

**CHAPTER 3**  
**ZONING DEFINITIONS**

**SECTION 3.01 INTERPRETATION OF LANGUAGE.**

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following rules of interpretation shall apply to the text of this Ordinance:

- A. The particular shall control the general.
- B. In the case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this Ordinance and any caption or illustration, the text shall control.
- C. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive and discretionary.
- D. Words used in the present tense shall include the future. Words used in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary.
- E. A "building" or "structure" includes any part thereof.
- F. The phrase "used for" includes "arranged for", "designed for", "intended for", "maintained for", or "occupied for".
- G. The word "person" includes an individual, a corporation, a partnership, a public utility, a firm, an incorporated association, or any other similar entity.
- H. Unless the context clearly indicates the contrary, or a regulation involves two (2) or more items, conditions, provisions, or events connected by the conjunction "and", "or", "either . . . or", the conjunction shall be interpreted as follows:
  - 1. "And" indicates that all the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events shall apply.
  - 2. "Or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, or provisions, or events may apply singly or in any combination.
  - 3. "Either . . . or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, or provisions, or events may apply singly or in any combination.

I. Terms not herein defined shall have the meaning customarily assigned to them.

**SECTION 3.02 DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Ordinance the terms and words herein are defined as follows:

**ACCESSORY USE, BUILDING OR STRUCTURE:** A use, building, or structure which is clearly incidental to, customarily found in connection with, subordinate to, and is located on the same zoning lot as the principal use to which it is exclusively related.

**ADJACENT:** See LOT, ADJACENT.

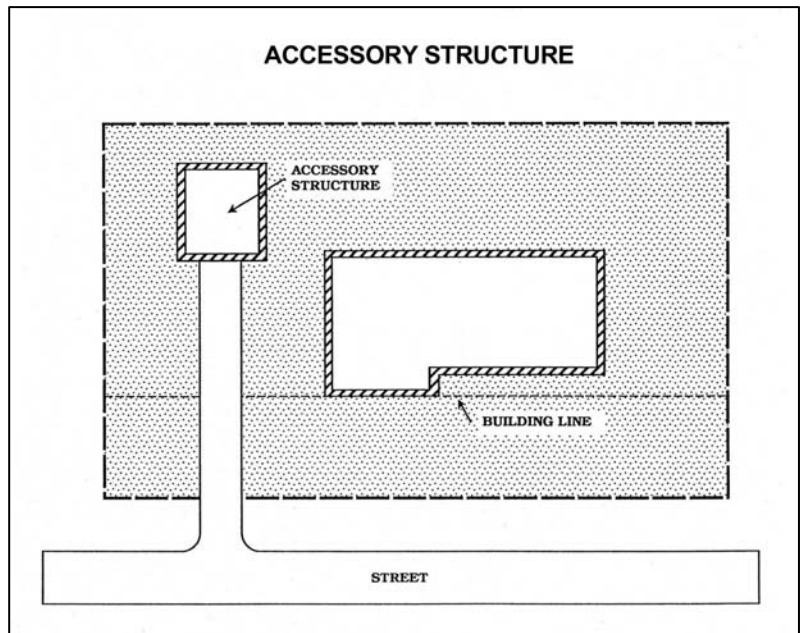
**ADULT DAY CARE FACILITY:** A facility which provides daytime care for any part of a day but less than twenty-four (24) hour care for more than twelve (12) functionally impaired elderly persons provided through a structured program of social and rehabilitative or maintenance services in a supportive group setting other than the client's home.

Such facilities are not licensed, however those receiving funds through an Area Agency on Aging must comply with adult day care standards promulgated by the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging.

**ADULT USE:** Any commercial or recreational establishment which at all times excludes minors by virtue of age, including adult bookstores, adult motion picture theaters, adult mini-motion picture theaters, adult drive-in theaters, adult massage parlors, adult modeling studios, and eating and drinking places with sexually-oriented entertainment. Also see Article 16.

**AGRICULTURAL USE:** A use of any land or building used for a purpose of producing grain, fruit, nursery stock, dairy products, vegetables, livestock or fowl or other crops and animal husbandry.

**ALLEY:** A public way which affords only a secondary means of access to abutting property and not intended for general traffic circulation.



**ALTERATIONS:** Any change, addition or modification in construction or type of occupancy; any change in the structural members of a building, such as wall, partitions, stairways, columns, beams, girders; any change in the width or number of exits; any substantial changes in the roof or exterior walls; any change in the location of a building; any change in the number of off-street parking or loading area or means of egress and ingress to the site; or any change which may be referred to herein as "altered" or "reconstructed" or "change of use".

**ALTERNATIVE TOWER STRUCTURE:** Man-made trees, clock towers, bell steeples, light poles, and other similar alternative design mounting structures that camouflage or conceal the presence of antennas or towers

**ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION, CONCENTRATED (CAFO):** A lot or building or combination of contiguous lots and buildings intended for the confined feeding, breeding, raising, or holding of at least one-thousand (1,000) animal units and specifically designed as a confinement area where manure may accumulate, or where the concentration of animals is such that vegetative cover cannot be maintained within the enclosure during the months of May, June, July, and August. Open lots used for the feeding and rearing of poultry (poultry ranges), shall be considered animal feed lots, but pastures shall not be considered animal feedlots.

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL:** See CLINIC, VETERINARY.

**ANIMAL UNIT:** The equivalent of one (1) slaughter or feeder cattle, based on comparative effluent impacts or any combination of which equaling or exceeding one-thousand (1,000) animal units shall be defined as a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO)

**ANIMAL WASTE AREA:** A holding area, underground container, above-ground tank, or lagoon used or intended to be used for the storage or treatment of animal manure and other waste products associated with a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO).

**ANIMAL, WILD OR EXOTIC:** Any animal not domesticated by humans or any animal which a person is prohibited from possessing by law. Wild or exotic animals shall include, but shall not be limited to the following: alligator and crocodile (family), deer (family), opossum (family); badger, wild dog or wolf (family); primate excluding human (family); bear, racoon, ferret, skunk, wild cat (family); lemur, spider (poisonous); coyote; lizard; snake and other reptile (poisonous); weasel (family); wild boar or swine (family); and marten.

**ANTENNA:** Any exterior transmitting or receiving device mounted on a tower, building, or structure and used in communications that radiate or capture electromagnetic waves, digital, signals, analog signals, radio frequencies (excluding radar signals), wireless telecommunication signals, or other communication signals.

**APARTMENT:** See DWELLING, MULTIPLE FAMILY.

**APPEAL:** An entreaty or demand for a hearing or review of facts and/or actions in connection with the public enforcement of this Ordinance.

**ARCADE:** Any establishment which provides on its premises four or more machines which upon the insertion of a coin or slug may be operated for use as a game, contest, or amusement of any description, not including musical devices.

**ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:** Architectural features of a building including cornices, eaves, gutters, sills, lintels, bay windows, chimneys and decorative ornaments.

**AREA, GROSS SITE:** the total area of a planned unit development site including flood plains and water bodies

**AUTOMOBILE:** Unless specifically indicated otherwise, "automobile" shall mean any vehicle including cars, trucks, vans, motorcycles, and the like.

**AUTOMOBILE FUELING STATION:** A place used for the retail sale and dispensing of fuel or lubricants, either full or self service, together with the fixed equipment from which the fuel is dispensed directly into motor vehicles. Automobile filling stations may also incorporate a convenience store operation as an accessory use, provided it is clearly incidental to the filling station use. Parking requirements for filling station/convenience store operations shall be computed by adding together the parking space requirements for each separate use.

**AUTOMOBILE REPAIR:** Major or minor repair of automobiles defined as follows:

- A. **Minor Repair:** Engine tune-ups and servicing of brakes, air conditioning, exhaust systems; oil change or lubrication; wheel alignment or balancing; or similar servicing or repairs that do not normally require any significant disassembly or storing the automobiles on the premises overnight.
- B. **Major Repair:** Engine and transmission rebuilding and general repairs, rebuilding or reconditioning; collision service such as body, frame or fender straightening or repair; steam cleaning, undercoating and rustproofing; and similar servicing, rebuilding or repairs that normally do require significant disassembly or storing the automobiles on the premises overnight.

**AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION:** A building or structure designed or used for the retail sale of fuel (stored only in underground tanks), lubricants, air, water coolants and other operating commodities for motor vehicles or which may include retail sale of tires, batteries, and similar accessories and the making of minor repairs to vehicles or parts thereof totally enclosed within a building and that do not normally require storing such vehicles on the premises overnight.

Automotive Service Station shall not include buffing, painting, refinishing, major repairs and overhauling, steam cleaning, rustproofing, high-volume of motor vehicle washing or sales of new or used cars, trucks, motorcycles or other land vehicles.

**AUTOMOBILE WASH ESTABLISHMENT:** An activity or building, or portion thereof, the primary purpose of which is that of washing motor vehicles, either with self-service mechanisms or with the use of an automated conveyor system.

**BANK:** An establishment for the custody, loan, exchange, or issue of money, for the extension of credit, and for facilitating the transmission of funds by drafts or bills of exchange.

**BAR, COCKTAIL LOUNGE, OR NIGHT CLUB:** An establishment licensed by the State of Michigan to sell at retail and serve alcoholic beverages on the premises where more than thirty percent (30%) of the gross floor area is made up of a bar, being a barrier or counter at which any alcoholic beverages are sold or served to and consumed by customer, and also including areas dedicated for the use of stages, dance floors, standing-room areas, pool tables, and similar mechanical amusement devices.

**BASEMENT:** That portion of a building wholly or partly below grade, but so constructed that the vertical distance from the average grade to the basement floor is greater than the vertical distance from the average grade to the basement ceiling. A basement shall not be included as a story for height measurement.

**BED-N-BREAKFAST INN:** Any place of lodging that provides eight or fewer rooms for rent, that is open for more than 10 nights in a 12-month period, is the owner's personal residence, is occupied by the owner at the time of rental, and in which meal service is only offered to guests and is typically limited to breakfast.

**BEDROOM:** Any private room in a dwelling unit suitable for regular use for sleeping purposes. Bedrooms include rooms designated on development floor plans as dens, studies, or libraries but exclude living rooms, family rooms, dining rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, and mud rooms. Any room designated as other than a bedroom but which in the judgment of the Township Planning Commission would normally be usable for sleeping purposes shall be considered a bedroom.

**BERM:** See LANDSCAPING.

**BIKEWAY:** Pedestrian or non-motorized vehicular circulation routes built according to the standards of the Township or other agency with right-of-way jurisdiction, as applicable.

**BILLBOARD (OFF PREMISE SIGN):** Any non-accessory advertising sign, device, design, words, letters, number or trademark which makes anything known to the general public and may be the principal use of the lot or parcel on which it is located.

**BLOCK:** The property bounded by a street or by a combination of streets and public lands, rights-of-way, rivers or streams, boundary lines of the Township, or any other barrier to the continuity of development.

**BOARD OF APPEALS:** The Decatur Township Zoning Board of Appeals, created pursuant to the provisions of Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended.

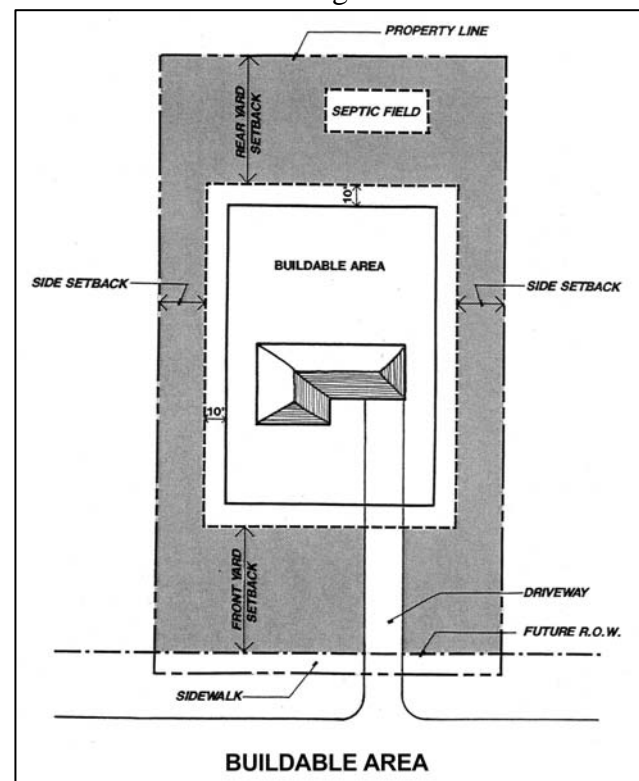
**BOAT:** Boats, floats, rafts, and the attached normal equipment to transport the same on highways.

