



**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN**  
**Regulations Applicable to Housing**  
519 Washington Ave, Grand Haven, MI 616.847.4886  
[www.grandhaven.org](http://www.grandhaven.org)

The following is a summarized list of applicable City ordinances that must be adhered to by all owners residing within the City of Grand Haven. For more information on the regulations or to read them in their entirety, please see the applicable City Code or contact the Department.

**PARKING** (*Zoning Ordinance and City Code of Ordinances*) [Downtown Parking Info / Parking Ordinances](#)

- Cars, recreation vehicles, boats and trailers must be parking on a paved surface.
  - Boats, trailers and recreational vehicles may be stored in a driveway within a front yard for a period of not more than five (5) consecutive days in any thirty (30) day period.
  - No recreational vehicle, camper or boat and trailer shall be parked or stored on any roadway or road right-of-way.
  - Parking or storage of temporary dwellings, recreational vehicles, campers, boats and trailers, on the street or front yard for more than forty-eight (48) hours at a time is prohibited. Each occurrence shall be separated by at least seven (7) days.
  - Sleeping and/or living within a temporary dwelling, camper, recreational vehicle or trailer is prohibited.
- No parking on any City Street from December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2 a.m. till 6 a.m. (This time is made for removing snow from city streets and is *enforced regardless* if it is snowing or not snowing).
- No parking in City Parking Lots year around from 2 a.m. till 6 a.m. except in designated areas by permit for Downtown Residential Parking Program. (Must be a resident in the Downtown area and show proof of residency for this permit at City Hall).

**NOISE AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS** (*City Code of Ordinances*) [Noise Ordinances](#)

- It shall be unlawful for any person to make unnecessary noise or any noise which either annoys or disturbs others in the city.
- No unnecessary blowing of any horn or warning device in the city which disturbs or annoys others in the city.
- It shall be unlawful to play any musical instrument or allow any electrically or electronically produced, reproduced or amplified sound to emanate from any place or premises between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing or the making of any other loud noise on the public streets, between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., disturbing the peace of anyone in the vicinity is unlawful.

- The use of any drum, loud speaker, amplifier, or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention is unlawful.
- No person operating or in control of a parked or moving motor vehicle (including motorcycles or mopeds) shall operate or permit the operation of an electronically-amplified sound system in or about the vehicle so as to produce sound that is clearly audible at a distance of fifty (50) feet from the vehicle between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., or clearly audible at a distance of twenty-five (25) feet from the vehicle between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

**GARBAGE/TRASH** (*International Property Maintenance Code*) [Trash/Refuse Ordinances](#) [Littering Ordinances](#)

- All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage.
- Every occupant of a structure shall dispose of garbage in a clean and sanitary manner.
- The operator/owner of every establishment shall provide approved leak proof containers for garbage until removed from the premises for disposal.

**RECREATIONAL FIRES** (*International Fire Code*) [Fire Code/Ordinances](#)

A recreational fire is permitted provided as follows;

- **General.** A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with this section. Wood is the only fuel allowed for recreational fires. No use of leaves, cardboard, grasses, construction materials, or petroleum products are allowed.
- **Prohibited Open Burning.** Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous shall be prohibited.
- **Recreational Fires.** The fire must be contained in a “pit” “ring” or other type of structure. This “pit” “ring” or other type of structure must be twenty-five (25) feet from a structure. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- **Attendance.** Open burning such as bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A water hose or extinguisher will be immediately at hand for extinguishing a fire.

**FIREWORKS** (*State of Michigan Law*) [Fireworks Ordinances](#)

- **Consumer Fireworks-Firecrackers,** bottle rockets, and similar devices. These were previously considered “Class C” fireworks and were illegal in Michigan prior to PA 256 of 2011 (Michigan Fireworks Safety Act). The sale of consumer fireworks to adults (Age 18) in Michigan by vendors licensed by the State Fire Marshalls Office is now allowed through the “Consumer Fireworks Certificate” program.
- **Low-impact Fireworks-Ground** and handheld sparklers, etc. (Can’t use while intoxicated. Otherwise not restricted.)

**ANIMALS** (*City Code of Ordinances*) [Animal Ordinances Zoning](#) [Animal Ordinances General](#)

- The keeping of any animal or bird which, by causing frequent or long continued noise, shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person is unlawful.
- All dogs and pets must be on a leash, no longer than six (6) feet (if not retractable), twenty five (25) feet (if retractable), and under the control of the person holding the leash, anywhere in the City except private property. Electronic controls are not adequate restraints.
- It shall be unlawful for any owner to permit or allow any dog to be at large at any place within the limits of the city, except in an area designated and posted for the unleashed use.
- No person shall allow such animal to be in any park or on any beach or any public place under the control of the city at any time.
- Anyone in control of an animal will immediately clean up excrement of its animal in any public place.

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

- Emergency Police and Fire – 911
- Ottawa County Non-Emergency – 1.800.249.0911
- Non-Emergency/Administrative Police Department – 616.842.3460
- City Hall – 616.847.4886
- Code Enforcement—616.842.3460

If you have any questions regarding the ordinances regulating housing, please contact the City of Grand Haven City Planner at 616.935.3276. The Department is open Monday –Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm.

Sincerely,

*Brian Urquhart*

City Planner