

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP

GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

The Chikaming Township Board is committed to building and maintaining good relationships among all property owners, residents and visitors. To demonstrate this commitment, the Chikaming Township Board adopted a Good Neighbor Policy and Guidelines on May 13, 2010 and a supporting Noise and Nuisance Ordinance on May 13, 2010. (*Ordinance No. 131, effective June 27, 2010*) The purpose of this Policy is to promote good relationships by providing guidance to the property owners, residents and visitors on how to best build and maintain positive relationships.

GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDELINES

I. Preamble

The Chikaming Township Board encourages all property owners, residents and visitors to live up to the tenets of the following Good Neighbor Guidelines. The Good Neighbor Guidelines outline the basic elements of being a responsible property owner, resident and visitor in Chikaming Township. As such, everyone is responsible for upholding all state law, adopted building codes and township ordinances, specifically those relating to noise, traffic, parking, zoning, lighting and consumption of alcohol and related consequences in neighborhoods.

II. Code of Conduct

- A. Property Maintenance
- B. Traffic Safety and Parking
- C. Neighborhood Relations
- D. Public beaches

The following guidelines are consistent with the rights and needs of all residents, standards of common courtesy and are directed toward encouraging and maintaining positive neighbor relationships.

A. Property Maintenance

Chikaming Township Zoning Ordinance No. 87, as amended. Article 15. State Construction Code, Table 1004.1.1, International Property Maintenance Code. Ordinance No. 122, adopted February 9, 2006.

Property owners, residents and visitors are expected to maintain a safe, clean and attractive environment for the health, safety and welfare of themselves, guests and neighbors.

- 1) Maintain and occupy the property in accordance with all fire, health, zoning, building and safety codes.
 - A. Do not exceed the living space requirement per occupant. Over-occupancy complaints are usually made because of noise, parking issues and trash accumulation. The purpose of the living space requirement from the building code is to protect the quality, life safety and livability of our neighborhoods for all residents. State Construction Code, Table 1004.1.1.
- 2) Maintain lawn and landscaping on a regular basis.
- 3) Dispose of litter, trash and garbage on a regular basis in an appropriate manner.
- 4) Use fireworks in accordance with the Fireworks Law Enforcement Guide. Remember, most fireworks are illegal in Michigan.
- 5) Clean up after your dog.
- 6) Control your dog and address excessive barking.
- 7) Bring in your garbage container. If you are not able to do it yourself, ask a neighbor.

B. Traffic Safety and Parking

1) Comply with the laws of the State of Michigan, ordinances of Chikaming Township and hold invited guests to the same standard of conduct.

Specifically:

- a. No parking of tires in the traveled portion of the roadway.
- b. No parking by fire hydrants.
- c. No blocking of neighbors driveways or sidewalks.
- d. Be a courteous driver – slow down.

2) Making provisions for guest parking for social events by informing neighbors, car pooling and possibly making arrangements for off site parking.

3) Educate household members and guests to arrive quietly and to depart in the same manner to avoid disrupting the neighbors.

C. Neighborhood Relations

Ordinance No. 131 (Adopted May 13, 2010, effective June 27, 2010) - Noise and Nuisance regulations.

1) Be responsible for your conduct and encourage guests to adhere to the same standard.

2) Observe quiet hours between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

3) Respect the rights of neighbors and follow existing laws and ordinances. Be courteous.

4) Take active steps to prevent damage to neighbors' property by guests and household members.

5) Be responsible for damage to neighbors' properties caused by household members and guests.

6) Be responsible for mediating and resolving neighbor disputes in a timely fashion.

7) Notify neighbors within 300 feet of planned, large social events and provide a contact person who will be present at the event.

8) Use amplified sound only in accordance with the Noise Ordinance. Exterior amplified sound shall be kept to a minimum.

9) Use best practices for exterior lighting:

- a. Evaluate your exterior lighting to determine if there is glare from the fixtures.
- b. Determine if your lights shine upward into the night sky.
- c. Determine if your lights trespass – glare and spill light caused by exterior lighting that shines onto neighboring property.
- d. Install modification shields to eliminate glare and sky glow.

D. Public Beach and Lake Access Etiquette

1) Please do not trespass on private property.

2) Fires are not allowed on public beaches; public safety concern.

2) Dogs are not allowed on public beaches. (Dogs are welcome at the dog park on Red Arrow Highway and the Chikaming Township Park and Preserve on Warren Woods Road.

3) Personal water craft are not allowed on public beaches; public safety concern.