**BREW PUB:** A restaurant or tavern (as defined in this Ordinance), licensed by the State of Michigan to produce and manufacture not more than five-thousand (5,000) barrels of beer per calendar year in Michigan, and sell at retail on the premises the beer produced and manufactured for consumption on or off the premises in the manner provided for in MCLA 436.31b and 426.31c.

**BUFFER ZONE:** A strip of land often required between certain zoning districts or land uses reserved for plant material, berms, walls, or fencing to serve as a visual barrier.

**BUILDABLE AREA:** The area of a lot which is defined by the minimum setback requirements within which building construction is permitted by the terms of this Ordinance.

**BUILDING:** Any structure, either temporary or permanent, having a roof or other covering and used or built for the shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, or property or materials of any kind. A building shall include tents, awnings, and carports; and also semi-trailers, vehicles, mobile homes, or pre-manufactured or pre-cut structures, erected on-site, above or below ground, designed primarily for shelter rather than as a means of conveyance. A building shall not include such structures as signs, fences or smokestacks, but shall include



structures such as storage tanks, grain elevators, coal bunkers, oil cracking towers, or similar structures.

**BUILDING, ACCESSORY:** See ACCESSORY USE, BUILDING, OR STRUCTURE.

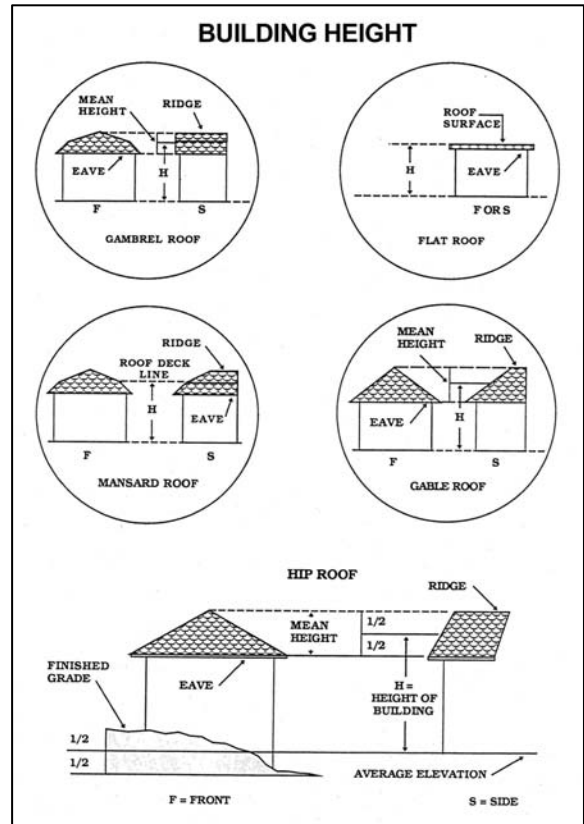
**BUILDING, COMPLETELY ENCLOSED:** A building separated on all sides from the adjacent open space or from other buildings or structures by a permanent roof and exterior walls having only window and normal entrance or exit doors.

**BUILDING, DETACHED:** A principal building surrounded by open space.

**BUILDING HEIGHT:** The vertical distance measured from the mean average ground level at the front building line to the highest point of the roof surface in the case of a flat roof; to the deck line of mansard roofs; to the mean height level between the eaves and ridge of gable, studio hip and gambrel roofs; and 75 percent of the height of an "A" frame. Chimneys, spires, antenna, and similar projections other than signs shall not be included in calculating building height.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR:** The building inspector as authorized by Decatur Township.

**BUILDING LINE:** A line parallel to the front lot line that separates all parts of a building from the open spaces adjacent thereto on the same lot. For the purposes of this Ordinance, a minimum building line is the same as a required setback line.



**BUILDING PERMIT:** The written authority issued by the building inspector permitting the construction, removal, moving, alteration, or use of a building in conformity with the provision of this Ordinance

**BUILDING, PRINCIPAL:** A building or group of buildings in which is conducted the main or principal use of the lot on which the building is situated. (See "BUILDING, ACCESSORY" and "USE, PRINCIPAL".)

**BUILDING, TEMPORARY:** A building which is not permanently affixed to the property, and is permitted to exist for a specific reason for a specific period of time. An example of a temporary building is a trailer used on construction site.

**BUMPER BLOCKS:** Concrete or cement cast units located at one end of each parking space, designed to protect buildings, walls, fences, sidewalks or landscaping from damage by vehicles.

**CAMPER, PICK-UP:** A recreational unit designed to be mounted on a pick-up or truck chassis, with sufficient equipment to render it suitable for use as a temporary lodging for travel, recreational, and vacation uses.

**CANOPY TREE:** A deciduous tree whose mature height and branch structure provide foliage primarily on the upper half of the tree. The purposes of a canopy tree are to shade to adjacent ground areas and to enhance aesthetics.

**CARETAKER LIVING QUARTERS:** An independent residential dwelling unit designed for and occupied by one or two persons, of which at least one is employed to look after goods, buildings, or property on the parcel on which the living quarters are located.

**CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY:** A certificate issued by the building inspector, after final inspections, indicating his or her opinion that all the provisions of this Ordinance are being complied with and met. No building or structure or use for which a zoning permit has been issued shall be occupied until the building inspector has, after final inspection, issued a Certificate of Occupancy (CO). The issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy shall in no case be construed as waiving any provisions of this Ordinance

**CEMETERY:** Land used for the burial of the dead including columbariums, crematories, and mausoleums.

**CHILD DAY CARE ORGANIZATIONS, STATE LICENSED:** Any structure used for, or any person receiving minor children for care, maintenance, training, and supervision and licensed by the State of Michigan pursuant to Public Act 116 of 1973, as amended. The following types of facilities are included within this definition:

**CHILD DAY CARE CENTER:** Child Day Care Center means a facility, other than a private residence, receiving 1 or more preschool or school age children for care for periods of less than 24 hours a day, and where the parents or guardians are not immediately available to the child. Child care center or day care center includes a facility that provides care for not less than 2 consecutive weeks, regardless of the number of hours of care per day. The facility is generally described as a child care center, day care center, day nursery, nursery school, parent cooperative preschool, play group, or drop-in center. Child care center or day care center does not include any of the following: (i) A Sunday school, a



vacation bible school, or a religious instructional class that is conducted by a religious organization where children are in attendance for not more than 3 hours per day for an indefinite period, or not more than 8 hours per day for a period not to exceed 4 weeks during a 12-month period; (ii) A facility operated by a religious organization where children are cared for not more than 3 hours while persons responsible for the children are attending religious services.

**FAMILY DAY CARE HOME:** Family Day Care Home means a private home in which 1 but fewer than 7 minor children are received for care and supervision for periods of less than 24 hours a day, unattended by a parent or legal guardian, except children related to an adult member of the family by blood, marriage, or adoption. Family day care home includes a home that gives care to an unrelated minor child for more than 4 weeks during a calendar year.

**GROUP DAY CARE HOME:** Group Day Care Home means a private home in which more than 6 but not more than 12 minor children are given care and supervision for periods of less than 24 hours a day unattended by a parent or legal guardian, except children related to an adult member of the family by blood, marriage, or adoption. Group day care home includes a home that gives care to an unrelated minor child for more than 4 weeks during a calendar year.

**CHURCH OR SYNAGOGUES:** Any structure wherein persons regularly assemble for religious activity including customary ancillary or accessory uses and activities.

**CLINIC, VETERINARY:** A place for the care, diagnosis, and treatment of sick or injured animals, and those in need of medical or minor surgical attention. A veterinary clinic may include customary pens or cages enclosed within the walls of the clinic building.

**CLINIC, MEDICAL:** An establishment where human patients who are not lodged overnight are admitted for examination and treatment by a group of physicians, dentists, or similar professionals. A medical clinic may incorporate customary laboratories and pharmacies incidental to or necessary for its operation or to the service of its patients, but may not include facilities for overnight patient care or major surgery.

**CLUB, HEALTH:** Any establishment providing physical culture or health services, including health clubs, racquetball or tennis clubs, reducing salons, or tanning salons.

**CLUB OR LODGE, PRIVATE:** A non-profit association of persons who are bonafide members paying dues which owns or leases premises, the use of which is restricted to members and their guests. The facilities owned or used by such organization may be referred to as a "club" or "lodge" in this Ordinance.

**CLUSTER HOUSING:** A group of buildings and especially dwellings built close together to form relatively compact units on a sizeable tract in order to preserve open spaces and environmentally sensitive areas larger than the individual yards for common recreation.

**COLLECTOR STREET:** See STREET, COLLECTOR.

**COMMERCIAL CENTER, PLANNED:** A business development under single ownership consisting of two (2) or more retail or service outlets characterized by common architecture, a pedestrian and vehicle circulation system, and off-street parking.

**COMMERCIAL, VEHICLE:** A truck or motor vehicle with cab and chassis and with a stake, rack, body, dump body, wrecker body, tanker body or any other body, the mounted height of which exceeds the height of the cab roof more than eight (8) inches. Any truck or motor vehicle which has a commercial license plate and is designed to accommodate a body length in excess of 9 feet. Commercial vehicles shall not include motor homes or recreational vehicles, but shall include construction equipment such as backhoes, power shovels, bulldozers, earth moving equipment, semi trucks, tractors and trailers.

**CONDITIONAL USE:** A use which is subject to conditional special approval by the Township Board. A conditional use may be granted only when there is a specific provision in this Ordinance. A conditional use is not considered to be a nonconforming use.

**CONDOMINIUM:** A system of separate ownership of individual units and/or multiple unit projects according to Public Act 59 of 1978, as amended. In addition to the interest acquired in a particular unit, each unit owner is also a tenant in common in the underlying fee and in the spaces and building parts used in common by all the unit owners.

**Condominium Act:** State of Michigan Public Act 59 of 1978, as amended.

**Condominium, Contractible:** A condominium project from which any portion of the submitted land or building may be withdrawn in pursuant to express provisions in the condominium documents.

**Condominium, Conversion:** A condominium project containing condominium units some or all of which were occupied before the establishment of the condominium project.

**Condominium - Convertible Area:** A unit or portion of the common elements of the condominium project referred in the condominium documents within which additional condominium units or general or limited common elements may be created pursuant to provisions in the condominium documents and in accordance with this Ordinance and the Condominium Act.

**Condominium, Expandable:** A condominium project to which additional land may be added pursuant to express provision in the condominium documents and in accordance with this Ordinance and the Condominium Act.

**Condominium - General Common Element:** The common elements other than the limited common elements intended for the common use of all of the co-owners.

**Condominium - Limited Common Element:** A portion of the common elements reserved in the master deed for the exclusive use of less than all of the co-owners.

**Condominium - Site Condominium Project:** A condominium project designed to function in a similar manner, or as an alternative to a platted subdivision. A residential site condominium project shall be considered as equivalent to a platted subdivision for purposes of regulation in this Ordinance.

**Condominium Subdivision Plan:** Drawings and information which show the size, location, area, and boundaries of each condominium unit, building locations, the nature, location, and approximate size of common elements, and other information required by Section 66 of Public Act 59 of 1978, as amended.

**Condominium Unit, Site (i.e., Site Condominium Lot):** The area designating the perimeter within which the condominium unit must be built. After construction of the condominium unit, the balance of the condominium site shall become a limited common element. The term “condominium unit site” shall be equivalent to the term “lot” for purposes of determining compliance of a site condominium subdivision with the provisions of this Ordinance pertaining to minimum lot size, minimum lot width, minimum lot coverage, and maximum floor area ratio.

**CONDOMINIUM UNIT:** The portion of the condominium project designed and intended for separate ownership as described in the Master Deed, regardless of whether it is intended for residential, office, industrial, business, recreational, time-share unit, or any other type of use.

**CONVALESCENT HOME:** See NURSING HOME.

**CO-OP (COOPERATIVE) HOUSING:** A multiple dwelling owned by a corporation which leases its units to stockholders on a proprietary lease arrangement.

