- Through the [Park Smarter app](#). Pay-by-app instructions are available on the meters and pay stations.
- Park Smarter accepts American Express, Discover, VISA and Mastercard.
- Coins/cash are not accepted at meters or pay stations.

4. I parked at a space and there is time remaining on the meter from the previous parking session. How can I extend the time to pay for my parking session?

- At credit/debit enabled meters, time can be added by inserting and removing your card, then adding time up to the 2-hour limit.
- You can start a new session on the Park Smarter app.
- Please note, 10-minute free parking cannot be activated until the previous parking session ends. You cannot add 10 free minutes to a previous or existing parking session.

5. Is there any free parking downtown?

- You can park at any credit-enabled meter for free for 10 minutes by pressing the 'OK' button on the meter. This convenience is for "quick" pickup or drop-off transactions. You cannot add 10 free minutes to an existing parking session.
- There are 15-minute free parking spaces located at on-street meter locations downtown. Look for meter heads with red bags.
- Metered spaces are free on Sunday and federal holidays.
- The Pearl Street Garage is free for up to 3 hours from Friday at 5pm to Sunday at 11:59pm.

6. Is parking at the Pearl Street Garage open to anyone?

- Yes! Residents, employees, diners, shoppers, and visitors are welcome and encouraged to use the Pearl Street Garage.

Parking Violations and Enforcement

1. What are the hours of enforcement?

- On-street meters from Monday-Saturday 8am-6pm
- Off-street lots from Monday-Saturday 8am-10pm

2. Why enforce parking?

- To ensure that parking is available for the various users (shoppers, diners, visitors, workers, commuters, etc.) in Metuchen, enforcement of parking regulations is necessary. Creating greater availability of parking is the goal of parking enforcement.
- Parking enforcement promotes greater availability of short-term spaces and prevents permit spaces from being taken by non-permit vehicles.
- Parking enforcement helps to ensure a steady flow of traffic by deterring illegal parking in loading zones and bus stops.

3. How do I pay for parking tickets?

- Parking and traffic tickets are paid [online](#) through NJMCdirect.

4. What are the rates for parking violations/tickets?

- Overtime parking is \$44 for on-street meters and \$39 for off-street meters.
- Parking without a permit in permit spaces is \$44.

Permit Parking

1. How can I purchase a parking permit from the Metuchen Parking Authority (MPA)?

- Apply for a permit by filling out an application form [online](#).
- Once your application is submitted, the MPA permit clerk will contact you to determine availability and proof of residency if needed.
- Once availability is determined, applicants can purchase a permit by cash or check in person, or by credit card or e-check [online](#).
- If you are paying by check, please write your permit number on your check and include a stamped self-addressed envelope. Checks can be put in the drop box located in the rear of Borough Hall.
- Once purchased, your hangtag will be mailed, or you can pick it up in person at the Borough Hall. Permits must be displayed on the rearview mirror only.
- Please note, the Pearl Street garage is not managed by the MPA, so monthly permits for the garage must be purchased through the NexPass app. Instructions are available on the [Nexus website](#).

2. Do I have to be a Metuchen resident to purchase a quarterly parking permit?

- No, parking permits are open to anyone.

3. What are the rates for parking permits?

- \$165 per quarter (3 months) in South Main Lot, West Amboy Lot, and Memorial Parkway Lot.
- \$165 per quarter for residents and \$270 per quarter for non-residents in Halsey Street Lot.

- \$270 per quarter in Center Street Lot, Center Street East Lot, New Street Lot, and Station Place Lot. **There are currently no spaces available in these lots and a wait list exists.**
- \$270 per quarter for residents and \$330 per quarter for non-residents in Pennsylvania Avenue Lot.

4. Is there a waitlist for permits?

- There are a limited number of permits available to the public at any given time, so you may be put on a waitlist when purchasing a permit depending on the lot. Additional permits will be administered over time. Currently there are spaces available in the commuter lots at Halsey Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

5. Does purchasing a permit guarantee a space?

- No, spaces in lots are first-come, first-served. There are no assigned spaces.

6. Can I share my permit with a friend or family member?

- No, permits are not transferrable.
- Your car must be registered with the Metuchen Parking Authority, and you must notify the Authority of permanent changes in car information. You must display your permit in cars used on a temporary basis.

7. How can I renew my permit?

- Permits are sold on a quarterly basis (Jan-Mar) (Apr-June) (July-Sept) (Oct-Dec) or semi-annual basis at prevailing rates.
- Renewal Payment must be received by the 20th of the month in which your permit expires. If not received by the 20th, your permit may be canceled. If you are not renewing your permit please contact the Authority as soon as possible.
- Additionally, a \$25 fee will be charged for a permit cancelled prior to its expiration at the end of the quarter.

8. What should I do if I lose my permit?

- There is a \$15 fee to replace lost permits.

Ticket Validation at the Pearl Street Garage

1. How can patrons use the validation system at the Pearl Street Garage?

Patrons at participating restaurants or businesses can now park for free or reduced price at the Pearl Street Garage!

- Start your parking session in the Nexpass app when arriving at the garage.
- At the end of your meal or session, you will receive a discount code.
- Open 'My Parking Sessions' in app and apply the discount code.
- The discount will be deducted from your parking fee when you exit the garage.

2. I own a restaurant or business downtown; how can I set up validation for my patrons?

- Restaurant owners can contact Adam Hulse Adam.Hulse@nexusparkingsystems.com to set up a validation program for their patrons.

3. I own a business downtown; is there a parking pass or validation I can purchase for my employees?

- Business owners can pay for their employees to park in the Pearl Street Garage for a daily rate of \$5.
- Contact Adam Hulse Adam.Hulse@nexusparkingsystems.com for more information.

EV Charging

1. Are there any EV charging locations in public lots?

- There are 6 charging stations located in the Pearl Street Garage.

Bicycle Storage

1. Are there any secure bike storage locations?

- There are bike lockers located at the NJ Transit station north lot.
- Bike lockers are available for \$120 a year with a \$50 key deposit.

For more information, please contact the Metuchen Parking Authority at

metuchenpa@optimum.net

732-548-5553