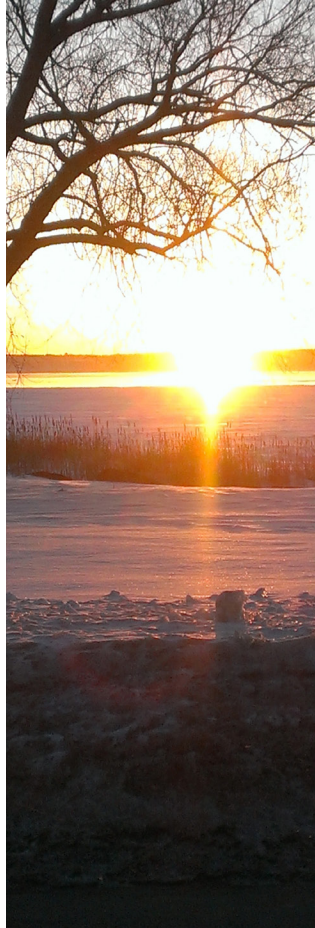




# GOOD VISITOR GUIDELINES



# ACME TOWNSHIP

# WELCOME TO ACME TOWNSHIP!

Welcome to Acme Township! We are glad you have chosen our community as your place to stay and visit. The Good Visitor Guidelines has been created to ensure enjoyment by both guests and residents. A couple of quick points:

- ◇ The short-term rental you are occupying may be located in a residential neighborhood with homes located in close proximity to one another. The majority of our homes are occupied by year-round residents who are living their day-to-day lives, including getting up early for school and work. We just ask you respect their right to the quiet enjoyment of their property, as they will yours.
- ◇ Acme Township values its rich agricultural heritage, and the farmers that sustain these operations. The short-term rental you are staying in may be located in an agricultural district and necessary agricultural activities may take place day and night around you to support these operations. Please know that these activities and the farmers that conduct them are protected under the Michigan Right to Farm Act (Public Act 93 of 1981, as amended)
- ◇ Regarding the guidelines and ordinances that follow, please understand that if a violation occurs, the neighboring property owners may contact the designated local agent for your short-term rental, the Sheriff's department, Acme Township, or Township designee to report any issues related to the property.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

Grand Traverse Sheriff's Department (non-emergency) **(231) 995-5000**

Acme Township Hall **(231) 938-1350**

Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services **(231) 947-3000**

Animal Control **(231) 995-6080**

DNR Traverse City Customer Service Center **(231) 922-5280**

**\*\*\* For all emergencies call 911 \*\*\***

## PARKING

Motorized vehicles and trailers are only allowed in designated parking spaces. Designated parking spaces may include driveways, carports, parking bays and garages. If you park in one of these areas, then all will be well. Parking of motorized vehicles and trailers associated with short-term rentals is prohibited on lawns or street right-of-ways. Failure to park in designated parking spots will result in a warning on the first offense, a municipal civil infraction in the amount of \$500.00 for the second offense, and a municipal civil infraction in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a third offense.

## FIREWORKS

The use of fireworks in Acme Township are regulated by the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act (PA 256 of 2011, as amended) and the Acme Township Consumer Fireworks Ordinance. No one is allowed to use fireworks on public properties, including schools, churches, government buildings, township streets and parks.

No one is allowed to ignite or discharge fireworks in any way that would cause them to land on someone else's private property with the express consent of the property owners.

No person shall ignite, discharge or use Consumer Fireworks within Acme Township, except this prohibition shall not preclude any person from igniting, discharging and using Consumer Fireworks on the following days after 11:00 a.m.:

1. December 31 until 1:00 a.m. on January 1;
2. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days;
3. June 29 to July 4 until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days;
4. July 5, if that date is a Friday or Saturday, until 11:45 p.m.;
5. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.

No person shall release or cause to be released an untethered sky lantern.

A violation of this Ordinance is a municipal civil infraction, subject to a maximum fine of \$1000 for each violation of the Ordinance. The Ordinance provides for the remittance of \$500 of the fine being collected under the Ordinance to the local law enforcement agency responsible for the enforcing of the Ordinance.

*“Firework devices that are designed to produce visible effects by combustion, that are required to comply with construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations promulgated by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission under 16 CFR parts 1500 and 1507, and that are listed in APA standard 87-1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, or 3.5. Consumer Fireworks does not include low-impact fireworks.”*

# FIRE PREVENTION

The use of fires in Acme Township is regulated through the Acme Township Fire Prevention Ordinance in order to safeguard life and property from fire and explosion hazards. Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Service Authority is authorized to enforce the regulations of this Ordinance. What does this mean for you?