**CORNER LOT:** See LOT, CORNER.

**CUL-DE-SAC:** See STREET, CUL-DE-SAC.

**CURB CUT:** The entrance to or exit from a property provided for vehicular traffic to or from a public or private thoroughfare.

**DAY CARE CENTER:** See CHILD CARE CENTER.

**DECK:** An open, horizontal platform attached to the principal residential structure and that is used for outdoor leisure or recreational activities. The platform shall not be enclosed by a roof or walls or other screened or framed enclosure.

**DENSITY:** The number of dwelling units situated on or to be developed per net or gross acre of land.

**DETENTION FACILITY:** A facility designed for holding storm water runoff for a short period of time and then releasing it to the natural watercourse where it returns to the hydrologic cycle.

**DEVELOPMENT:** The construction of a new building or other structures on a zoning lot, the relocation of an existing building on another zoning lot, or the use of open land for a new use.

**DEVELOPMENT PLAN:** A scaled drawing which shows the existing conditions, the location and dimensions of improvements upon a parcel of land, including but not limited to, location and size of buildings, driveways, parking areas, landscaping, sidewalks, signs, sewage systems, and drainage facilities, environmental features, and other elements required herein as applicable to the proposed development to ensure compliance with this Ordinance.

**DISTRIBUTION CENTER:** A use which typically involves both warehouse and office/administration functions, where short and/or long term storage takes place in connection with the distribution operations of a wholesale or retail supply business. See also WAREHOUSE.

**DISTRICT:** A portion of Decatur Township within which, on a uniform basis, certain uses of land and/or building are permitted and within which certain regulations and requirements apply under the provisions of this Ordinance.

**DRAINAGE WAYS AND STREAMS:** Existing permanent or intermittent watercourses.

**DRIVE-IN ESTABLISHMENT:** A business establishment so developed that its principal retail or service character is dependent on providing a driveway approach or parking spaces for motor vehicles so as to serve patrons while in the motor vehicles. Examples include but are not limited to, restaurants, cleaners, banks, and theaters.

**DRIVE-THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT:** A business establishment so developed that its principal retail or service character is dependent on providing a driveway approach or parking

spaces for motor vehicles to service patrons from a window or booth while in their motor vehicles, rather than within a building or structure, so that consumption off-premises may be facilitated.

**DRIVEWAY:** That portion of the vehicle accommodation area that consists of a travel lane bounded on either side by an area that is not part of the vehicle accommodation area.

**DUMPSTER:** A container used for the temporary storage of rubbish, pending collection, having a capacity of at least two (2) cubic yards.

**DWELLING:** A building or portion thereof, containing sleeping, kitchen, and bathroom facilities designed for and occupied by one family, excluding hotels, motels, and tourists homes. In no case shall a travel trailer, motor home, automobile, tent or other portable building defined as a recreational vehicle be considered a dwelling. In the case of mixed occupancy where a building is occupied in part as a dwelling unit, the part so occupied shall be deemed a dwelling unit for the purposes of this Ordinance.

**DWELLING, MANUFACTURED:** A building or portion of a building designed for long-term residential use and characterized by all of the following:

- A. The structure is produced in a factory in accordance with the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act, as amended; and
- B. The structure is designed to be transported to the site in a nearly complete form, where it is placed on a foundation and connected to utilities; and
- C. The structure is designed to be used as either an independent building or as a module to be combined with other elements to form a complete building on a site.

Also refer to DWELLING, ONE FAMILY OR SINGLE FAMILY.

**DWELLING, MOBILE HOME:** A structure, transportable in one (1) or more sections, which is built upon a chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without permanent foundation, when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems contained in the structure. Such structures shall be located in accordance with state and local regulations and skirted to hide all operations underneath the vehicle. Recreational vehicles as described and regulated herein shall not be considered "mobile homes" for the purposes of this Ordinance. A mobile home is a type of manufactured housing. Also see DWELLING, ONE FAMILY OR SINGLE FAMILY.

**DWELLING, MULTIPLE-FAMILY:** A building designed for and occupied by three (3) or more families living independently with separate housekeeping, cooking, and bathroom facilities for each. Multiple-family dwellings units include the following:

- A. **Apartment:** An apartment is an attached dwelling unit with party walls, contained in a building with other apartment units which are commonly reached off of a common stair landing or walkway. Apartments are typically rented by the occupants. Apartment buildings often have a central heating system and other central utility connections and common yard space.
- B. **Efficiency Unit:** An efficiency unit is a type of multiple-family or apartment unit consisting of one (1) principal room, plus bathroom and kitchen facilities, hallways, closets, and/or a dining alcove located directly off the principal room.

**DWELLING, ONE-FAMILY OR SINGLE-FAMILY:** A detached building containing not more than one dwelling unit designed for residential use, provided:

- A. It complies with the minimum square footage requirements of this Ordinance for the zone in which it is located.
- B. It has a minimum width across front, side and rear elevations of 24 feet and complies in all respects with the Building Code, including minimum heights for habitable rooms. Where a dwelling is required by law to comply with any federal or state standards or regulations for construction and where such standards or regulations for construction are different than those imposed by the Building Code, then and in that event, such federal or state standard or regulation shall apply; further provided that the provisions of this section shall not have the effect of making one family dwellings, which exist as of the effective date of this Ordinance, non-conforming.
- C. It is firmly attached to a permanent foundation constructed on the site in accordance with the Building Code and shall have a wall of the same perimeter dimensions of the dwelling and constructed of such materials and type as required in the applicable building code for one- family dwellings. In the event that the dwelling is a mobile home, as defined herein, such dwelling shall be installed pursuant to the manufacturer's setup instructions, shall be skirted to screen all undercarriage materials, and shall be secured to the premises by an anchoring system or device complying with the rules and regulations of the Michigan Manufactured Housing Commission and shall have a perimeter wall as required.
- D. In the event that a dwelling is a mobile home as defined herein, each mobile home shall be installed with the wheels and towing mechanism removed. Additionally,

no dwelling shall have any exposed undercarriage or chassis. It shall be skirted to screen this area.

- E. The dwelling contains a storage capability area in a basement located under the dwelling, in an attic area, in closet areas, or in a separate structure of standard construction equal to or of better quality than the principal dwelling, which storage area shall be equal to 10 percent of the square footage of the dwelling or 100 square feet, whichever shall be less.
- F. The dwelling is aesthetically compatible in design and appearance with other residences in the vicinity, with either a roof over-hang of not less than six inches on all sides, or alternatively with window sills or roof drainage systems concentrating roof drainage at collection points along the sides of the dwelling; has not less than two exterior doors with the second one being in either the rear or side of the dwelling; and contains steps connected to said exterior door areas or to porches connected to said door areas where a difference in elevation requires the same.

The compatibility of design and appearance shall be determined in the first instance by the Building Official upon review of the plans submitted for a particular dwelling subject to appeal by an aggrieved party to the Zoning Board of Appeals within a period of thirty (30) days from the receipt of notice of said Building Official's decision. Any determination of compatibility shall be based upon the standards set forth in this definition of single family "dwelling" as well as the character, design and appearance of one or more residential dwellings to the extent of less than twenty (20) percent of the lots situated within said area; or, where said area is not so developed, by the character, design and appearance of one or more residential dwellings located outside of mobile home parks throughout the Township.

- G. The dwelling contains no additions or rooms or other areas which are not constructed with a quality of workmanship equal to the original structure, including permanent attachments to the principal structure and construction of foundations as required herein.
- H. The dwelling complies with all pertinent building and fire codes. In the case of a mobile home, all construction and all plumbing, electrical apparatus and insulation within and connected to said mobile home shall be of a type and quality conforming to the "Mobile Home Construction and Safety Standards" as promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, being 24 CFR 3280, amended. Additionally, all dwellings shall meet or exceed all applicable roof snow load and strength requirements.

- I. The foregoing standard shall not apply to a mobile home located in a licensed mobile home park except to the extent required by state or federal law or otherwise specifically required in the Ordinance of the Township pertaining to such parks.
- J. All construction required herein shall be commenced only after a building permit has been obtained in accordance with the applicable building code provisions and requirements.

**DWELLING, TWO-FAMILY OR DUPLEX:** A detached building, designed exclusively to be occupied by two (2) families living independently of each other, with separate housekeeping, cooking, and bathroom facilities for each.

**DWELLING UNIT:** One or more rooms, along with bathroom and kitchen facilities, designed as a self-contained unit for occupancy by one family for living, cooking, and sleeping purposes.

**DWELLING UNIT, SINGLE-FAMILY ATTACHED OR TOWNHOUSE:** A townhouse is an attached single-family dwelling unit with party walls, designed as part of a series of three (3) or more dwellings, with its own front door which opens to the outdoors at ground level, and typically with its own basement utility connections, and front and rear yards. Townhouses are also commonly known as row houses.

**DRIVE-IN THEATER:** An open-air theater constructed and operated at an established location, without cover or roof, displaying motion pictures for the general public who view the screen or stage while seated in a vehicle. The term "drive-in theater" as used herein shall include the entire premises upon which such theater is constructed and operated, including parking areas and all other facilities accessory to such business.

**DUPLEX:** See DWELLING, TWO FAMILY OR DUPLEX.

**EARTH-SHELTERED HOME:** A complete building partially below grade that is designed to conserve energy and is intended to be used as a single-family dwelling.

**EASEMENT:** Any private or dedicated public way that provides a means of access to property. The term "easement" may also refer to utility easements which give public or private utility companies the right to use land for the construction and maintenance of utilities.

**EFFICIENCY UNIT:** See DWELLING, MULTIPLE FAMILY.



**ERECTED:** The word "erected" includes built, constructed, reconstructed, moved upon, or any physical operations on the premises required for the building. Excavations, fill, drainage, and the like, shall be considered a part of erection.

**ESSENTIAL SERVICES:** The term "essential services" shall mean the erection, construction, alteration or maintenance by public or quasi-public utilities or municipal departments or Township-certified cable television companies of underground, surface or overhead gas, steam, electrical, fuel or water systems for the purposes of transmission, distribution, collection, communication, supply, or disposal; including towers, poles, wires, mains, drains, sewers, pipes, conduits, cables, fire alarm and police call boxes, traffic signals, hydrants and similar equipment, which are necessary for the furnishing of adequate service by such utilities or municipal departments for the general health, safety, and welfare of the public. Essential services shall not include storage yards, sales or business offices, or commercial buildings or activities. Telecommunication towers or facilities, alternative tower structures, and wireless communication facilities antenna are specifically excluded from this definition.

**EXCAVATION:** The removal of sand, stone, gravel, or fill dirt below the average grade of the surrounding land and/or road grade, whichever shall be the highest, excluding common household gardening and ground care.

**FAMILY:**

- A. An individual or group of two (2) or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption, together with foster children or servants of the principal occupants, with not more than one additional unrelated persons, who are domiciled together as a single, domestic, housekeeping unit in a dwelling unit; or
- B. A collective number of individuals living together in one dwelling unit, whose relationship is of a continuing, nontransient, domestic character, and who are cooking and living as a single, nonprofit housekeeping unit. This definition shall not include any society, club, fraternity, sorority, association, lodge, coterie, organization or group of students or other individuals whose domestic relationship is of a transitory or seasonal nature or for an anticipated limited duration of a school term or terms or other similar determinable period.

**FAMILY DAY CARE HOME:** See CHILD DAY CARE ORGANIZATIONS.

**FARM:** All of the contiguous neighboring or associated land operated as a single unit for agricultural production by the owner-operator, manager, or tenant farmer, by his own labor or with the assistance of members of his household or hired employees; also including establishments operated as bonafide greenhouses, nurseries, orchards, vineyards, chicken hatcheries, poultry farms, and apiaries. For the purposes of this Ordinance, farms shall not

include establishments for keeping or raising fur-bearing animals, riding or boarding stables, commercial dog kennels, game fish hatcheries, piggeries, stockyards, or gravel or sand pits, unless such establishments are combined with other bona fide farm operations listed above which are located on the same continuous tract of land.

No farms shall be operated for the disposal of garbage, sewage, rubbish, offal or rendering plants, or for the slaughtering of animals except such animals as have been raised on the premises or have been maintained on the premises for at least a period of one year immediately prior thereto and for the use and consumption by persons residing on the premises.

A farm permitted by this Ordinance is not intended nor implied to permit trucking, equipment and/or sales, contractor yards or any other activities other than those incidental to the bonafide farm.

