

ARTICLE 4**AGRICULTURAL & RECREATION CONSERVATION DISTRICTS****§4.05 - INTENT & PURPOSE**

The intent and purpose of this Article is to:

- (A) Establish the intent and purposes of the Agricultural (AG) and Recreation Conservation (RC) Districts;
- (B) Preserve the Township's rural character and protect visual corridors along public streets;
- (C) Ensure adequate space on properties for uses, structures, and other improvements;
- (D) Encourage appropriate use of the Township's agricultural and recreational areas;
- (E) Ensure compatibility between agricultural and recreation conservation uses and developments and surrounding properties, uses, and the community; and
- (F) Establish use and developmental standards for the Agricultural (AG) and Recreation Conservation (RC) Districts.

§4.10 - DISTRICT INTENT & PURPOSE

(A) *Agricultural (AG) District*: The intent and purpose of the Agricultural (AG) District is to:

- (1) *Agriculture*: Encourage and provide opportunities for the continuation and creation of agricultural operations and uses;
- (2) *Preservation*: Encourage the preservation of undeveloped natural areas, such as woodlands, wetlands, and watercourses;
- (3) *Residential Use*: Provide opportunities for lower-density residential use in a manner that is consistent with the character of agricultural areas; and
- (4) *Development Character*: Foster development patterns that are designed to maintain, enhance, and preserve open spaces, including farmlands, woodlands, and wetlands.

(B) *Recreation Conservation (RC) District*: The intent and purpose of the Recreation Conservation (RC) District is to:

- (1) *Recreation*: Provide opportunities for the preservation, creation, and enhancement of passive and active recreational areas and uses that are compatible with the natural character of the land;
- (2) *Preservation*: Protect and enhance natural areas, natural resources, natural amenities, habitats, and undeveloped areas;
- (3) *Residential Use*: Provide opportunities for very low-density residential use in a manner that requires limited alteration of the natural landscape; and
- (4) *Expansion*: Discourage the expansion of this District when more-appropriate alternatives are available.

§4.15 - SCHEDULE OF USES

Land and structures shall only be used for the uses specified below, unless otherwise permitted in this Ordinance.

(A) **Description:** Uses, as denoted in the Schedule of Uses, are described below.

- (1) “P” identifies uses that are permitted.
- (2) “S” identifies special land uses.
- (3) “PA” identifies permitted accessory uses.
- (4) “SA” identifies accessory special land uses.
- (5) “-” identifies uses that are not permitted. Uses that are not listed are also not permitted.

(B) **Schedule of Uses:** Uses are grouped into major categories. Only those uses listed under each category are permitted.

Table 4.15(B): Schedule of Uses			
(1) Residential	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Single-family dwelling	P	P	§13.15(A)
b. Two-family dwelling	P	P	§13.15(B)
c. Accessory dwelling	PA	PA	§13.15(D)
d. Day care, family home	P	P	§13.15(H)
e. Day care, group home	S	S	§13.15(I)
f. Foster care facility, family home	P	P	§13.15(G)
g. Foster care facility, group home	S	S	§13.15(G)
h. Home occupation	PA	PA	§13.15(F)
(2) Agriculture, Fishing, & Hunting	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Biofuel production, small	P	P	§13.65(D)
b. Biofuel production, large	S	S	§13.65(E)
c. Commercial agriculture, excluding slaughterhouses	P	P	§13.20(A)
d. Commercial stable	P	P	§13.20(B)
e. Conservation area	P	P	
f. Farm equipment sales and service of equipment	S	-	
g. Farm labor seasonal housing	SA	-	§13.20(D)
h. Hunting preserve or game refuge	S	S	
i. Private stable	PA	PA	§13.20(G)
j. Roadside stand	P	-	§13.20(E)
k. Sod farming	S	-	
l. Winery	S	-	§13.20(C)
(3) Business, Commercial, & Retail	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Commercial kennel	S	-	§13.50(A)
b. Landscape nursery and greenhouse, including sales of plant materials and supplies	P	-	
c. Veterinarian clinic	P	-	§13.20(B)

