

Frequently Asked Planning and Zoning Questions

How can I find out the zoning of my property?

A copy of the Township Zoning Map is available by going to the Zoning Map link on the Planning and Zoning page or on the home page under “Quicklinks” in the bottom left hand corner under the title “Zoning Map”. If you have further questions, contact the Zoning Administrator at (269) 381-8080.

What are the requirements for a fence on residential property in the Township?

If you are interested in building a fence around your home, no permit is required. However, the fence must satisfy the following requirements:

- Within 10 feet of an adjoining street right of way line, the height limit is three (3) feet.
- Beyond 10 feet from the adjoining street right of way line, the height limit is six (6) feet.
- No fence shall be located in the public right of way.
- Fences shall be constructed with the finished side facing out to the adjoining property.

May I have a temporary sign at my business?

Temporary signs are permitted for commercial and multi-family developments. One such sign may be used for a maximum of 15 days per six (6) month period. The maximum size of the temporary sign is 32 square feet. A permit is required and may be obtained from the Township Hall or the Township website.

I would like to have a shed / pole barn / new garage on my property. Are there any requirements?

A residence is permitted to have accessory buildings or garages subject to the following requirements:

- Cannot be constructed or located on a parcel without a principle structure / home on the property.
- The building cannot exceed 768 sq. ft. (24' x 32' for example). Larger structures may be approved through the special exception use process with approval of the Planning Commission.
- All structures on the property – home, garage, shed, etc. – cannot exceed 15% total lot coverage.
 - Regardless of the total lot coverage, each parcel is permitted at least 576 sq. ft. (24' x 24' for example) of accessory structure / garage space.
- No more than two accessory structures and/or garages are permitted
- Maximum height is 14 feet, which is measured to the mid-point between the peak and the eaves on a pitched roof.
- Shall be compatible in appearance to the principle structure on the property

Can we raise chickens on our property?

Raising chickens or any other farm animals is not permitted within platted portions of the Township or on property within 132 feet of platted property. (Platted properties are lots that were created through the subdivision or site condominium process and includes most of the smaller, more densely developed lots in the Township.) On unplatted property, chickens may be raised in a manner that does not create noise or odor issues for neighbors.

WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT...

If someone has a question about building permits, construction codes, building fees, building inspections, or other building department issues...

Contact the Kalamazoo Area Building Authority at (269) 216-9643.

If someone has a question about driveways and driveway permits...

Contact the Kalamazoo County Road Commission at (269) 381-3171