**FENCE:** An accessory structure of definite height and location intended to serve as a physical barrier to property ingress or egress, a screen from objectionable vista or noise, a marker, an enclosure in carrying out the requirements of this Ordinance, or for decorative use.

**FILL, FILLING:** The deposit or dumping of any matter onto or into the ground, except for common household gardening, farming, and general ground care.

**FLOOD OR FLOODING:** A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry areas from the overflow of inland or tidal waters or the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source.

**Flood Hazard Area:** Land which on the basis of available flood plain information is subject to a one percent (1%) or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

**Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM):** An official map of the community, issued by the Federal Insurance Administration, where the boundaries of the areas of special flood hazard areas have been designated as Zone A.

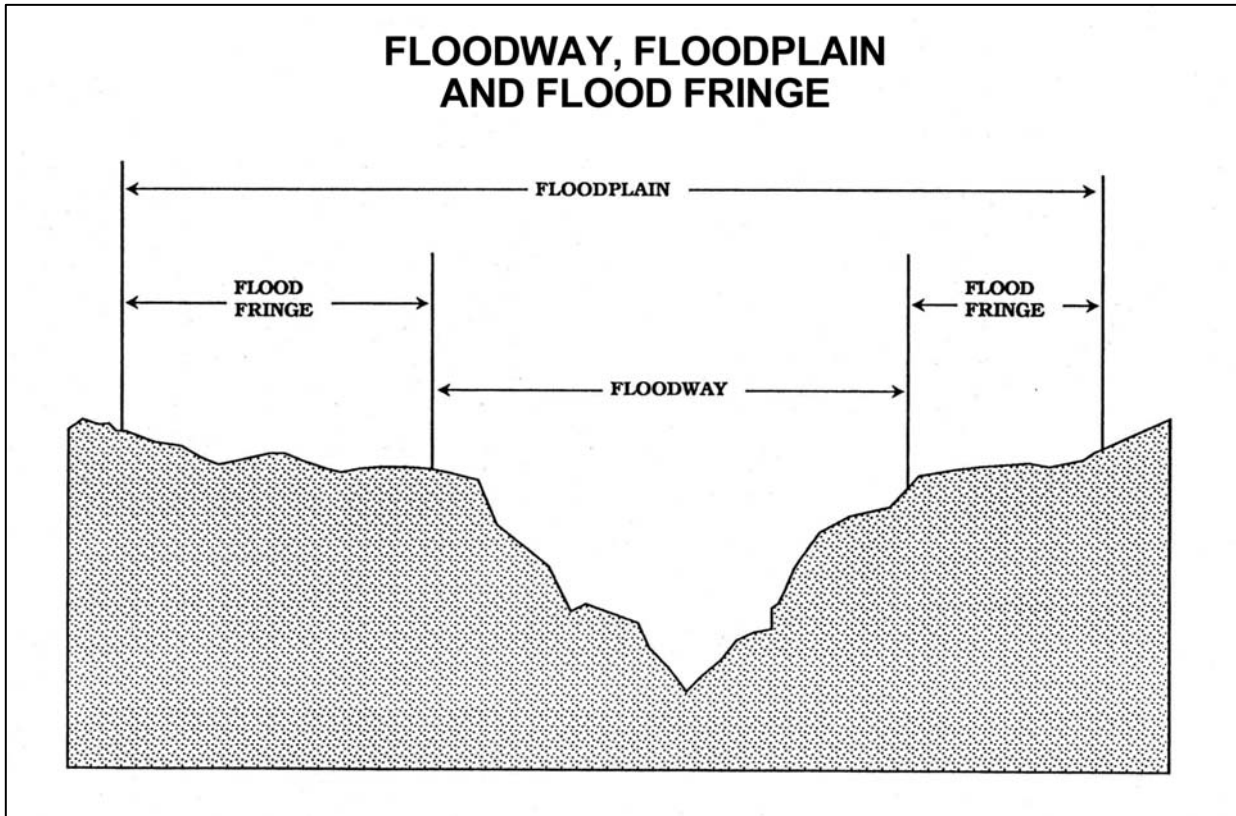
**Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM):** An official map of a community, issued by the Federal Insurance Administration, which has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

**Flood Insurance Study:** The official report provided by the Federal Insurance Administration. The report contains flood profiles, as well as the Flood Hazard Boundary-Floodway Map, and the water surface elevation of the base flood.

**Flooding, Area of Shallow:** A designated AO Zone on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with base flood depths from one (1) to three (3) feet where a clearly defined

channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and indeterminate, and where velocity flow may be evident.

**Flooding, Ordinary High Water Mark:** The line between upland and bottomland which persists through successive changes in water levels below which the presence and action of the water is so common or recurrent that the character of the land is marked distinctly from the upland and is apparent in the soil itself, the configuration of the surface soil, and the vegetation.



**Flood Plain:** Any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (See Flood.)

**Floodway:** The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas designated in the Flood Insurance Study which must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood.

**FLOOR AREA:** The area of a building defined as follows.

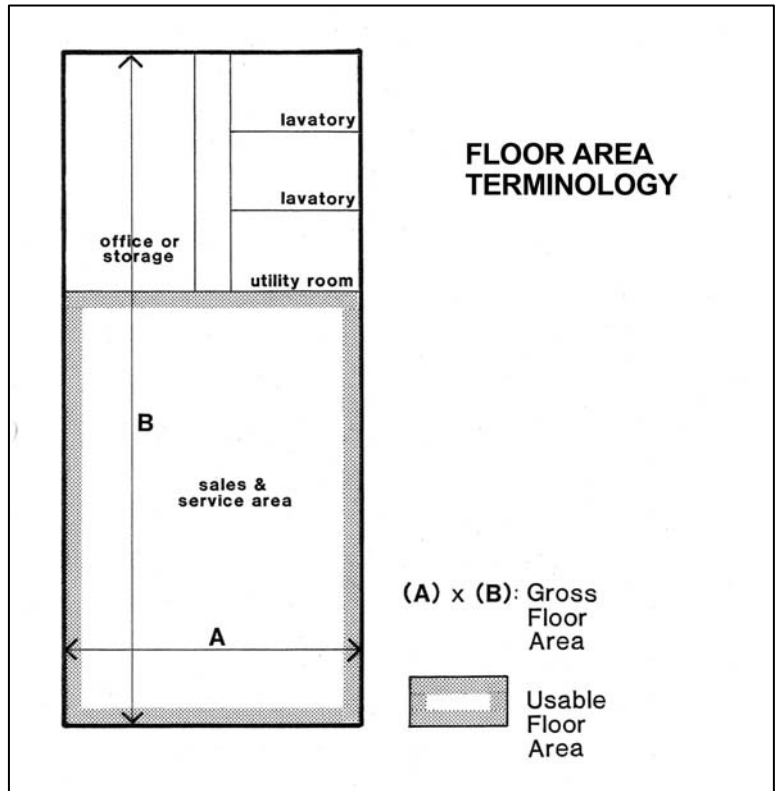
**A. Floor Area, Gross:** The total area of a building measured by taking the outside dimensions of the building at each floor level intended for occupancy or storage.

**B. Floor Area, Net:** See FLOOR AREA, USABLE RESIDENTIAL and FLOOR AREA, USABLE NONRESIDENTIAL.

**C. Floor Area, Usable Residential:** The gross floor area minus areas in unfinished basements or attics, attached garages, and enclosed or unenclosed porches.

**D. Floor Area, Usable Nonresidential:** The sum of the horizontal areas of each floor, measured from the interior faces of the exterior walls, including all areas used for, intended to be used for, and accessible for the sale of merchandise, provision of services, or service to patrons, clients or customers. Floor area which issued for or intended to be used for the storage or processing of merchandise, or for utilities shall be excluded from the computations of Usable Nonresidential Floor Area.

**E. Floor Area Ratio (FAR):** The ratio between the maximum allowable amount of floor space on all floors in a building and the total area of the lot on which the building is located.



**FOSTER CARE HOME:** See STATE LICENSED RESIDENTIAL FACILITY.

**FOSTER CHILD:** A child unrelated to a family by blood or adoption with whom he or she lives for the purposes of care and/or education.

**FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION:** See CLUB.

**FRONT LOT LINE:** See LOT LINE, FRONT.

**FRONT YARD:** See YARD, FRONT.

**GARAGE, PRIVATE:** An accessory building used or designed to be used primarily for the storage of motor vehicles, boats, or trailers owned and used by the occupants of the building to which it is accessory. A private garage may be either attached to or detached from the principal structure. Private garages shall not have public repair facilities.

**GARAGE, PUBLIC:** Any building or premise, other than junkyard, where more than one motor vehicle is stored for compensation.

**GARAGE, REPAIR:** See AUTOMOBILE REPAIR.

**GARBAGE:** All wastes, animal, fish, fowl, or vegetable matter incident to the preparation, use, and storage of food for human consumption, spoiled food, animal, and fowl manure.

**GARDEN CENTER:** An establishment with retail sales of trees, fruits, vegetables, shrubbery, plants, seeds, topsoil, humus, fertilizer, trellises, lawn furniture, playground equipment, and other home garden supplies, landscaping materials, and equipment.

**GAS STATION:** See AUTOMOBILE FILLING STATION and AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION.

**GLARE:** The effect produced by brightness or a source of illumination sufficient to cause annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility.

**GOLF COURSE OR COUNTRY CLUB:** The premises upon which the game of golf is played, including clubhouses, parking lots, swimming pools, tennis courts, or other facilities or uses customarily incidental to a golf course or country club.

**GOLF DRIVING RANGE:** An area or parcel of land which includes golf tee areas and associated facilities, the purpose of which is to practice golf shots.

**GRADE:** A grade is the average level of the finished surface of the ground adjacent to the exterior walls of the building or structure.

**GRADE, AVERAGE:** The arithmetic average of the lowest and highest grade elevations in an area within five (5) feet of the foundation line of a building or structure.

**GRADE, FINISHED:** The lowest point of elevation between the exterior wall of the structure and a line five (5) feet from the exterior wall of the structure.

**GREENWAY:** See LANDSCAPING.

**GROUP DAY CARE HOMES:** See CHILD DAY CARE ORGANIZATIONS.

**GYM OR GYMNASIUM:** A room or building equipped for gymnastics, exercise, or sport.

**HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES:** Any chemical or other material which, by virtue of its inherent properties and not solely by the manner in which it is used, has the potential to be injurious to the public health, safety, and welfare even in small quantities. Uses and facilities which use, store or generate hazardous substances in quantities greater than one hundred (100) kilograms per month, or twenty-five (25) gallons per month, whichever is less, shall be subject to site plan requirements.

**HEIGHT, BUILDING:** See BUILDING HEIGHT.

**HIGHWAY:** See STREET.

**HOME OCCUPATION:** Any occupation conducted within a dwelling unit and carried on by the inhabitants thereof. Home occupations may provide for one (1) full-time non-resident employee. Home occupations shall be clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling for living purposes, shall not change the character thereof, and shall not endanger the health, safety, and welfare of any other persons residing in that area by reason of noise, noxious odors, unsanitary or unsightly conditions, fire hazards and the like, involved in or resulting from such occupation, professions or hobby. No goods shall be sold from the premises which are not strictly incidental to the principal home occupation conducted therein.

**HOSPITAL:** An institution which is licensed by the Michigan Department of Health to provide in-patient and out-patient medical and major surgical services for the sick and injured, and which may include such related facilities as laboratories, medical testing services, central service facilities, and staff offices.

**HOSPITAL, VETERINARY:** See CLINIC, VETERINARY.

**HOTEL:** A building occupied as a more or less temporary abiding place for individuals who are lodged with or without meals in rooms consisting of a minimum of one (1) bedroom and a bath, occupied for hire, in which access to at least fifty percent (50%) of the lodging units is through a common entrance, and in which provision is not made for cooking in the individual units. Hotels customarily provide services such as desk service, maid service, laundering of linens, etc.

