

ORDINANCE REMINDERS

City Hall is located at 320 W. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

At the City we work hard to make sure that all neighborhoods-both residential and commercial-are good ones, but we need help. Good neighborhoods are made of good neighbors and to have one, we need to be one. Here are some tips that may help:

Residential Neighborhoods . . .

Solid Waste



Not taking care of your trash can turn your neighborhood (and your neighbors' attitudes) ugly in the blink of an eye. Solid waste should be placed in a City bag or a trash can with a City refuse tag (both bags and tags are available at City Hall, Department of Public Works, and at the service desks of most Mt. Pleasant grocery stores) and placed at the curb or in the alley. City ordinance prohibits any accumulation of solid waste for more than six days.

Residents with dumpsters and carts should make sure that all trash put out for pickup is inside the receptacle and that carts are taken to the curb and returned to their storage site in a timely manner. All trash receptacles must be stored out of sight of the street or alley and may not be left at the curb.

Many items, such as glass, #1 and #2 plastics, cans, paperboard and cardboard may be recycled through the City's curbside recycling program, which will reduce the quantity and cost of trash disposal. A list of acceptable materials can be found on the Department of Public Works web page (click on the recycling logo in the section on refuse and recycling), or call 779-5401 for further information.

Noxious Weeds

City ordinance allows grass or weeds 12 inches in height or over (9 inches at rental properties) to be cut by its representative without notice to the property owner. Grass may be mowed as often as necessary to meet the requirements of the ordinance.



Yard Waste

For a small fee, yard waste may be dropped off at the Material Recovery Facility at 4208 E. River Road. (Call 773-9631 for current fees). Brush up to 9" in diameter can be disposed of through the City's chipping program at a cost of \$35 per half hour. Appointments for chipping may be made by calling the Department of Public Works at 779-5401, or the City Treasurer's office at 779-5384.

Animals



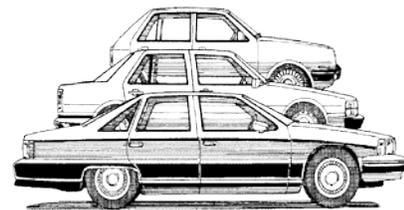
Local ordinance allows no more than three dogs and/or cats in any residence in the city.

You may love your dogs, but your neighbors won't if you don't keep them leashed when not in their own yards as City ordinance requires. Dog walkers are reminded that City ordinance also requires that they carry equipment with them and clean up after their animals.

By ordinance, cat owners are also responsible for cleanup of excrement deposited by their animals on both public and private property.

Parking

Americans' love affair with cars means that we have lots of them, which sometimes causes problems! Vehicles should only be parked on a prepared driveway or in the street, right wheel to curb. Parking is not allowed in yards, across sidewalks or between the sidewalk and curb. Residents and guests may park overnight on city streets only between May 1 and September 1, except in the Central Business District, where no on-street parking is allowed year-round.



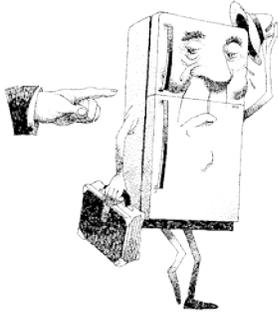
Inoperative Vehicles

City ordinance prohibits outside storage on private property for more than 10 days of any vehicle that does not meet the following conditions:

- 4 An engine that runs
- 4 All necessary driving units and gears in operating condition
- 4 Four wheels with four pneumatic tires capable of holding air
- 4 Current license plates (and insurance)
- 4 A battery capable of starting and operating the vehicle and its accessories

An inoperative vehicle may, however, be stored in a completely enclosed building, such as the owner's garage. Covering the vehicle with a tarp or other cover is not an acceptable means of storage.

Indoor Furniture and Appliances Outdoors



Residents are reminded that indoor furniture (couches, chairs or other furniture designed for indoor use) and appliances are not to be placed on porches, in yards or anywhere outdoors. And for the safety of children, remove doors on unused refrigerators and freezers and dispose of them promptly.

In Commercial Districts . . .

Permanent Signs

All permanent signs require permits. Information on sign regulations and permit fees is available from the Building Official at 779-5301.

Portable Signs

Businesses in the C-3 (General Business) District may have a portable sign twice in a year for up to 30 days each time. Permits are required, and these are available at the Department of Building Safety at City Hall or on our website at www.mt-pleasant.org/depts/buildinsp/forms.htm. The fee is \$1 for each day the sign is displayed.

Clearing of Sidewalks in Winter

It is the responsibility of the commercial property owner to remove snow from sidewalks in business districts within 18 hours after snow, sleet, or freezing rain ceases to fall, with the exception of Sundays and holidays (Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day). In this case, snow must be cleaned by noon the day following the Sunday or holiday. If the snow or ice is too hard to remove, the owner must spread enough sand or other abrasive to make travel reasonably safe, and, as soon as weather permits, must clear a path of at least 48 inches in width.

Code enforcement officers are empowered to write a municipal civil infraction ticket to property owners who do not fulfill this requirement of the ordinance.

A little effort goes a long way, and City staff stands ready to help. Call 779-5105 or e-mail us at www.mt-pleasant.org for further information. Working together, each doing a small part, we can make each neighborhood a great one!