Table 4.15(B): Schedule of Uses, continued			
(4) Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Campground	S	S	§ 13.40(B)
b. Common use access lot	-	S	§ 13.40(G)
c. Driving range	-	P	§ 13.40(D)
d. Golf course or country club	-	S	§ 13.40(C)
e. Marina or yacht club	-	S	§ 13.40(F)
f. Outdoor athletic facility or similar recreation facility of an open-space and low-intensity nature	P	P	§ 13.60(E)
g. Outdoor shooting range	S	S	§ 13.40(A)
h. Public park or playground	-	S	§ 13.60(E)
i. Recreation site dedicated for a platted subdivision or site condominium	P	P	§ 13.60(E)
j. Special event facility	S	S	§ 13.40(E)
k. Watercraft access ramp	-	S	
l. Watercraft sales, repair, or storage	-	S	YES
(5) Food Service	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Entrepreneurial kitchen	SA	SA	§ 13.45(E)
b. Food cart	-	S	§ 13.45(D)
(6) Institutional	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Cemetery	P	-	§ 13.60(B)
b. Polling place	P	P	
c. Religious institution, including housing for affiliated personnel	S	-	§ 13.60(A)
d. School	-	S	§ 13.60(D)
(7) Other	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
a. Accessory uses customarily incidental and subordinate to the permitted principal use	PA	PA	
b. Bed and breakfast	S	S	§ 13.35(A)
c. Community well	S	S	§ 17.15(B)
d. Community sewage system	S	S	§ 17.20(B)
e. Day care center	S	S	§ 13.55(B)
f. Extractive operation	S	-	§ 13.75(A), § 13.75(B)
g. MET Tower	P		§ 16.75
h. Private club or meeting hall	S	S	
i. Private landing strip or heliport	S	-	§ 13.70(A), § 13.70(B)
j. Sign	PA	PA	Article 21
k. Solar energy system	PA	PA	§ 16.80
l. Utility substation	S	-	§ 13.65(B)
m. WECS, micro	PA	PA	§ 16.75
n. WECS, small	PA	PA	§ 16.75

Table 4.15(B): Schedule of Uses, continued

(7) Other, continued	Zoning District		Specific Standards
	AG	RC	
o. Wireless communication facility, new	S	-	§13.65(A)
p. Wireless communication facility, minor colocation	PA	PA	§13.65(A)
q. Wireless communication facility, major colocation	SA	SA	§13.65(A)

(C) **Interpretation:** For specific uses that are not listed, the Director of Planning and Zoning shall determine if that use is substantially similar in character and impact to any of the uses listed in the Schedule of Uses

- (1) *Similar Use:* If a specific use that is not listed is determined to be substantially similar in character and impact to a use in the Schedule of Uses, it shall then be subject to the same use and development standards as that similar, listed use.
- (2) *No Similar Use:* If a specific use that is not listed is determined to not be substantially similar in character and impact to any of the uses in the Schedule of Uses, it shall not be permitted.

§4.20 - LOT STANDARDS

Lots shall only be created or altered in a manner that complies with the minimum lot area, lot width, lot frontage, and other standards outlined below, unless otherwise permitted in this Ordinance.

Table 4.20: Lot Standards

District	Minimum Lot Area ^(A)	Minimum Lot Width ^(B)	Minimum Lot Frontage ^(C)
(A) AG Agricultural	1-5 acres ^(E)	150 feet	150 feet ^(D)
(B) RC Recreation Conservation	5 acres	330 feet	330 feet

(A) **Lot Area:** The lot area is measured as the total horizontal area within the lot lines of a lot, excluding any street right-of-way or easement, other permanent access easement, bottomland, and wetland within the lot. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.

(B) **Lot Width:** The lot width is measured as the horizontal distance between the side lot lines at a distance equal to the front-yard setback. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.

(C) **Lot Frontage:** The lot frontage is measured as the horizontal length of the front-lot line. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.