**HOUSING, ELDERLY:** An institution other than a hospital or hotel, which provides room and board to non-transient persons primarily sixty (60) years of age and older. Housing for the elderly may include:

- A. Senior Apartments: Multiple-family dwelling units occupied by persons fifty-five (55) years of age or older.
- B. Elderly Housing Complex: A building or group of buildings containing dwellings where the occupancy is restricted to persons sixty (60) years or older or couples where either the husband or wife is sixty (60) years of age or older.
- C. Congregate or Interim Care Housing: A semi-independent housing facility containing congregate kitchen, dining, and living areas, but with separate sleeping rooms. Such facilities typically provide special support services, such as transportation and limited medical care.
- D. Dependent Housing Facilities: Facilities such as convalescent homes and nursing homes which are designed for older persons who need a wide range of health and support services, including personal nursing care.

**INGRESS AND EGRESS:** As used in this Ordinance, "ingress and egress" generally is used in reference to a driveway which allows vehicles to enter or leave a parcel of property, or to a sidewalk or entranceway which allows pedestrians to enter or leave a parcel of property, a building, or another location.

**JUNK:** Any motor vehicles, machinery, appliances, products or merchandise with parts missing, or other scrap materials that are damaged, deteriorated, or are in a condition which prevents their use for the purpose for which the product was manufactured.

**JUNKYARD:** An area where waste and used or secondhand materials are bought and sold, exchanged, stored, baled, packed, disassembled, or handled including, but not limited to: junk, scrap iron, metals, paper, rags, tires, bottles and automobiles.

**KENNEL:** Any lot or premises on which more than three (3) dogs, cats, and/or other domesticated animals six (6) months or older are kept, either permanently or temporarily, either for sale, breeding, boarding, training, protection, grooming, or other commercial purposes; and may offer provisions for minor medical treatment including animal shelters.

**LABORATORY:** A place devoted to experimental, routine or basic study such as testing and analytical operations and in which manufacturing of product or products, except prototypes, is not performed.

**LAKE:** Any body of water, natural or artificial, defined as "inland lake or stream" in the Inland Lakes and Stream Act of 1972, P.A. 1972, No. 451, as amended.

**LAND DIVISION:** The partitioning or splitting of a parcel or tract of land by the proprietor thereof or by his or her heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, or assigns for the purpose of sale, or lease of more than 1 year, or of building development that results in one (1) or more parcels of less than 40 acres or the equivalent, and that satisfies the requirements of section 108 and 109 of the Land Division Act, P.A. 288 of 1967 as amended.

**LANDFILL:** Any disposal area, tract of land, building, unit or appurtenance or combination thereof that is used to collect, store, handle, dispose of, bury, cover over, or otherwise accept or retain refuse as herein defined.

**LANDSCAPING:** The treatment of the ground surface with live plant materials such as, but not limited to, grass, ground cover, trees, shrubs, vines, and other live plant material. In addition, a landscape design may include other decorative man-made materials, such as wood chips, crushed stone, boulders, or mulch. Structural features such as fountains, pools, statues, and benches shall also be considered a part of landscaping, but only if provided in combination with live plant material. Artificial plant materials shall not be counted toward meeting the requirements for landscaping. Various landscaping- related terms are defined as follows:

- A. **Berm:** A continuous, raised earthen mound with a flattened top and sloped sides, capable of supporting live landscaping materials, and with a height and width that complies with the requirements of this Ordinance.
- B. **Greenway:** A strip of land of definite width and location reserved for the planting of a combination of shrubs, trees, and ground cover to serve as an obscuring screen or buffer for noise or visual enhancement, in accordance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
- C. **Ground Cover:** Low-growing plants that form a dense, extensive growth after one complete growing season, and tend to prevent weeds and soil erosion.
- D. **Hedge:** A row of closely planted shrubs or low-growing trees which form a continuous visual screen, boundary, or fence.
- E. **Screen or screening:** A wall, wood fence, or combination of plantings of sufficient height, length, and opacity to form a visual barrier. If the screen is composed of nonliving material, such material shall be compatible with materials used in construction of the main building, but in no case shall include wire fencing.



- F. **Shrub:** A self-supporting, deciduous or evergreen woody plant, normally branched near the base, bushy, and less than fifteen (15) feet in height.
- G. **Sod:** A piece from the surface of grassland containing the grass support soil, and the healthy roots, extracted with the intention of replanting in another area for the purpose of establishing lawn areas. Sod is grown on mineral soil (commonly referred to as "topsoil") or peat, and must be a minimum of two (2) years old. The grasses permitted for use in sod for landscaped lawns should be a blend that reflects the current standards in the industry and has been demonstrated to prosper under local conditions.
- H. **Tree:** A self-supporting woody, deciduous or evergreen plant with a well- defined central stem which normally grows to a mature height of fifteen (15) feet or more in Van Buren County, Michigan.
1. **Deciduous Tree:** A variety of tree that has foliage that is shed at the end of the growing season.
  2. **Evergreen Tree:** A variety of tree that has foliage that persists and remains green throughout the year.
- I. **Ornamental Tree:** A deciduous tree which is typically grown because of its shape, flowering characteristics, or other attractive features, and which grows to a mature height of about twenty-five (25) feet or less.
- J. **Shade Tree:** For the purposes of this Ordinance, a shade tree is a deciduous tree which has a mature crown spread of fifteen (15) feet or greater and has a trunk with at least five (5) feet of clear stem at maturity.

**LIVESTOCK:** Horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and other domestic animals normally kept or raised on a farm.

**LOADING SPACE, OFF-STREET:** An off-street space of definite size and dimensions in accordance with the requirements of this Ordinance, which is safely and conveniently located on the same lot as the building or buildings being served, for the temporary parking of delivery vehicles while loading and unloading merchandise and materials.

**LOCAL STREET:** See STREET, LOCAL OR MINOR.

**LOT (OR ZONING LOT OR PARCEL):** For the purposes of enforcing this ordinance, a lot is defined as a piece of land under one ownership and control that is at least sufficient in size to meet the minimum requirements for use, coverage, area, setbacks, and open space as required

herein. A lot shall have frontage on a roadway dedicated to the public and certified for maintenance by a public agency, or, if permitted by the regulations set forth herein, on a private road. A lot may consist of:

- A. A single Lot of Record.
- B. A portion of a Lot of Record.
- C. A combination of complete Lots of Record, or portion thereof.
- D. A piece of land described by metes and bounds.

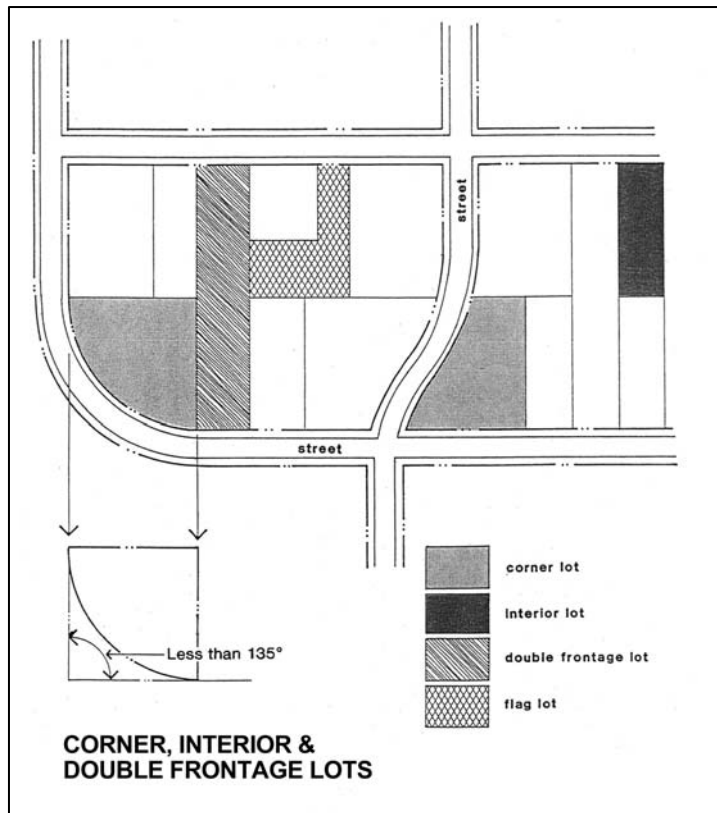
**LOT, ADJACENT:** Lots which adjoin each other or which are separated only by a public or private right-of-way or easement.

**LOT AREA, NET:** The total horizontal area within the lot lines of a lot, exclusive of any abutting public street right-of-way or private road easements, or the area of any lake or wetlands area.

**LOT AREA, GROSS:** The net lot area plus one-half (½) of the area of any public right-of-way area or private road easement immediately adjacent to or abutting the lot.

**LOT, CONTIGUOUS:** Lots adjoining each other.

**LOT, CORNER:** A lot of which at least two (2) adjacent sides abut their full length upon a street, provided that such two (2) sides intersect at an angle of not more than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees. Where a lot is on a curve, if the tangents through the extreme point of the street lines of such lot make an interior angle of not more than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees, it shall be considered a corner lot. In the case of a corner lot with a curved street line, the corner is that point on the street lot line nearest to the point of intersection of the



tangents described above. (A tangent is a straight line extended from the outer edges of a curve which intersect to form a corner.)

**LOT COVERAGE:** The part or percent of the lot that is occupied by buildings or structures.

**LOT DEPTH:** The horizontal distance between the front street line and rear lot line, measured along the median between the side lot lines.

**LOT, DOUBLE FRONTAGE:** A lot other than a corner lot having frontage on two (2) more or less parallel streets. In the case of a row of double frontage lots, one (1) street shall be designated as the front street for all lots in the plat and in the request for a zoning compliance permit. If there are existing buildings in the same block fronting on one or both of the streets, the required minimum front yard setback shall be observed on those streets where buildings presently front.

**LOT, INTERIOR:** Any lot other than a corner lot with only one (1) lot line fronting on a street.

**LOT, LAKE:** A lot having any frontage directly upon a lake, natural or man-made. The yard adjacent to the water shall be designated the front yard of the lot, and the opposite side shall be designated the rear yard of the lot.

**LOT LINES:** The lines bounding a lot as follows:

- A. **Front Lot Line:** In the case of an interior lot abutting on one (1) public or private street, the front lot line shall mean the line separating the lot from such street right-of-way. In the case of a corner or double frontage lot, the front lot line shall be that line separating said lot from the street which is designated as the front street in the plat and/or in the request for a building permit.
- B. **Rear Lot Line:** Ordinarily, that lot line which is opposite and most distant from the front lot line. In the case of irregular, triangular, wedge shaped, or lots that are pointed at the rear, the rear lot line shall be an imaginary line parallel to the front lot line, not less than ten (10) feet in length, lying farthest from the front lot line and wholly within the lot.
- C. **Side Lot Line:** Any lot line other than the front or rear lot lines. A side lot line separating a lot from a street is a side street lot line. A side lot line separating a lot from another lot or lots is an interior side lot line.

**LOT OF RECORD:** A parcel of land, the dimensions and configuration of which are shown on a subdivision plat recorded in the offices of the Van Buren County Register of Deeds, or a lot or parcel described by metes and bounds, and accuracy of which is attested to by a land surveyor

(registered and licensed in the State of Michigan) and likewise so recorded with the Van Buren County Register of Deeds.

**LOT WIDTH:** The straight line distance between the side lot lines, measured at the two points where the minimum front yard setback line intersects the side lot lines.

**LOT SPLIT AND CONSOLIDATION:** The dividing or uniting of lots by virtue of changes in the deeds in the office of the Van Buren County Register of Deeds and/or the Township Treasurer. The division of lots shall take place in accordance with the Subdivision Control Act, Michigan Public Act 288 of 1967, as amended.

**MAIN ACCESS DRIVE:** Any private street designed to provide access from a public street or road to a mobile home park, apartment or condominium complex, or other private property development.

**MAJOR STREET OR THOROUGHFARE:** See STREET, MAJOR.

**MANUFACTURED HOUSING:** See DWELLING, MANUFACTURED.

**MARQUEE:** A roof-like structure of a permanent nature, projecting from the wall of a building.

**MASSAGE THERAPIST (Certified):** An individual specifically trained and certified in massage therapy and the healing arts by the American Massage Therapy Association or similar organization.

**MASTER PLAN:** The master plan is a document which is prepared under the guidance of the Decatur Township Planning Commission and consists of graphic and written materials which indicate the general location for streets, parks, schools, public buildings and all physical development of the Township.

**MEZZANINE:** An intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of any story with an aggregate floor area of not more than one-third (1/3) of the floor area of the story in which the level or levels are located. A mezzanine shall be deemed a full story if the vertical distance from the next floor below the mezzanine to the next floor above is twenty-four (24) feet or more.

