

Property Maintenance

Big Rapids actively administers a Property Maintenance Ordinance to eliminate blight and litter and to ensure that proper care is given to structures.

Items intended for indoor use such as furniture, appliances and mattresses cannot be placed in the yard/porch and be utilized outside of the structure.

Grass and weeds cannot exceed six inches in height.

Snow must be shoveled from the walkways adjacent to the home within 12 hours of accumulation.

Parking

Parking is prohibited on any street to public parking lot, unless clearly marked "Overnight Parking", from November 15 to and including March 1 between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Parking in yards not designed as parking is prohibited at anytime.

Rental Properties

The City licenses and annually inspects all residential rental properties. Registration and inspection is handled by the Neighborhood Services Department. Non-resident rental property owners must designate a local agent responsible for handling emergencies or complaints.

Smoke detectors are required in all residential rental properties. Owners can be fined for not having them in working order and tenants can be fined for removing the batteries. Owners are strongly encouraged to adopt a lease provision indicating that smoke detectors are present and working when tenants move in.

City of Big Rapids

Big Rapids Department of Public Safety
435 North Michigan Ave.
Police and Fire Non-emergency 231-527-0005
EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Eastside NOP
Officer Eric Little
231-527-0005

Ferris State University DPS
231-591-5000
EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Mecosta County 77th District Court
231-527-0799

City of Big Rapids
City Hall
226 North Michigan Ave.
231-592-4025

Zoning / Code Enforcement
231-592-4057

Neighborhood Services
231-592-4036



**PLAY IT
SMART
SAFE
AND
LEGAL**



**BIG RAPIDS
DEPARTMENT
OF
PUBLIC SAFETY**

PEOPLE MAKE IT HAPPEN

Before you invite your friends over, think about the potential impact on your neighbors. Big Rapids is a unique and diverse community where your neighbors may be homeowners as well as peers. All seek a positive living experience and a high quality of life. It is your responsibility to be a considerate neighbor at all times.

Guidelines for Parties and Special Events

The following is a list of suggestions for all Big Rapids residents regarding parties.

- Visit surrounding neighbors, be friendly and inform them of plans for a party.
- Invite only people you know. The better you know people, the more likely they are to respond to your expectations and requests.
- Do not advertise alcohol related parties to the general public. Large parties tend to get out of control.
- Always provide non-alcoholic beverages as an alternative to alcohol.
- Do NOT allow underage drinking.
- Keep your party under control. If you go outside remember the more than you think, especially at night. Neighbors will become more aware of it.
- Ask guests to respect the neighbors. A host is responsible for the condition of the neighborhood after the party.
- Do not let anyone drive home drunk. A host can be civilly and criminally liable for the drunken person's actions. Know when to stop serving alcohol.

- Remember "NO MEANS NO" No physical intimacy without sober, knowing consent.

STATE AND CITY ORDINANCES

Noise Violations

The creation of any excessive or unreasonable loud noise or music which disturbs the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others within the City be being plainly audible to persons within any dwelling, hotel, hospital, office or other type of residence other than that from which it originates. The violation can result in a civil infraction or misdemeanor ticket.

Open Alcohol in Public

Prohibits the possession of any alcohol beverage in an open container, a container with a broken seal, in any public place, except a licensed liquor establishment.

Minor in Possession of Alcohol (MIP)

This law prohibits the possession or consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21. If an officer has reasonable cause to believe a person less than 21 years of age has consumed alcoholic liquor, the officer may request the person submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis (PBT).

An alcohol reading of .02% or higher can result in a misdemeanor ticket and/or arrest.

A MIP conviction is placed on your driving record for seven years and your license will be sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

Nuisance Party

A social gathering or party which is conducted on premises within the City and which, by reason of the conduct of those persons in attendance, results in any one of the following conditions or events occurring: public drinking, public urination, unlawful sale or consumption of alcohol, loud music/noise and indecent or obscene conduct. This is only a partial list. The penalty is a misdemeanor. In addition, persons attending may be cited with a misdemeanor.

Selling Alcohol

It is a Felony in the State of Michigan to sell alcohol without a license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. It is against the law to charge alcohol by selling cups, charging a "cover charge" to enter the party or by any means to have people pay for the alcohol being supplied by the host.

Dogs on Leash

It is unlawful for the owner or person in control, to permit any dog to run at large upon public places within the City unless such dog shall be attached to a leash of sufficient strength to restrain and control the dog.

Fire Prevention

The Department of Public Safety Fire Division is actively involved in fire prevention. Be sure you stay safe: Keep batteries in smoke detectors and don't use extension cords; used fused power strips.