

Harford County, Maryland

ZONING CODE



Chapter 267 of the Harford County Code, as amended

**Effective December 22, 2008
Amended thru August 25, 2023**

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

Chapter 267. Zoning

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E. Suspension of zoning reclassification.

- (1) Notwithstanding any provisions of this Code, during the period of preparation and review of proposed comprehensive revisions or amendments to the zoning maps, no applications for zoning reclassification shall be accepted by the County, except as provided in Subsection C of this section, and such a request shall be considered in the preparation or modification of the proposed comprehensive revisions or amendments to the zoning maps.
- (2) The Hearing Examiner shall complete public hearings and issue a decision for each existing zoning reclassification application as soon as practicable. The Director of Planning shall review each such application as a part of the comprehensive zoning review process as if the application had been filed pursuant to Subsection C of this section.

F. Suspension of procedural requirements. In the event that the comprehensive zoning review and subsequent bill submitted to the Council, pursuant to this section, fails for any reason, the County Executive may recommend for introduction, or the County Council may introduce, within 120 calendar days of said failure, a subsequent comprehensive zoning bill without complying with any of the provisions set forth in this section. This subsequent bill shall include only those issues previously considered in the prior bill that failed and shall, if enacted, be considered the comprehensive zoning bill by this section until a new comprehensive zoning review bill is subsequently enacted. At least 14 calendar days prior to the public hearing on the comprehensive zoning bill, the Department of Planning and Zoning shall ensure that each property for which a zoning change had been requested is posted with a notice to be placed conspicuously on the property near the right-of-way line of each public road on which the property fronts. The sign shall contain the date, time and location of the hearing and telephone number of the Department. The Council shall ensure that the issues and maps related to the new comprehensive review shall be available in the Department of Planning and Zoning and posted on the Department's web site.

G. No zoning reclassification of property shall, for a period of 1 year after the adoption, by bill, of the comprehensive zoning maps applicable thereto, be granted by the County Council, sitting as the Board of Appeals, on the grounds that the character of the neighborhood has changed.

H. Any property, or portion of a property reclassified from AG to RR or AG to VR, approved by the County Council, after the effective date of this document, must be located in the Rural Residential or Rural Village area designation, on the most recently adopted Land Use Map. In no case shall property be rezoned to a residential classification in Priority Preservation Areas as designated on the most recently adopted Priority Preservation Area Plan. In order to utilize density and design standards, development rights must be transferred in accordance with §267-53D(4) (AG Agricultural District, Specific Regulations).

§ 267-14. Violations and Penalties. [Amended by Bill 23-23]

- A. Whenever the provisions of this Part 1 have been violated, the Director of Planning or his authorized designee(s) shall give notice, by first class mail, to the owner, tenant or occupant of the property alleged to be in violation, stating the nature of the violation and ordering that any unlawful activity be abated.
- B. Any owner, tenant or occupant who uses or permits the use of land, buildings or structures contrary to the provisions of this Part 1 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than \$500.00 for each offense. Each day of a continuing violation shall be considered a separate misdemeanor.
- C. Any owner, tenant or occupant who uses or permits the use of land, buildings or structures contrary to the provisions of this Part 1 shall have committed a civilly finable offense (see Section 1-23 of the Code).
- D. In the event of a violation of any of the provisions of this Part 1 or any amendment or supplement thereto, the Director of Planning, any adjacent or neighboring property owner or any person who would be specially damaged by such violation, in addition to other remedies provided by law, may institute a suit for injunction, mandamus, abatement or other appropriate action or other proceeding to prevent, restrain, correct or abate such unlawful activity or use.