(D) **Cul-de-Sac:** The lot frontage in Agricultural (AG) Districts may be reduced to sixty-six (66) feet where the front lot line is along a curvilinear segment of road, such as a cul-de-sac, if requiring the full distance would result in a lot with an unnecessarily excess lot width or lot area. The lot shall meet the minimum lot width for at least sixty-six (66) percent of the lot’s depth.

(E) **Agriculture Lot Area:** The minimum lot area in Agricultural (AG) Districts shall meet one of the following:

- (1) *Standard Lot Area:* The minimum lot area shall be five (5) acres; or
- (2) *Reduced Lot Area:* The minimum lot area shall be at least one (1) acre, if all of the following conditions are met:
 - a. *Number of Smaller Lots:* There shall be a maximum of one (1) lot with a lot area of less than five (5) acres for every ten (10) acres of the parcel being divided;
 - b. *Total Number of Lots:* There shall be a maximum of one (1) lot per five (5) acres of the parcel being divided;
 - c. *Access:* The lots shall have direct access from a shared driveway or a street other than a minor or major thoroughfare; and
 - d. *Conservation Easement:* A conservation easement or similar legally-binding tool shall prohibit development of an area equal in size to the difference between the five (5) acres per parcel and the size of parcels being created. This easement shall be reviewed and approved by the Township and recorded with the Register of Deeds, with a copy provided to the Township.

§4.25 - DEVELOPMENTAL STANDARDS

Structures and lots shall only be created and modified in a manner that complies with the developmental standards below, unless otherwise permitted in this Ordinance.

(A) **Setbacks:** Structures shall only be created and modified in a manner that complies with the minimum setbacks outlined below, unless otherwise permitted in this Ordinance.

Table 4.25(A): Minimum Setbacks⁽¹⁾

District		Front-yard ^(2,5)	Side-yard ⁽⁵⁾	Rear-yard ⁽⁵⁾	Waterbody ^(4,5)	Wetland ⁽⁵⁾	Building-to-Building ⁽⁵⁾
(1) AG	Agricultural	35/80 feet	15 feet	30 feet	35-50 feet	25 feet	10 feet
(2) RC	Recreation Conservation	35/80 feet	15 feet	30 feet	35-50 feet	25 feet	10 feet

GRAPHICS

- (1) *Setback Description:* Setbacks are the minimum required distance, measured horizontally, from a structure to the lot lines and other features or improvements. See [Article 35: Definitions](#) for the complete description.
- (2) *Front-yard Setbacks:* The following shall apply to front-yard setbacks.
 - a. *How Measured:* The front-yard setback shall be measured from the right-of-way or access easement.
 - b. *Corner or Double-frontage Lots:* Corner and double frontage lots shall have a front-yard setback along each front-lot line.

- c. *Distance:* Front-yard setbacks shall be at least thirty-five (35) feet from all streets and shall be at least eighty (80) feet from major and minor thoroughfares, including, but not limited to the following streets:
1. Colby Road;
 2. Donner Road;
 3. Dexter-Pinckney Road;
 4. Dexter-Townhall Road;
 5. Hankerd Road;
 6. Island Lake Road;
 7. Lima Center Road;
 8. Madden Road;
 9. McKinley Road;
 10. North Territorial Road;
 11. Quigley Road;
 12. Riker Road;
 13. Waterloo Road; and
 14. Wylie Road.
- (3) *Access Easements:* Setbacks from access easements, including access easements and lake access easements, shall be measured from the edge of the easement.
- (4) *Waterbody Setback:* Structures shall not be permitted within the required waterbody setback. This shall not apply to certain minor accessory structures, including, but not limited to, docks, seawalls, retaining walls, sidewalks, and low decks and patios. The minimum waterbody setback from the ordinary high-water mark shall be determined as outlined below.
- a. *Adjacent Buildings:* When there are principal buildings on both adjacent lots, the waterbody setback shall be a straight line drawn between the adjacent principal buildings.