**MICROBREWERY:** A brewer licensed by the State of Michigan which produces and manufactures in total, less than thirty-thousand (30,000) barrels of beer per year, and who may sell at the licensed brewery premises the beer produced and manufactured to consumers for consumption on or off the licensed brewery premises. In determining the thirty-thousand (30,000) barrel threshold, all brands and labels of a brewer whether brewed in this state or outside this state, shall be combined and all facilities for the production and manufacture of beer that are owned or controlled by the person(s) shall be treated as a single facility.

**MINOR STREET:** See STREET, LOCAL OR MINOR.

**MOBILE HOME:** See DWELLING, MOBILE HOME.

**MOBILE HOME PARK (MANUFACTURED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT):** A parcel or tract of land under the control of a person upon which three (3) or more mobile homes are located on a continual nonrecreational basis and which is offered to the public for that purpose regardless of whether a charge is made, together with any building, structure, enclosure, street, equipment, or facility used or intended for use as temporary park, subject to conditions set forth in the Mobile Home Commission Rules and Michigan Public Act 419 of 1976, as amended.

**MOBILE HOME LOT:** An area within a mobile home park which is designated for the exclusive use of the occupants of a specific mobile home.

**MOTEL:** A series of attached, semi-detached, or detached rental units which may or may not be independently accessible from the outside parking area consisting of a minimum of a bedroom and bath, occupied for hire, in which a minimum of fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the units feature exterior entrances, and which provides customary motel services such as maid service, linen service, telephone and/or desk service, and the use of furniture. No kitchen or cooking facilities are to be provided with the exception of units for use of the manager and/or caretaker.

**MOTOR HOME:** A motorized vehicular unit primarily designed for travel and/or recreational usage, which may also contain facilities for overnight lodging. This term does not apply to mobile home.

**MUNICIPALITY:** The word "municipality" shall mean the Township of Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan.

**NATURAL FEATURES:** Natural features shall include soils, wetlands, floodplains, water bodies and channels, topography, trees and other types of vegetative cover, and geologic formations.

**NONCONFORMING BUILDING:** A building or portion thereof that was lawfully in existence at the effective date of this Ordinance, or amendments thereto, and which does not now conform to the minimum building height, area, setback, lot coverage or other provision of this Ordinance pertaining to buildings in the zoning district in which it is located.

**NONCONFORMING LOT:** A lot which was lawfully in existence at the effective date of this Ordinance, or amendments thereto, and which does not now conform to the lot size, lot width, or other provisions of this Ordinance pertaining to lots in the zoning district in which it is located.

**NONCONFORMING USE:** A use which was lawfully in existence at the effective date of this Ordinance, or amendment thereto, and which does not now conform to the use regulations of this Ordinance for the zoning district in which it is now located.

**NON-CONFORMITY:** Any structure, lot, or use of any lot, land or structure, which does not conform at the time of adoption of this Ordinance or any amendment thereto, to the regulations for the district in which it is located.

**NUISANCE:** Any offensive, annoying, or disturbing practice or object, which prevents the free use of one's property, or which renders its ordinary use or physical occupation uncomfortable. Nuisance commonly involves continuous or recurrent acts which give offense to the senses, violate the laws of decency, obstruct reasonable and comfortable use of property, endanger life and health, or the generation of an excessive or concentrated movement of people or things such as : (a) noise, (b) dust, (c) smoke, (d) odor, (e) glare, (f) fumes, (g) flashes, (h) vibration, (i) shock waves, (j) heat, (k) electronic or atomic radiation, (l) objectionable effluent, (m) noise of congregation of people, particularly at night, (n) passenger traffic, or (o) invasion of non-abutting street frontage by traffic

**NURSERY, DAY NURSERY, or NURSERY SCHOOL:** See CHILD CARE CENTER.

**NURSERY, PLANT MATERIAL:** A space, building, and/or structure, or combination thereof, where live trees, shrubs, and other plants used for gardening and landscaping are propagated, stored, and/or offered for sale on the premises. Also see OPEN AIR BUSINESS and ROADSIDE STAND.

**NURSING HOME, CONVALESCENT HOME, or REST HOME:** A home for the care of the aged, infirm, or those suffering from bodily disorders, wherein two or more persons are housed or lodged and furnished with nursing care. Such facilities are licensed in accordance with Michigan Public Acts 139 of 1956, as amended.

**OCCUPANCY, CHANGE OF:** The term "change of occupancy" shall mean a discontinuance of an existing use and the substitution of a use of a different kind or class, or, the expansion of a use.

**OCCUPANCY LOAD:** The number of individuals normally occupying a building or part thereof or for which the exit way facilities have been designed.

**OCCUPIED:** Used in any way at the time in question.

**OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE:** See PARKING SPACE and PARKING LOT, OFF-STREET.

**OPEN AIR BUSINESS:** Any business that is conducted primarily out-of-doors. Unless otherwise specified herein, open air business shall include:

- A. Retail sales of garden supplies and equipment, including but not limited to: trees, shrubbery, plants, flowers, seed, topsoil, trellises, and lawn furniture.
- B. Roadside stands for the sale of agricultural products, including fruits, vegetables, and Christmas trees.
- C. Various outdoor recreation uses, including but not limited to: tennis courts, archery courts, shuffleboard, horseshoe courts, miniature golf, golf driving ranges, and amusement parks.
- D. Outdoor display and sale of model garages, swimming pools, playground equipment, and similar uses.

**OPEN FRONT STORE:** A business establishment so developed that service to the patron may be extended beyond the walls of the structure, not requiring the patron to enter said structure.

**OPEN SPACE:** Lands open from ground to sky and devoted to outdoor recreation space, greenery, and resource protection. Developed open spaces may include, but is not limited to, playground fixtures, shelter, and tennis courts.

**OPEN SPACE, COMMON:** An unoccupied area within a planned unit development which is reserved primarily for the leisure and recreational use of all the planned unit development residents, owners, and occupants, and generally owned and maintained in common by them, often through a home owners or property owners association.

**OPEN SPACE, PUBLIC:** Any primarily undeveloped land intended for passive recreational pursuits, within the jurisdiction and control of a governmental agency.

**OPEN STORAGE:** Any outdoor storage of building materials, sand, gravel, stone, lumber, equipment, or other supplies.

**ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK:** The line between upland and bottomland which persists through successive changes in water levels below which the presence and action of the water is so common or recurrent that the character of the land is marked distinctly from the upland and is apparent in the soil itself, the configuration of the surface soil and the vegetation.

**OUTLOT:** A parcel of land which must be designated on a recorded plat as an outlot before it may be legally considered as such.

**PARCEL:** See LOT.

**PARKING LOT, OFF-STREET:** An area on private property which provides vehicular parking spaces along with adequate drives and aisles for maneuvering, so as to provide safe and convenient access for entrance and exit and for parking of more than three (3) vehicles.

**PARKING SPACE:** An area of definite length and width as designated in this Ordinance for parking an automobile or other vehicle, which is fully accessible for such purposes, and is exclusive of access drives and aisles thereto.

**PARTY WALL:** A wall starting from the foundation and extending continuously through all stories to or above the roof that separates one building or residence from another and that is in joint use by each building or residence.

**PERSON:** An individual, trustee, executor, fiduciary, corporation, firm, partnership, association, organization, or other legal entity acting as a unit.

**PERFORMANCE STANDARD:** A set of criteria or limits relating to nuisance elements that a particular use or process may not exceed, such as noise, odor, smoke, toxic or noxious matter, vibration, fire and explosive hazards, glare, heat, or other effects.

**PET:** A domesticated dog, cat, bird, gerbil, hamster, guinea pig, turtle, fish, rabbit, or other similar animal that is kept for pleasure or companionship.

**PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT:** A planned unit development may include such concepts as cluster development, planned development, community unit development, planned residential development, and other terminology denoting special zoning requirements and review procedures. These requirements and procedures are intended to provide design and regulatory flexibility, so as to accomplish the objectives of this Ordinance using innovative and effective planning approaches.

**PLAT:** A map of a subdivision of land.

**POULTRY:** Any of various breeds of birds long ago domesticated by man so as to live and breed in a tame, docile, tractable condition useful to man for meat and eggs, including chickens, ducks, geese, guinea fowl and turkeys not including game fowl.

**PORCH:** An exterior appendage to a building which has a separate roof or a roof integral with the building which forms a covered approach to a doorway or vestibule.

**Porch, Enclosed:** A porch separated from the outside by an all-weather partition or a partition which renders the area inside the partition habitable.



**Porch, Open:** A porch not separated from the outside by either an all-weather partition or a partition rendering the area inside the partition habitable.

**PRINCIPAL USE:** See USE, PRINCIPAL.

**PRIVATE STREET OR ROAD:** See STREET.

**PROPERTY LINE:** The line separating a piece of property from the street right- of-way and the lines separating a parcel of property from the parcels next to it. See also LOT LINE.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:** A notice of the time, place, and purpose of a public hearing, which notice shall be posted in a manner and within a time frame as prescribed in this Ordinance or in applicable State law.

**PUBLIC UTILITY:** Any persons, firm, corporation, municipal department, or board, duly authorized to furnish to the public under government regulations any of the following: electricity, gas, steam, communications services, cable television services, transportation services, water, sewer service, or sewage treatment.

**REAR LOT LINE:** See LOT LINE, REAR.

**RECREATION ESTABLISHMENT, INDOOR:** A privately owned facility designed and equipped for the conduct of sports, amusement, or leisure time activities and other customary recreational activities indoors (within an enclosed building) and operated as a business and open for use by the public for a fee, such as gymnasiums and fitness centers, bowling alleys, indoor soccer facilities, racquetball and tennis clubs, ice and roller skating rinks, curling centers, and firearms ranges.

**RECREATION ESTABLISHMENT, OUTDOOR:** A privately owned facility designed and equipped for the conduct of sports, amusements, or leisure time activities and other customary recreational activities outdoors (outside of an enclosed building) and operated as a business and open for use by the public for a fee such as tennis clubs, archery ranges, golf courses, miniature golf courses, golf driving ranges, water slides, batting cages and machines, skateboarding parks, and children's amusement parks.

**RECREATIONAL LAND:** Any public or privately owned lot or land that is utilized for recreation activities such as, but not limited to, camping, swimming, picnicking, hiking, nature trails, boating, and fishing.

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLE:** A boat, snowmobile, off-road vehicle, camper travel trailer, motor home, pick-up camper, or trailer which is designed for private recreational or travel use and which is further defined as:

- A. Travel Trailer: A portable vehicle on a chassis, which is designed to be used as a temporary dwelling during travel, recreational, and vacation uses, and which may be identified as a travel trailer by the manufacturer. Travel trailers generally contain sanitary, water, and electrical facilities.
- B. Pickup Camper: A structure designed to be mounted on a pickup or truck chassis with sufficient equipment to render it suitable for use as a temporary dwelling during the process of travel, recreational, and vacation uses.
- C. Motor Home (Trailer Coach): a self-propelled motorized recreational vehicle intended, designed, used, or constructed, and duly licensable for travel and/or recreational usage, and for temporary human habitation, sleeping, and/or cooking and eating for one (1) or more persons, mounted upon a chassis with wheels and capable of being moved from place to place under its own power. Motor home generally contain sanitary, water, and electrical facilities.
- D. Folding Tent Trailer: A folding structure, mounted on wheels and designed for travel and vacation use.
- E. Boats and Boat Trailers: Boats, floats, rafts, canoes, plus the normal equipment to transport them on the highway.
- F. Other Recreational Equipment: Snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, special terrain vehicles, utility trailers, plus normal equipment to transport them on the highway.

**REFUSE:** The miscellaneous waste materials resulting from housekeeping, mercantile enterprises, trades, manufacturing and offices, including other waste matter such as slag, stone, broken concrete, fly ash, sashes, tin cans, glass, scrap metal, rubber, paper, rags, chemicals or any similar or related combinations thereof.

**RESTAURANT:** A restaurant is any establishment whose principal business is the sale of food and beverages to the customer in a ready-to-consume state, and whose method of operation is characteristic of a carry-out, drive-in, drive-through, fast food, standard restaurant, or bar/lounge, or combination thereof, as defined below:

- A. **Restaurant, Carry-Out:** A carry-out restaurant is a restaurant whose method of operation involves sale of food, beverages, and/or frozen desserts in disposable or edible containers or wrappers in a ready-to-consume state for consumption primarily off the premises.