- **Open Burning:** Open burning is expressly prohibited. This includes the kindling of yard waste, grass or wood debris, development or lot improvements.
- **Recreational Fires:** Recreational fires in established fire rings, portable outdoor fireplaces and other containment devices are allowed without a permit so long as the fire is kept to a maximum size of 3 feet around and no higher than 2 feet of flame height. These fires must be a minimum of 25 feet from a structure or adjoining property or any other potentially combustible items to which the fire could spread. Only hardwood fuels may be used which do not produce noxious smoke conditions. Any fires larger than what has been described require a permit from the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority and must adhere to all conditions prescribed. As always, when maintaining a recreational fire it is necessary to adequate means for extinguishing the fire in an effective and timely manner readily available.
- **Agricultural Fires:** Acme Township values its rich agricultural history and in order to support these practices allows the burning of farm stumps, trees and branches related to agricultural practices with a permit from the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority. As a visitor this will more than likely not apply to your stay, but may explain any fires you see in our beautiful farms and orchards.

Keeping our lands and properties, as well as guests and residents, safe from the threat of fire-related accidents is of utmost importance. Your willing compliance with these regulations will help ensure safety for all. Failure to comply will result in a municipal civil infraction subject to a fine of up to \$500.00, with each day a violation occurs being considered a separate punishable offense.

# REFUSE COLLECTION

GFL is Acme Township's waste hauler, with weekly collections scheduled on Mondays. All refuse and recyclables must be placed in designated containers and are prohibited from being placed outdoors alongside the containers. Designated refuse and recyclable containers are to be placed near the curb on the day of collection only. Violation of the Refuse Collection Ordinance is subject to a fine up to \$500.00, with each day the Ordinance is violated considered as a separate violation. Kindly complying with this Ordinance will ensure our community stays clean and helps keep the critters out of the garbage!

# JUNK ORDINANCE

Although maybe not as applicable to guests as our other ordinances, the Acme Township Junk Ordinance secures the public peace, health, safety and general welfare of residents and property owners by regulating the storage of “junk”.

Junk is defined as any motor vehicle, machinery, appliance, product or merchandise, scrap metal, other scrap materials which are damaged, deteriorated, or that are in a condition which prevents their use for the purpose for which they were intended, and household trash. As such, no person shall place, discard, or abandon junk in a place where it is visible from a highway, street, or other public way, or where it is visible to an abutting landowner from that portion of the land used on a regular basis. No person shall place, discard, or abandon junk on public property or the private property of another, regardless if visible from a highway, street, or other public way, or from adjoining land.

These regulations are enforced by the Grand Traverse County Sheriff’s Department, with violations carrying a maximum fine of \$500.00 plus court costs.

# NOISE

The Acme Township Noise Ordinance is in effect to maintain the quiet peaceful enjoyment of one’s property, both as residents and guests. The Ordinance states:

*“No person within the township shall cause a noise disturbance, which is defined as sound created by human activity with or without the use of any device, which by reason of its volume, intensity, location, or time of day impairs the health, welfare, or peace of another person of normal human sensibilities.”*

More specifically, the following activities are declared as noise disturbances and therefore prohibited. Please note this is not an all-inclusive list:

- The playing of any radio, television, phonograph, or other sound reproduction device, or musical instrument in such a manner or at such a volume as to be sufficiently audible to unreasonably annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in the vicinity.
- The keeping of any animal or bird which, by causing frequent or long continued noise, shall unreasonably disturb the comfort and repose of any person in the vicinity.
- The use of any motor vehicle, including motorcycles, in such a manner as to create an unreasonably disturbing noise, including but not limited to, the screeching of tires and the discharge into the open air of exhaust from the engine without a sufficient muffler.
- Shouting, raucous or boisterous behavior for an unreasonable length of time.

Please keep in mind that although your stay in our township may be for recreational purposes, many of the homes around you are occupied by residents living their day-to-day lives which includes having to get up early for work and school. We ask that all guest and residents respect each other's quiet, peaceful environment. A good rule of thumb: if you the noise you are producing can be heard from the property line, then it needs to be needs to be toned down.

The Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department is authorized to enforce the Acme Township Noise Ordinance. Violations of this Ordinance are considered a municipal civil infraction, subject to a fine of up \$500.00 plus court costs. Moreover, failing to cease the noise disturbance, interfering with an deputies enforcement, or retaliating against someone who has made a complaint is considered a misdemeanor punishable by a maximum 90 days in jail and a fine of \$500.00 plus court costs.

## **TRESPASS**

When traveling through the Township, please refrain from trespassing by utilizing public and private right-of-ways. Given the rural nature of our township, it's not uncommon for some of the large swaths of woods and forest to be mistaken as public land. Truth is, the majority of the land in the township is private. In order to respect the rights of the property owners we ask that you not trespass onto private property. The township does contain some very large tracts of land that represent a diverse range of landscapes and topography to meet your needs. And as a reminder, never under any circumstance enter an orchard without the permission of the property owner!