

Beach Rules

- **Beach Hours (North & South): Sunrise – 11pm/Beach Access Hours – Sunrise – 10pm** (The North Beach and South Beach in the city and their bordering parking lots shall be closed from 11:00 p.m. to daylight to public gatherings, including beach parties, reunions, festivals and all other events. All other municipal beaches and parking lots shall be closed from 10:00 p.m. to daylight.) [City Code Section 58-89 \(a\)](#)
- **No dogs on beach** (No person shall permit any animal to run at large within the public parks, nor allow any dog therein except when led by a leash. No animal shall be led or ridden onto any portion of a sand beach of a public park. Sand beach shall mean that portion of lake, river or other water frontage not surfaced for street or sidewalk use.) [City Code Section 58-85 \(a\)](#)
- **No damaging public property** (No person shall willfully destroy, remove, damage, alter or in any manner deface any property not his own, or any public school building, or any public building, bridge, fire hydrant, alarm box, street light, street sign, traffic control device, railroad sign or signal, parking meter, or shade tree belonging to the city or located in the public places of the city; mark or post handbills on, or in any manner mar the walls of, any public building, or fence, tree, or pole within the city; destroy, take or meddle with any property belonging to the city; remove the property from the building or place where it may be kept, placed or stored, without proper authority; or disturb, tamper with, disconnect or damage any city water meter without proper authority.) [City Code Section 54-78](#)
- **Permit required for open fires** (A burn permit for properties outside the City of South Haven may be acquired by calling: (269) 639-FIRE (3473). Open burn permits will not be issued for properties within the City of South Haven.) Visit www.shaes.org for more information.
(The International Fire Prevention Code, 2003 Edition, shall be enforced by the Director of the fire department or his designated representative.) [City Code Section 34-57](#)
- **No loitering** (No person shall, after being duly warned, loiter in a public place or place open to the general public in such a manner as to:
 1. Create or cause to be created, a danger of a breach of peace.
 2. Hinder or obstruct the free passage of pedestrians or vehicular traffic.
 3. Obstruct, molest, or interfere with a person causing him to fear for his safety.
 4. Disturb the comfort and repose of a person acting lawfully by such action as making unsolicited remarks of an offensive, disgusting, threatening, or insulting nature or which are calculated to annoy or disturb the person to whom made or in whose hearing they are made.) [City Code Sec. 54-102](#)
- **Alcoholic beverages are prohibited** (No persons shall consume or have in their possession, in an open container, any vinous; malt, brewed, fermented, spirituous, or alcoholic liquors in any street, alley, park, private property open to public use, or other public place within the city, except when liquor licenses have been granted by the state for the consumption of such beverages in places open to the public.) [City Code Sec. 54-105](#)
- **No fighting** (No person shall engage in any disturbance, fight, or quarrel in a public place.) [City Code Sec. 54-108](#)
- **No disturbing the peace** (No person shall disturb the public peace and quiet by loud, boisterous or vulgar conduct.) [City Code Section 54-110](#)

- **No profanity** (No person shall use any obscene, indecent, immoral, or insulting language to, or in the presence or hearing of, any other person, or manifest any obscene, indecent or immoral behavior in the city in the presence, view or hearing of any other person.) [City Code Section 54-138](#)
- **Curfew enforced** (It shall be unlawful for any minor person under the age of 16 years to be or remain in or upon any street, alley, playground, public place, place of amusement or other unsupervised place, in the city between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., Michigan Standard Time. The provisions of this section do not apply to a minor accompanied by his parent, grandparent, guardian, sibling of at least 18 years of age, or responsible adult over the age of 21 years, or when the minor is in the performance of an errand or duty directed in writing by his parent or other person having his care or custody; where the employment of the minor makes it necessary that the minor is upon any street, alley, playground, public place, place of amusement, or other unsupervised place during the nighttime after the specified hours; or if the minor is returning directly home from attending an organized community or social event for the attendance of which the minor shall have received permission in writing from his parent, grandparent, guardian or other person having custody of the minor.) [City Code Section 54-222](#)
- **Motor vehicles permitted on paved roads, or designated areas only.** (No person shall drive or park a vehicle anywhere except on established drives and parking areas.) [City Code Section 58-86 \(c\)](#)
- **No motor vehicles allowed on beach** (No person other than a city employee in the course of his employment shall operate any motor vehicle on any portion of the sand beach of a public park. Sand beach shall mean that portion of lake frontage not surfaced for street or sidewalk use.) [City Code Section 58-86 \(g\)](#)
- **No littering** (It is unlawful for any person knowingly, without the consent of the public authority having supervision of public property or the owner of private property, to dump, deposit, place, throw or leave, or cause or permit the dumping, depositing, placing, throwing or leaving of litter on any public or private property or waters other than property designated and set aside for such purposes. The phrase "public or private property or water" includes, but is not limited to, the right-of-way of any road or highway, any body of water, watercourse or the shores or any beaches thereof and including the ice above such waters, any park, playground, building or any conservation or recreation area and any residential, commercial or industrial property.) [City Code Section 74-5 \(a\)](#) (The term "litter" used in this section means all rubbish, refuse, waste material, garbage, offal, paper, glass, cans, bottles, trash, debris or other foreign substances of every kind and description.) [City Code Section 74-5 \(b\)](#)
- **No overnight camping.** (No motor vehicle shall be parked or allowed to remain parked for a total of more than 24 consecutive hours in any portion of any city parking lot not governed by a more restrictive provision.) [City Code Section 82-54 \(a\)](#) (Except as noted in this section, no person shall leave overnight or store any personal property or any vessel, whether motorized or not motorized, on the North

Beach, South Beach or any other public beach, park or their related parking lots in the city. Any vessels or other personal property left on the city beaches or parks will be deemed abandoned and may be removed by the city. The owners shall pay removal and towing charges as well as storage charges in order to redeem the property. Removal, towing and storage charges shall be based on the cost to the city for removal. The city manager shall be authorized to allow nonmotorized boats and other personal property to be stored overnight on the city's beaches during regattas and other special boating events.) [City Code Section 58-88 \(a\)](#)

- Noise Ordinance enforced (No person shall create, assist in creating, permit, continue or permit the continuance of any noise that exceeds the limitations set forth in this article within the city. All noises that violate the restrictions of this division are hereby declared to be public nuisances.) [City Code Section 30-28](#)
- No glass on beach (No person shall break glass containers of any kind on the public beaches of Lake Michigan. Signs designating the fact that such breaking is prohibited shall be erected on the beaches.) [City Code Section 58-98 \(a\)](#)
- Swim at your own risk.
- Swimming 50 feet from pier is prohibited (It shall be unlawful for any person to dive or jump from a South Haven Lake Michigan pier. It shall be unlawful for any person to swim within fifty feet (50') from a South Haven Lake Michigan Pier. It shall be unlawful for any person to push, shove, or cause any person to fall, dive or jump from any portion of a pier into Lake Michigan or the Black River.) [City Code Section 58-101](#)
- Entering water from pier is prohibited (It shall be unlawful for any person to dive or jump from a South Haven Lake Michigan pier. It shall be unlawful for any person to swim within fifty feet (50') from a South Haven Lake Michigan Pier. It shall be unlawful for any person to push, shove, or cause any person to fall, dive or jump from any portion of a pier into Lake Michigan or the Black River.) [City Code Section 58-101](#)
- Open fires - defined as any outdoor cooking apparatus that utilizes wood or charcoal as a source of a heat. These are not allowed on the beaches. [City Code Section 38-1](#)
- Campers or trailers are prohibited