- B. **Restaurant, Drive-In:** A drive-in restaurant is a restaurant whose method of operation involves delivery of prepared food so as to allow its consumption in a motor vehicle or elsewhere on the premises, but outside of an enclosed building.
- C. **Restaurant, Drive-Through:** A drive-through restaurant is a restaurant whose method of operation involves the delivery of the prepared food to the customer in a motor vehicle, typically through a drive-through window, for consumption off the premises.
- D. **Restaurant, Fast-Food:** A fast-food restaurant is a restaurant whose method of operation involves minimum waiting for delivery of ready-to-consume food to the customer at a counter or cafeteria line for consumption at the counter where it is served, or at tables, booths, or stands inside the structure or out, or for consumption off the premises, but not in a motor vehicle at the site.
- E. **Restaurant, Standard:** A standard restaurant is a restaurant whose method of operation involves either:
  - 1. The delivery of prepared food by waiters and waitresses to customers seated at tables within a completely enclosed building, or
  - 2. The prepared food is acquired by customers at a cafeteria line and is subsequently consumed by the customers at tables within a completely enclosed building.
- F. **Bar/Lounge:** A bar or lounge is a type of restaurant which is operated primarily for the dispensing of alcoholic beverages, although the sale of prepared food or snacks may also be permitted. If an establishment includes a bar or lounge and a separate dining facility, the establishment shall be considered a bar/lounge if more than 50 percent of the usable floor area of the entire establishment is used for the bar/lounge.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY:** A right-of-way as defined herein dedicated to or owned by a public body and available for use by the general public. In the case of public streets, the right-of-way normally includes curbs, lawn strips, and lighting and drainage facilities.

**ROADSIDE STAND:** A temporary or existing permanent building operated for the purpose of selling only produce raised or produced by the proprietor of the stand or his family on the premises, and its use shall not make into a commercial district, land which would otherwise be an agricultural or residential district, nor shall its use be deemed a commercial activity for purposes of this Ordinance.

**ROOM:** For the purpose of determining lot area requirements and density in a multiple-family district, a room is a living room, dining room or bedroom, equal to at least eighty (80) square feet in area. A room shall not include the area in kitchen, sanitary facilities, utility provisions, corridors, hallways and storage. Plans presented showing 1, 2 or 3 bedroom units and including a "den", "library", or other extra room shall count such extra room as a bedroom for the purpose of computing density.

**ROOMING HOUSE:** See BOARDING HOUSE.

**RUBBISH:** The miscellaneous waste materials resulting from housekeeping, mercantile enterprises, trades, manufacturing and offices, including other waste matter such as slag, stone, broken concrete, fly ash, ashes, tin cans, glass, etc.

**SATELLITE ANTENNA:** An accessory structure which at its widest dimension is in excess of 36 inches, capable of receiving signals from orbiting satellites and other extraterrestrial sources, together with other equipment related to such purposes.

**SAWMILL (Agricultural)-** A facility for the primary processing of forest products in an agricultural zoning district, provided that such facility is found to not seriously interfere with accepted farming practices, employs three or fewer persons(including the property owner), where product is milled or planed in a bulk manner for private or small scale commercial purposes either outdoors or in an enclosed building and where it is found to be compatible within close proximity to agricultural and rural residential land uses.

**SAWMILL (Industrial)-** A facility for the primary processing of forest products grown off-site and milled or planed in a bulk manner for commercial purposes; in a facility located in an industrial zoning district; where more than three persons are employed; where the processing takes place in an enclosed building, and where the finished product is shipped for retail or wholesale trade.

**SCHOOL:** An institution or facility for the teaching of children or adults as its primary function.

**SCREEN, OBSCURING:** A visual barrier between adjacent area or uses consisting of structures, such as a wall or fence, or living plant material.

**SETBACK:** The distance between a front, side or rear lot line and the nearest supporting member of a structure on the lot. The **MINIMUM REQUIRED SETBACK** is the minimum distance between a front, side or rear lot line and the nearest supporting member of a structure in order to conform to the required yard setback provisions of this Ordinance (see definition of **YARD**).

**SETBACK, PARKING LOT:** The minimum horizontal distance between the street right of way or property line and the near edge of the parking lot, excluding necessary and/or approved driveways, frontage roads, and landscaping areas.

**SIDE LOT LINE:** See LOT LINE, SIDE.

**SIDEWALK:** Pedestrian or non-motorized vehicular circulation routes built according to the standards of the Township or other agency with right-of-way jurisdiction, as applicable.

**SIGN:** Any visual or graphic device designed through use of words, numbers, characters, or symbols to inform or attract attention and which is designed to be visible from outside any building or structure in which, upon which, or attached to which it may be located. Various types of signs and sign-related terms are defined in Chapter 15 of this Ordinance.

**SITE PLAN:** A plan showing all salient features of a proposed development, as required in Chapter 18, so that it may be evaluated to determine whether it meets the provisions of this Ordinance.

**SPECIAL EVENT:** An occurrence or noteworthy happening of seasonal, civic, or church importance, which is organized and sponsored by a non-profit Decatur Township community group, organization, club or society, and which offers a distinctive service to the community, such as public entertainment, community education, civic celebration, or cultural or community enrichment. Special events typically run for a short period of time (less than two weeks) and are unlike the customary or usual activities generally associated with the property where the special event is to be located. All such special events shall be open to the public.

**STABLE, PRIVATE:** A private stable is an enclosed building intended for the keeping of horses or other large domestic animals, for the noncommercial use of the residents of the principal residential use on the site.

**STABLE, PUBLIC:** A public stable is an enclosed building intended for the keeping of horses or other domestic animals, in which any such animals are kept for remuneration, hire, or sale.

**STATE LICENSED RESIDENTIAL FACILITY:** Any structure constructed for residential purposes that is licensed by the State of Michigan pursuant to Public Act 287 of 1972, Public Act 11 of 1973, or Public Act 218 of 1979. These acts provide for the following types of residential structures:

- A. **Adult Foster Care Facility:** A governmental or nongovernmental establishment having as its principle function the receiving of adults, 18 years of age or older, for foster care in accordance with Public Act 218 of 1974, as amended, and the Adult Foster Care Administrative Rules as administered by the

Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services. It includes facilities and foster care family homes for adults who are aged, emotionally disturbed, developmentally disabled, or physically handicapped who require supervision on an ongoing basis but who do not require continuous nursing care. An adult foster care facility does not include nursing homes, homes for the aged, hospitals, alcohol or substance abuse rehabilitation centers, or residential centers for persons released or assigned to a correctional facility. The following four (4) types of Adult Foster Care Homes are provided for by these rules:

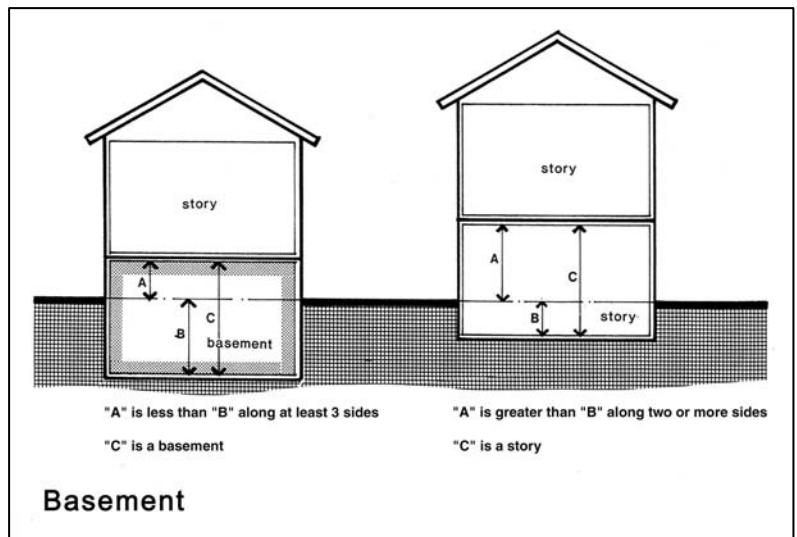
1. **Adult Foster Care Family Home:** A private residence with the approved capacity to receive not more than 6 adults who shall be provided foster care for 5 or more days a week and for 2 or more consecutive weeks. The adult foster care family home licensee shall be a member of the household and an occupant of the residence.
  2. **Adult Foster Care Small Group Home:** An adult foster care facility with the approved capacity of not more than 12 adults who shall be provided foster care. The licensee is not required to be a resident of the home. Local zoning approval is required prior to issuance of a license only if seven (7) or more residents will live in the home.
  3. **Adult Foster Care Large Group Home:** An adult foster care facility with the approved capacity to receive at least 13 but not more than twenty (20) adults who shall be provided foster care. The licensee is not required to be a resident of the home. Local zoning approval is required prior to issuance of a license.
  4. **Adult Foster Care Congregate Facility:** An adult foster care facility with the approved capacity to receive more than twenty (20) adults who shall be provided foster care. The licensee is not required to be a resident of the home. Local zoning approval is required prior to issuance of a license.
- B. **Foster Family Home:** A private residence that houses four (4) or fewer foster children, up to age 19, who are not related to an adult member of the household by blood, marriage or adoption, and are given supervision 24 hours a day for four (4) or more days a week for two (2) or more consecutive weeks unattended by legal parent or guardian. Under Public Act 116 of 1973, a Foster Family Home does not require local zoning approval before being licensed by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

- C. **Foster Family Group Home:** A private residence that houses five (5) or six (6) foster children, up to age 19, who are not related to an adult member of the household by blood, marriage or adoption, and are given supervision 24 hours a day for four (4) or more days a week for two (2) or more consecutive weeks unattended by legal parent or guardian. Under Public Act 116 of 1973, a Foster Family Group Home requires local zoning approval before being licensed by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

**STATE EQUALIZED VALUATION:** The value shown on the Township assessment roll as equalized through the process of State and County equalization.

**STORAGE:** The depositing of material, products for sale or use, vehicles, or other items for a period greater than 24 hours. This definition shall include items for household use, but shall not include vehicles, boats, mobile homes and other items.

**STORY:** That portion of a building included between the upper surface of any floor, and the upper surface of any floor above; or any portion of a building between the topmost floor and the roof having a usable floor area to at least 50 percent of the usable floor area of the floor immediately below it.



A mezzanine shall be deemed a full story when it covers more than one-third (1/3) of the area of the story underneath said mezzanine, or, if the vertical distance from the floor next below the mezzanine to the floor next above it is twenty-four (24) feet or more.

A basement shall be deemed a full story when the vertical distance from the average grade to the floor below is less than the vertical distance from the average grade to the ceiling.

**STORY, HALF:** The uppermost story lying under a pitched roof, the usable floor area of which does not exceed two-thirds of the floor area of the uppermost full story. The usable floor area of a half story shall be at least 160 square feet with a minimum clear height of seven (7) feet, six (6) inches.

**STREET:** A public or private street, road or thoroughfare intended primarily to provide vehicular circulation and access to abutting property. Various types of streets are defined as follows:

- A. **Collector Street:** A street whose principal function is to carry traffic between local or minor streets and major streets but may also provide direct access to abutting properties.
- B. **Cul-De-Sac:** A street that terminates in a vehicular turnaround.
- C. **Local or Minor Street:** A street whose sole function is to provide access to abutting properties.
- D. **Major Street:** A street that carries high volumes of traffic and serves as a main avenue through or around the Township. Major streets may also be referred to as arterial streets or major thoroughfares. For the purpose of this Ordinance, major streets shall include those streets designated as "county primary", "county local" or "major street."
- E. **Private Street or Road:** A street or road under private ownership which has been constructed for the purposes of providing access to adjoining property, and which is normally open to the public so that persons other than the occupants of adjoining property may travel thereon, but which has not been accepted for maintenance by the Township, County, State or Federal Government.
- F. **Public Street or Road:** A street or road, the right-of-way and improvements of which have been accepted for maintenance by the Township, County, State or Federal Government.

**STREET LINE:** A dividing line between the street and a lot, also known as the right-of-way line.

**STRUCTURE:** Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires permanent location on the ground or attachment to something having such location. Structures include, but are not limited to, principal and accessory buildings, towers, decks, fences, privacy screens, walls, antennae, swimming pools, and signs.

