

**1.0501 PURPOSE**

This district is intended to preserve and provide for large tracts of land used for farming, dairying and forestry and other rural activities. Large vacant areas, fallow land and wooded areas may be included. The specific intent is to encourage proper use of lands through preventing the intrusion of residential activities which may create incompatibility and conflict.

**1.0502 PERMITTED USES**

- 1.0502.1 Any lawful pursuit in agriculture including, but not by way of limitation, the production of fruits, vegetables, grains, grasses, and other crops from the soil; the growth, harvesting, and replanting of wood lots; experiments in soil and crop improvement; the production and raising of horses, goats, cattle, sheep, and swine, and fattening the same for market; the production of domestic rabbits; the production of poultry and eggs; and all useful husbandry of the soil and things of the soil and of domestic animal life; and the gainful pursuit of all kinds of agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, floriculture, apiculture, farming, dairying, pasturage, and animal and poultry husbandry.
- 1.0502.2 Farm dwellings. There shall be at least seven hundred twenty (720) feet of actual living quarters for each family living in any permanent dwelling, excluding basement, attached garages, attached porches, and accessory buildings; if an office or home occupation is carried on, the area of living quarters for each family shall remain a minimum of seven hundred twenty (720) square feet. There shall be separate sleeping, kitchen, and bathroom facilities for each family living in any farm dwelling.
- 1.0502.3 Temporary dwelling structures, but subject to the same limitations as are set forth in Section 1.0315 of this ordinance.
- 1.0502.4 Housing for migrant labor and seasonal agricultural employees, with adequate water supply and sewage disposal facilities as may be approved by the Allegan County Health Department. Such housing shall not be used for habitation between November 15 of any year and April 1 of the following year.
- 1.0502.5 The storage and packaging of farm products and the sale thereof. If roadside stands are used, they shall be set back not less than 10 feet from the highway right of way, and there shall be parking space outside the highway right of way for at least four (4) automobiles, with an entrance and an exit separate from each other. This is a permitted use that requires Site Plan Approval.

1.0502.6 The keeping of ordinary household pets, but not to exceed one (1) large animal and four (4) small animals per acre, and captivated birds in cages within the dwelling or an accessory building. The young of such animals may be kept until they are mature enough to reproduce. No such animals shall be kept in the front yard of any premises. The husbandry of such animals shall be so as to prevent annoyance or nuisance to residents of adjoining property.

1.0503 **USES ALLOWED BY SPECIAL PERMIT** (See Article XXVII for Procedure)

1.0503.1 The following uses are permitted in this District subject to obtaining a special use permit as provided for in Article XIX.

- a. Intensive livestock operations and facilities for the husbandry, raising, and keeping of cattle, sheep, pigs, hogs, chickens, turkeys, and other animals or fowls for fattening and/or egg production in feed lots, "cage" operations, or similar high-density operations, otherwise than for the noncommercial consumption of the occupant(s) or owner(s) of the land so used (see Section 1.1501.24).
- b. Removal and processing of topsoil, stone, rock, sand, gravel, lime, or other soil or mineral resources (see Article XXI).
- c. Facilities used for the centralized bulk collection, storage and distribution of agricultural products to wholesale and retail markets.
- d. Airports
- e. Radio and television towers.
- f. Veterinarians offices, commercial kennels and animal clinics.
- g. Public or private sanitary landfills or junk yards subject to conformation with P.A. 641.
- h. Travel trailers, subject to Section 1.0335.
- i. Machine shops for fabrication and/or repair of agricultural and other small industrial machinery.
- j. Accessory uses and structures, see Section 1.0305.
- k. Essential public utility service buildings, or gas or electric regulator stations or buildings, subject to the requirements of Section 1.1501.37.
- l. Churches. (As Amended by Ordinance #2001-1 on 01/27/01)
- m. Parks. (As Amended by Ordinance #2001-1 on 01/27/01)
- n. Private Hunting Camps. (As Amended By Ordinance #2005-1 on 09-12-05)

1.0504 REGULATIONS

1.0504.1 Minimum Lot Size for Single-Family Residential Unit.

For up to 40 acres of a parent parcel in existence as of March 31, 1997, one split is permitted provided the split is a minimum of three acres and contains at least 300 feet of road frontage.

*(As Amended by Ordinance # 2001-2 on 01/27/01)*

1.0504.2 Minimum Lot Width for Single-Family Residential Unit.

Primary farm dwelling: 800 ft.

1.0504.3 Maximum Height of Structure: 35 ft. for primary farm dwelling and accessory buildings. Maximum height restrictions shall not apply to silos and grain elevators.

*(As Amended by Ordinance #2008-1 on 8-28-08)*

1.0504.4 Minimum Yard Setback for Single-Family Residential Unit.

a. Farm Dwelling:

1. Front yard: 30 ft.
2. Side yard: 100 ft. each side
3. Rear yard: none

- 1.0504.5 Minimum Floor Area per Dwelling Unit: 720 Sq. Ft.
- 1.0504.6 For regulations for all other permitted and special uses allowed within the A-District, refer to the standards for the specific use in Article XV.