



"Heart of the Lakes"

City of Keego Harbor

2025 Beechmont

Keego Harbor, Michigan 48320

Open Burning in Keego Harbor:

Keego Harbor permits several types of outdoor burning when conducted safely and in accordance with Chapter 11, Article III of the City Code. The information below summarizes the most common requirements. If you have questions about a specific installation or planned fire, please contact the Tri Cities Fire Department or the City of Keego building department before proceeding.

Outdoor Fireplaces & Outdoor Stoves

What may I burn?

Outdoor fireplaces and outdoor stoves may burn:

- Clean, dry firewood
- Charcoal

Do I need a permit?

Yes. A building permit is required before installing an outdoor fireplace or stove. Construction plans must be submitted with the permit application to City Hall.

Where can it be installed?

Outdoor fireplaces and outdoor stoves must be located:

- At least **25 feet** from the nearest building on another property.
- At least **15 feet** from any building or accessory structure on the same property.
- At least **15 feet** from any woodland.
- Outside of any wetland.

Are there construction requirements?

Yes.

An outdoor fireplace or stove must include a chimney or stack extending at least 8 feet above the ground or supporting surface. Any deviations must be approved by the City's Fire Chief.

Are there operating requirements?

Yes.

While in use:

- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult over 18 years of age.
- A functioning fire extinguisher must be readily accessible.

Outdoor Fire Pits

What may I burn?

Outdoor fire pits may burn:

- Clean, dry firewood
- Charcoal

How must a fire pit be constructed?

Fire pits must:

- Be lined with stone, brick, metal, or other noncombustible material.
- Be designed to safely contain the fire and prevent it from spreading.
- Have a maximum fuel area of 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.

Where can a fire pit be located?

Fire pits must be located:

- At least **25 feet** from the nearest building on another property.
- At least **15 feet** from any building or accessory structure on the same property.
- At least **15 feet** from any woodland.
- Outside of any wetland.

For multifamily properties, fire pits must also be located at least 25 feet from any attached dwelling unit.

Are there operating requirements?

Yes.

- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult over 18 years of age until the fire is extinguished.
- A functioning fire extinguisher must be readily accessible.

Manufactured Outdoor Burning Units

(Natural Gas or Propane Fire Tables and Similar Appliances)

Are gas fire tables permitted?

Yes.

Manufactured outdoor burning units fueled by natural gas or propane are permitted when installed and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

Where can they be located?

Manufactured outdoor burning units must:

- Be at least **15 feet** from any woodland.
- May not be located within a wetland.

For multifamily properties, manufactured outdoor burning units must also be located at least 25 feet from any attached dwelling unit.

Are there restrictions on propane tanks?

Yes.

Propane or natural gas containers with a water capacity greater than 25 pounds may not be stored:

- On the balconies.
- Within 10 feet of any multifamily building.

Are there operating requirements?

Yes.

- The appliance must be operated according to the manufacturer's specifications.
- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult over 18 years of age
- until the fire is extinguished.
- A functioning fire extinguisher must be readily accessible.

Bonfires

Are bonfires permitted?

Yes. Bonfires used for ceremonial, entertainment, social, or celebration purposes are permitted when they comply with the City's safety requirements.

What size may a bonfire be?

Bonfires must:

- Be contained within a fire pit whose diameter is at least twice the diameter of the fuel area.
- Have a maximum fuel area of 6 feet in diameter.
- Have a maximum fuel height of 4 feet.

Where may a bonfire be conducted?

Bonfires must:

- Be at least 50 feet from any combustible material.
- Not be conducted when wind speeds exceed 10 miles per hour.

Are there operating requirements?

- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult over 18 years of age until the fire is extinguished.
- A functioning fire extinguisher must be readily accessible.

General Questions

What does "constantly attended" mean?

A responsible adult with a minimum of 18 years of age must always remain with the fire while it is burning. The fire must be completely extinguished before it is left unattended.

What is a functioning fire extinguisher?

A functioning fire extinguisher is one that is fully charged, readily accessible, and immediately available for use while the fire is burning.

What materials should never be burned?

Residents should never burn:

- Household garbage
- Leaves or yard waste
- Construction debris
- Painted or treated lumber
- Plastics
- Rubber
- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Tires
- Petroleum products
- Hazardous or toxic materials

What if I have any questions?

If you are unsure whether your outdoor burning activity complies with the City Code, please contact the City of Keego Harbor or the West Bloomfield Fire Department before starting a fire.

Keego Harbor Code Enforcement:

Email: code@keegoharbor.org

Phone: 248-682-1930, ext. 4

TRI CITY'S FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Phone: 248-451-4800