GRAPHIC

- b. *Point or Peninsula:* For lots at the end of a point or peninsula or adjacent to parkland, the waterbody setback shall be the distance equal to the average waterbody setback of the two (2) closest lots.

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- c. *Vacant Lots:* When one (1) or both of the adjacent lots are vacant, the next adjacent lots shall be used. When two (2) lots in both directions are vacant, the waterbody setback shall be fifty (50) feet.

GRAPHIC

- d. *Large Setbacks:* When principal buildings on adjacent lots are set back more than fifty (50) feet, the waterbody setback shall be fifty (50) feet.

GRAPHIC

- e. *Minimum Setback:* The waterbody setback shall always be at least thirty-five (35) feet.

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f. *Show Buildings:* Site plans, plot plans, and surveys shall show the location of adjacent buildings, as outlined in §26.x of this Ordinance.

(5) *Setback Projections:* Certain architectural features may project into the required front-yard, side-yard, rear-yard, waterbody, wetland, and building-to-building setbacks as outlined in the table below.

Table 4.25(A)(5): Setback Projections

Projection	Front-Yard	Side-Yard	Rear-Yard	Waterfront-Yard	Wetland	Building-to-Building
a. Awnings or canopies	3 feet	3 feet	5 feet	-	3 feet	1 foot
b. Bay or garden windows	3 feet	2 feet	3 feet	2 feet	3 feet	-
c. Roof Overhangs	3 feet	3 feet	3 feet	3 feet	3 feet	1 foot
d. Low, unroofed porches, decks, patios, and steps ^(a)	5 feet	5 feet	10 feet	-	-	2 feet
e. Ground-level, unroofed porches, decks, patios, and steps ^(b)	5 feet	5 feet	10 feet	10 feet	-	10 feet
f. Window air conditioning units	2 feet	2 feet	2 feet	2 feet	2 feet	2 feet
g. Window Wells	4 feet	4 feet	4 feet	4 feet	-	-

a. *Low Porch, Deck, Patio, or Steps:* This shall apply to unroofed porches, decks, patios, and steps with a finished floor that is within six (6) feet of the natural adjacent grade. The railing shall have a maximum height of three (3) feet from the finished floor and have a maximum opacity of fifty (50) percent.

b. *Ground-level Porch, Deck, Patio, or Steps:* This shall apply to unroofed porches, decks, patios, and steps with a finished floor that is within eighteen (18) inches of the natural adjacent grade at all points. The railing shall have a maximum height of three (3) feet from the finished floor and have a maximum opacity of fifty (50) percent.

(B) **Height & Coverage:** Structures and lots shall only be created and modified in a manner that is consistent with the height and coverage outlined below, unless otherwise permitted by this Ordinance.

Table 4.25(B): Maximum Height & Coverages					
District		Height ⁽¹⁾	Building Coverage ⁽³⁾	Impervious Coverage ⁽⁴⁾	
(1)	AG	30 feet ⁽²⁾	Agricultural-lot area more than 1 acre	10 percent	25 percent
			Agricultural-lot area 1 acre or less	12 percent	27 percent
(2)	RC	30 feet ⁽²⁾	Recreation Conservation-lot area more than 2 acres	5 percent	20 percent
			Recreation Conservation-lot area 2 acres or less	8 percent	23 percent

GRAPHICS

- (1) **Height Description:** The vertical distance measured from the finished grade to the highest roof surface or the average height between the drip edge and the peak for the highest roof surface for sloped roofs. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.
- (2) **Height Projections:** Some structures or portions of structures may extend above the maximum height in Table 4.25(B) above; see [§12.20\(B\): Structures of this Ordinance](#).
- (3) **Building Coverage Description:** The horizontal area of the lot that is covered by buildings, including breezeways, arbors, and roofed porches, patios, and decks. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.
- (4) **Impervious Coverage Description:** The horizontal area of the lot that is covered by buildings, including overhangs, and other impervious surfaces that that cannot be effectively and easily penetrated by water. See [Article 35: Definitions of this Ordinance](#) for the complete description.

End of Article 4.

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