

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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CITY OF KEEGO HARBOR-PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHAT DO I NEED TO BUILD A SHED?

Sheds or “accessory buildings” and are only permitted for a lot with a residential house; subject to specific regulations as follows: 1. Only allowed in back yard. 2. Max size for storage shed is 100 sq feet. 3. Sheds are not permitted on vacant lots. Specific regulations are in Section 15.13 of the Zoning Ordinance. See the City Planner for more details.

CAN I BUILD A GARAGE FOR MY HOUSE?

Garages are also “accessory buildings” and are only permitted for a lot with a residential house; subject to specific regulations as follows: 1. Only allowed in back yard. 2. Max size for a garage depends on the lot size/area. 3. Garages are not permitted on vacant lots. Specific regulations are in Section 15.13 of the Zoning Ordinance. See the City Planner for more information.

CAN I PUT A FENCE AROUND MY YARD?

Fences are only permitted for a lot with a residential house; subject to specific regulations as follows: 1. No chain link fences in front yard. 2. Maximum 6-foot privacy fence in back yard. 3. No fences are permitted on vacant lots. Specific regulations are in Section 15.13 of the Zoning Ordinance. See the City Planner for more details.

CAN I BUILD A NEW HOUSE ON THIS LOT?

Keego Harbor is a historic lake and cottage community with unique character. Most lots are buildable in the City. Importantly, architectural design standards are in place in Keego Harbor to promote and maintain quality design. New home construction information packets are available at City Hall. You can also contact the City Planner for assistance.

WHERE CAN I OPEN MY BUSINESS IN KEEGO HARBOR?

There are commercial and office districts in the City of Keego Harbor. Most commercial and office property is located along Orchard Lake Road and the area along Cass Lake Road. Nearly all restaurant and retail-service type uses are permitted in Keego Harbor. Special Land Uses, such as outdoor cafes and restaurants serving alcohol require approval by the Planning Commission and City Council. See the City Planner for details.

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WHAT DO I NEED FOR A BACK YARD DECK OR PATIO?

Backyard decks and patios are only permitted for a lot with a residential house; and are subject to specific regulations as follows: 1. only allowed in back yard. 2. Max size for a deck or patio is approximately the size of rear yard. (For small lots, a deck can cover the rear yard). 3. Patios or decks are not permitted on vacant lots. Regulations are in Section 15.11 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Department has more details.

I WANT TO OPEN A BUSINESS, BUT IT'S NOT IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE? WHAT CAN I DO?

Most types of retail and commercial businesses are permitted in the City of Keego Harbor. However, businesses that are not listed in the Zoning Ordinances are not permitted. Importantly, options available to prospective business owners based on an appeal process. The City Planner can provide details.

POLITICAL SIGNS IN MY FRONT YARD?

Election signs are regulated in the sign ordinance under Section 14.04. Political signs begin to appear about 90 days prior to an election and the signs must be removed within 10 days after the event or election. Maximum height of political signs is 3-feet and they must be 15-feet from the edge of the road. They cannot be placed on utility poles or public property.

CAN I RUN A BUSINESS OUT OF MY HOUSE

Certain types of home occupations are permitted in residential districts, such as a home office space and accountant, or attorney services. However, barber and beauty shops are not permitted. Car repair and other similar businesses are not permitted. The City Planner can provide more detail.

CAR REPAIR BUSINESS AT MY HOUSE OR GARAGE?

Car repairs and other similar types of business are not permitted in residential neighborhoods. A commercial auto service business must be approved by the City Council and they are only permitted in specific commercial zone districts.

FRONT YARD PARKING SPACE?

A parking space or parking pad is permitted in the front yard of a residential house, but the space is subject to specific standards and conditions. The City Planner can provide further details.