

# Harford County, Maryland

## ZONING CODE



Chapter 267 of the Harford County Code, as amended

Effective December 22, 2008  
Amended thru August 22, 2022

*DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING*  
Harford County, Maryland

# FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, Chapter 131

*and*

## SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS, Chapter 268

of the Harford County Code, As Amended  
are included at the end of  
The Development Regulations.

### ZONING CODE AMENDMENT INFORMATION:

<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>effective date</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>effective date</u>
09-01	4/6/09	16-02AA	5/17/16
09-11	6/15/09	16-07	7/5/16
09-19AA	8/17/09	16-20	8/22/16
09-23AA	10/13/09	16-28	2/13/17
09-31AA	1/22/10	16-29AA	2/13/17
09-33AA	1/22/10	17-02	4/24/17
10-03	4/20/10	17-04	6/5/17
10-30	12/13/10	17-08AA	8/14/17
10-32AA	12/27/10	17-15AA	12/26/17
11-04AA	5/23/11	17-18AA	1/16/18
11-05AA	5/23/11	18-04AA	6/18/18
11-03	5/31/11	18-33	12/10/18
11-32	12/12/11	18-34	12/10/18
11-44	12/19/11	18-35	12/10/18
11-62AA	1/13/12	18-36	12/10/18
12-07AA	5/14/12	19-04AA	5/13/19
12-14	5/21/12	19-15AA	8/12/19
12-44	1/26/13	19-16AA	8/20/19
12-48AA	2/11/13	19-29AA	1/2/20
13-4AA	5/6/13	19-28	1/13/20
13-17	7/22/13	19-30	2/14/20
13-35	1/21/14	20-01	4/20/20
13-36	1/21/14	20-11	8/10/20
13-50	2/18/14	21-01AA	5/10/21
13-51	3/18/14	21-03AA	8/6/21
13-52	3/18/14	21-14	8/16/21
14-01	4/22/14	21-19	11/22/21
14-09	7/11/14	21-20AA	12/20/21
14-26AA	8/25/14	21-23	1/10/22
15-17	12/7/15	22-06	7/19/22
15-23AA	1/4/16	22-08	7/25/22
15-35AA	2/8/16	22-14	8/22/22
15-36AA	2/16/16		
15-39AA	2/16/16		

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**§ 267-27. Accessory Uses and Structures.** [Amended by Bill 09-19, as amended; Bill 12-44; Bill 13-51; Bill 14-1; Bill 21-19; and Bill 22-14]

- A. Generally. Except as otherwise restricted by this Part 1, customary accessory structures and uses shall be permitted in any district in connection with the principal permitted use within such district. Private roads and driveways shall be permitted in any district as an accessory use to any principal use when located in the same district as the principal use.
- B. Zoning certificate required. All accessory uses and structures, whether or not specified in this section, require the issuance of a zoning certificate.
- C. Use limitations. In addition to the other requirements of this Part 1, an accessory use or structure shall not be permitted unless it strictly complies with the following:
  - (1) In the AG, RR, R1, R2, R3, R4 and VR districts, an accessory structure shall neither exceed 50% of the total square footage of the principal structure or 1,000 square feet, whichever is greater. The height of the accessory structure shall not exceed the height of the principal structure. For properties greater than 5 acres in the AG district, an accessory structure shall not exceed 50% of the total square footage of the principal structure or 2,500 square feet, whichever is greater. For properties greater than 5 acres in the AG district, the height of an accessory structure shall not exceed 115% of the height of the principal structure.
  - (2) No accessory structure shall be used for living quarters, the storage of contractors' equipment or the conducting of any business unless otherwise provided in this Part 1.
  - (3) No accessory use or structure shall be established on any lot prior to substantial completion of the construction of the principal structure.
  - (4) No accessory use or structure on any lot shall increase any impervious surface area beyond the maximum permitted.
  - (5) No accessory use or structure shall be established within the required front yard, except agriculture, signs, fences, walls or parking area and projections or garages or electric vehicle charging stations as specified in §267-23 (Yards), and modifications to minimum yard requirements.
  - (6) Uses and structures.
    - (a) For agricultural lots, detached accessory structures must be located:
      - [1] A minimum of 10 feet from the side or rear lot lines, unless the lot has a recorded drainage and utility easement or any other recorded easement.
      - [2] For lots with recorded drainage and utility easements, the owner must obtain a building permit or zoning certificate to locate any detached accessory structure within the recorded drainage and utility easement pursuant to §267-27C(8); otherwise, the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded drainage and utility easement or 10 feet, whichever is greater.
      - [3] For lots with any other recorded easement, accessory structures shall not be permitted within the easement and the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded easement or 10 feet, whichever is greater.

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- (b) For residential lots, accessory structures will be considered attached if they are within 3 feet of the principal structure and must meet the principal structure setback requirements. For residential lots, detached accessory structures shall be located:
    - [1] A minimum of 3 feet from side or rear yard lot lines, unless the lot has a recorded drainage and utility easement or any other recorded easement.
    - [2] For lots with recorded drainage and utility easements, the owner must obtain a building permit or zoning certificate to locate any detached accessory structure within the recorded drainage and utility easement pursuant to §267-27C(8); otherwise, the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded drainage and utility easement or 3 feet, whichever is greater.
    - [3] For lots with any other recorded easement, accessory structures shall not be permitted within the easement and the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded easement or 3 feet, whichever is greater.
  - (c) For townhouses and zero-lot-line dwellings, detached accessory structures shall be located:
    - [1] Zero feet from side or rear yard lot lines, unless the lot has a recorded drainage and utility easement or any other recorded easement.
    - [2] For lots with recorded drainage and utility easements, the owner must obtain a building permit or zoning certificate to locate any detached accessory structure within the recorded drainage and utility easement pursuant to §267-27C(8); otherwise, the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded drainage and utility easement.
    - [3] For lots with any other recorded easement, accessory structures shall not be permitted within the easement and the setback shall be equal to the width of the recorded easement.
  - (d) The front, side and rear yard setback for accessory uses and structures for business, industrial and Continuing Care Retirement Community uses shall be equal to the same setbacks required for the principal structure.
  - (e) For institutional uses, the front, side and rear yard setback for accessory uses and structures shall be equal to the same setbacks required for the principal structure. This requirement may be reduced up to 50% for accessory structures less than 300 square feet, located in the side and rear yard.
  - (f) Retaining walls, 4 feet or greater in height, shall require a zoning certificate.
  - (7) Septic reserve areas may be permitted in any district to serve a use permitted and located in another district if the property is split-zoned and under the same ownership. These uses may also be permitted in a use setback. Stormwater management facilities may be permitted in any district to serve a use permitted and located in another district.
  - (8) Fences shall be permitted in any recorded drainage and utility easement. The placement of all other accessory uses shall be allowed in any recorded drainage and utility easement, pursuant to the following:
    - (a) The accessory use or structure shall meet the setback and square footage requirements contained in §267-27C (Use Limitations);