**STRUCTURE, ACCESSORY:** See ACCESSORY USE, BUILDING, OR STRUCTURE.

**STRUCTURAL ALTERATION:** Any change in the supporting members of a building or structure, such as bearing walls, partitions, columns, beams, or girders, or any change in the width or number of exits, or any substantial change in the roof.

**STRUCTURE, OUTDOOR ADVERTISING:** Any structure of any kind or character erected or maintained for outdoor advertising purposes, upon which any outdoor advertising sign may be placed.



**SUBDIVISION PLAT:** The division of a tract of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions for the purpose of sale or building development, in accordance with the Subdivision Control Act, Michigan Public Act 288 of 1967, as amended.

**SWIMMING POOL:** Shall mean any permanent, non-portable structure or container located either above or below grade designed to hold water to a depth of greater than twenty-four (24) inches, intended for swimming or bathing. A swimming pool shall be considered an accessory structure for purposes of computing lot coverage.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWERS AND FACILITIES OR TOWER:** All structures and accessory facilities, including alternative tower structures, relating to the use of the radio frequency spectrum for the purpose of transmitting or receiving radio signals; including, but not limited to radio towers, television towers, telephone devices and exchanges, microwave relay facilities, telephone transmission equipment buildings, private and commercial mobile radio service facilities, personal communication services towers (PCS), and cellular telephone towers. Not included in this definition are: citizen band radio facilities, short wave receiving facilities, radio and television broadcast reception facilities, satellite dishes, federally licensed amateur (HAM) radio facilities, and governmental facilities which are subject to state or federal law or regulations which preempt municipal regulatory authority.

**TEMPORARY USE OR BUILDING:** See BUILDING, TEMPORARY or USE, TEMPORARY.

**THEATER:** An enclosed building used for presenting performances or motion pictures which are observed by paying patrons from seats situated within the building.

**TOWNHOUSE:** See DWELLING UNIT, SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED or TOWNHOUSE.

**TOXIC OR HAZARDOUS WASTE:** Waste or a combination of waste and other discarded material including solid, liquid, semi-solid, or contained gaseous material which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to the following if improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed:

- A. an increase in mortality, or
- B. an increase in serious irreversible illness, or
- C. serious incapacitating, but reversible illness, or
- D. substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment.

**TRAILER:** See RECREATIONAL VEHICLE; DWELLING, MOBILE HOME; and UTILITY TRAILER.

**TRANSITION:** The word or term "transition" or "transitional" shall mean a zoning district, a landscaped area, lot arrangement, wall or other means which may serve as a buffer between various land use types, particularly those uses which are incompatible.

**TRUCK STORAGE:** An area used for the temporary storage of private trucks or trucks for hire.

**TRUCK TERMINAL:** a structure to which goods, except raw or unprocessed agricultural products, natural minerals, or other resources, are delivered for immediate distribution to other parts of the Township or to be amalgamated for delivery in larger units to other points in the metropolitan area; or for distribution or amalgamation involving transfer to other modes of transportation.

**USE:** The purpose for which land, lots, or buildings thereon is designed, arranged or intended, or for which it is occupied, maintained, let or leased.

**USE, ACCESSORY:** See ACCESSORY USE, BUILDING, OR STRUCTURE.

**USE, CONDITIONAL:** See CONDITIONAL USE.

**USE, PERMITTED:** A permitted use is a use which may be lawfully established in a particular district or districts provided it conforms with all requirements, regulations, and standards of such district.

**USE, PRINCIPAL:** The principal use is the main use of land and buildings and the main purpose for which land and buildings exist.

**USE, TEMPORARY:** Shall mean a use permitted to exist during a specified period of time under conditions and procedures as provided in this Ordinance.

**UTILITY ROOM:** A utility room is a room in a dwelling, the use of which is primarily for storage, for housing a heating unit, or for laundry purposes.

**UTILITY TRAILER:** A small trailer that is designed to be pulled by an automobile, van, or pick-up truck.

**VARIANCE:** A modification of the literal provisions of the Zoning Ordinance in accordance with the provisions herein in cases where strict enforcement would cause undue hardship as a result of special circumstances affecting an individual property that do not generally affect other properties in the same zoning district.

The crucial points of variance are: (a) undue hardship, (b) unique circumstances, and (c) applying to property. A variance is not justified unless all three elements are present in the case.

A variance to permit a use not otherwise permitted within a zoning district (i.e., a "use variance") shall not be permitted. Hardships based solely on economic considerations are not grounds for a variance.

**VEHICLE, COMMERCIAL:** Any one of a class of vehicles and similar vehicles whose characteristics are described below which have or require commercial license plates and have a gross vehicle weight in excess of six-thousand-five-hundred (6,500) pounds. Any commercially licensed vehicle which does not possess the characteristics of a commercial vehicle, as defined below, shall not be subject to the restrictions applying to commercial vehicles:

- A. Semi-trailer: A trailer unit which is customarily attached to and propelled by a truck tractor vehicle, but which can be detached to stand alone. Semi-trailer shall include trailers with flat beds, stake beds, roll-off beds, tanker bodies, dump bodies, and full or partial box-type enclosures, any of which above units exceed twelve (12) feet in height.
- B. Truck Tractor: A commercial vehicle which is capable of attaching to and propelling semi-trailers, mobile homes, modular homes, boat trailers and similar units, and which is not customarily operated without an attached trailer.
- C. Other Commercial Vehicles: Any truck or motor vehicle with a cab and chassis with a stake, rack, dump body, wrecker body, tanker body, or any other body, the mounted height of which exceeds the height of the cab roof more than eight (8) inches. This shall include any vehicle which has a commercial license plate and which is designed to accommodate a body length in excess of nine (9) feet. Commercial vehicles do not include motor homes or recreational vehicles, but does include construction equipment such as backhoes, power shovels, bulldozers, earth moving equipment, and similar vehicles

**VETERINARY HOSPITAL:** See CLINIC, VETERINARY.

**WALL, OBSCURING:** Shall mean a masonry structure of definite height and location to serve as an opaque screen in carrying out the requirements of this Ordinance.

**WALL, PARAPET:** An extension of a building wall above the roof which may serve to screen roof mounted mechanical equipment.

**WALL, RETAINING:** A permanent solid barrier of brick, stone, or other opaque material intended to enclose an area. For the purpose of this Ordinance, all supporting members, posts, stringers, braces, pilasters, or other construction features of a retaining wall shall be located and placed on the inside of the wall away from public view. Moreover, all retaining walls shall be

constructed and/or painted, tinted, or colored in one color only for their exterior surface, and no sign or advertising shall be placed, affixed, painted, or designed thereon.

**WAREHOUSE:** A building used for short and/or long term storage in connection with production and marketing or in connection with manufacturing, freight handling, and retailing. See also DISTRIBUTION CENTER

**WAREHOUSE, MINIATURE OR SELF-STORAGE:** A building or group of buildings in a controlled access and /or fenced compound that contains varying sizes of individualized, compartmentalized, and controlled-access stalls or lockers for the storage of customers goods or wares.

**WASTE RECEPTACLE STATION:** Any exterior space which is not a principal use for containers, structures, or other receptacles intended for temporary storage of solid waste materials.

**WATERCRAFT:** A boat, houseboat, canoe, raft, or other apparatus designed for use on water, including trailers and motors or engines designed to propel such craft.

**WETLAND:** Land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances, does support wetland vegetation or aquatic life and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh.

**WETLAND, REGULATED:** Certain wetlands regulated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality under the provisions of Act 451, as amended, and generally defined as land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances, does support wetland vegetation or aquatic life and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh and which is any of the following:

- A. Contiguous to an inland lake or pond, or a river, or a stream
- B. Not contiguous to an inland lake, pond, river, or stream, and more than five (5) acres in size, or
- C. Not contiguous to an inland lake, pond, river, or stream and five (5) acres or less in size if the Michigan Department of Natural Resources determines that protection of the area is essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, or destruction and he department has so notified the property owner

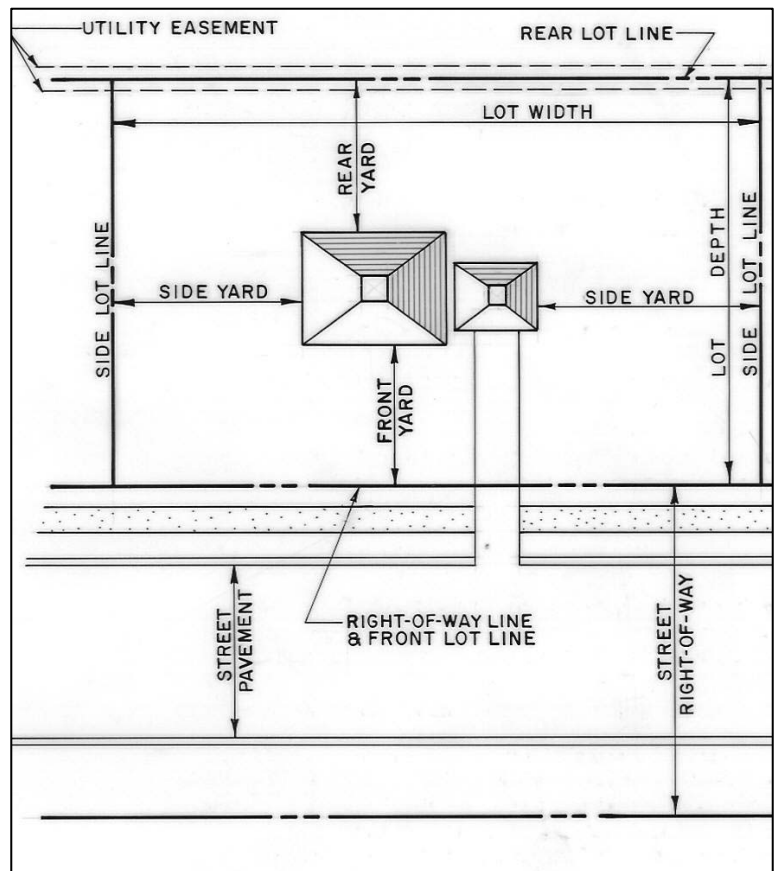
**WHOLESALE SALES:** On-premise sales of goods primarily to customers engaged in the business of reselling the goods.

**WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES:** All structural facilities, attached or accessory, related to the radio frequency spectrum for the purpose of transmitting or receiving radio signals, including but not limited to radio and television towers, cellular telephone and paging towers, telephone devises and exchanges, microwave relay towers, telephone transmission equipment buildings and commercial mobile radio serve facilities. Not included are facilities for citizen band radio, short wave radio, ham and amateur radio, television reception antenna, satellite dishes, and government facilities which are subject to state and federal law. Wireless communication facilities shall be specifically excluded from the definition of “essential service.”

**WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SUPPORT STRUCTURES (TOWERS):** Any structure used to support attached wireless communication facilities, or other antenna or facilities, including support lines, cables, wires, braces and masts intended primarily for the purpose of mounting an attached wireless communication facility or similar apparatus above grade, including any ground or roof-mounted pole, monopole, lattice towers, light poles, wood poles, and guyed towers or other similar structures which support wireless communication facilities.

**YARD:** An open space on the same lot with a building, unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward, except as otherwise permitted in this Ordinance. The Minimum Required Setback is the minimum depth of a front, rear or side yard necessary to conform to the required yard setback provisions of this ordinance.

- A. **Yard, Front:** A yard extending the full width of the lot, the depth of which is the minimum horizontal distance between the front lot line and the nearest point of the principal building. Unless otherwise specified, on corner lots there shall be maintained a front yard along each street frontage.



- B. **Yard, Rear:** A yard extending the full width of the lot, the depth of which shall be the minimum horizontal distance between the rear lot line and the nearest point on the principal building. On corner lots, the rear yard may be opposite either street frontage, but there shall only be one rear yard.
  
- C. **Yard, Side:** A yard between a principal building and the side lot line, extending from the front yard to the rear yard, the width of which shall be the horizontal distance from the nearest point of the side lot line to the nearest point on the principal building.

**ZONING PERMIT:** The written authority issued by the Zoning Administrator permitting the construction, removal, moving, alteration, or use of a building in conformity with this Ordinance.

**ZONING OFFICIAL:** Official assisting Township Board, Township Supervisor, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals in administering the regulations of this Ordinance.