

## Chapter 2 – Definitions

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**WHENEVER A TERM DEFINED IN CHAPTER 2 APPEARS IN OTHER CHAPTERS IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE FOLLOWING: (D2-2), WHICH INDICATES THE PAGE IN THIS CHAPTER WHERE THAT DEFINITION IS LOCATED.**

### SECTION 2.01 DEFINITIONS

**Accessory Building:** A supplemental building on the same lot, the use of which is purely incidental to that of the main building.

**Adult Foster Care Family Home:** A private residence licensed under PA 218 of 1979 or PA 116 of 1973 with an approved capacity to receive 6 or fewer adults, under 24-hour supervision or care to be provided foster care for 5 or more days a week. The licensee shall be a member of the household and occupant of the residence.

**Adult Foster Care Large Group Home:** An adult foster care facility licensed under PA 218 of 1979 with an approved capacity of at least 13 but not more than 20 adults.

**Adult Foster Care Medium Group Home:** An adult foster care facility licensed under PA 218 of 1979 with an approved capacity of at least 7 but not more than 12 adults.

**Adult Foster Care Small Group Home:** An adult foster care facility licensed with an approved capacity to receive 6 or fewer adults to be provided for 5 or more days a week.

**Agricultural Land:** Substantially undeveloped land devoted to the production of plants and animals useful to humans, including, but not limited to: forage and sod crops, grains, feed crops, field crops, dairy products, poultry and poultry products, livestock, herbs, flowers, seeds, grasses, nursery stock, fruits, vegetables, Christmas trees, and other similar uses and activities. (MZEA)

**Airport:** An airport licensed by the Michigan department of transportation, bureau of aeronautics under section 86 of the aeronautics code of the state of Michigan, 1945 PA 327, MCL 259.86. (MZEA)

**Airport Manager:** That position defined in Section 2 of the aeronautics code of the state of Michigan, 1945 PA 327, MCL 259.2. (MZEA 125.3102.e)

**Airport, Small** A limited commercial airport that accommodates the take off and landing of aircraft as well as limited service and/or repair facilities (BII class airport).

**Alley:** A public thoroughfare less than 20 feet in width.

**Alteration:** Any change, addition or modification in construction and any change in the structural members of a building, such as walls, or partitions, columns, beams, or girders.

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**Amusement Facilities:** A building or part of a building that houses a business whose principal purpose is the operation of pin ball machines, video games, pool tables or similar player operated amusement devices.

**Apartment:** Three or more residences, attached by a common wall or ceiling/floor, with residences sharing a common exterior entrance

**Auto Body Repair Shop:** A business for the repair of vehicles including painting and bodywork.

**Auto Parts Supplies:** Businesses dealing primarily with auto parts supplies.

**Auto Service Station:** See Gasoline Service Station.

**Bar:** A business serving alcoholic beverages in which the principal business is the sale of such beverages at retail for consumption on the premises and where sandwiches and snacks may also be sold.

**Bed and Breakfast:** A house, or portion of a house where short-term lodging rooms and meals are provided, typically 7 days or less.

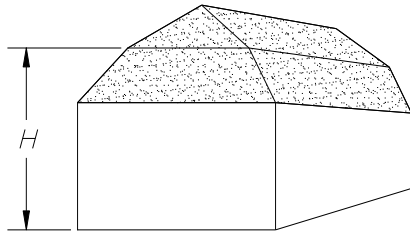
**Boarding House:** A house or portion of a house where long term lodging rooms and meals are provided, typically longer than 7 days..

**Building:** A structure having a roof supported by columns or walls for shelter, support or enclosure of persons, animals or chattels is a building. When any portion thereof is completely separated from every other part thereof by division walls from the ground up, each portion of such building shall be deemed a separate building. The word “building” shall be understood to include the word “structure.”

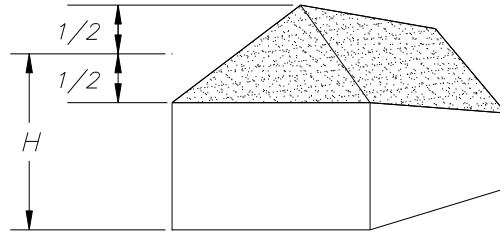
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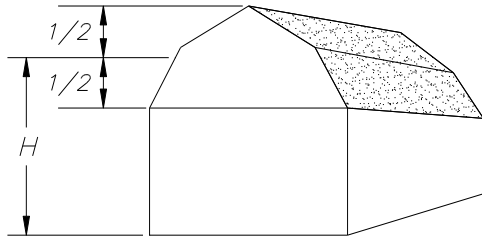
**Building Height:** The vertical distance measured from the established grade to the highest point of the roof surface for flat roofs; to the deck line of mansard roofs; and to the average height between eaves and the ridge for gable, hip, and gambrel roofs.



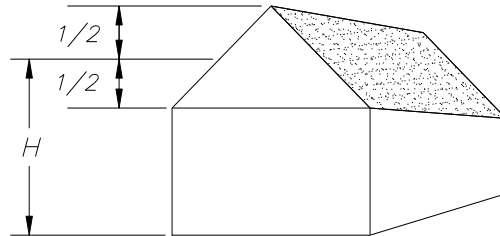
MANSARD ROOF



HIP ROOF



GAMBREL ROOF



GABLE ROOF

*H = HEIGHT OF BUILDING*

## BUILDING HEIGHT

**Building Material Supplier:** Businesses dealing primarily with the sale of building supplies characterized by the need for outdoor display and storage of their merchandise.

**Business Service Establishments:** Facilities that support a wide range of businesses such as consumer credit reporting agencies, mailing list and packaging companies, and business management consulting services.

**Butchering:** The provision of services for killing and dressing animals for a fee or in order to sell the meat, hides or other products of the carcass.

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**Cabin:** A small shelter or home that does not meet residential building requirements. (AC3)

**Camper:** A motor vehicle or trailer with accommodations for camping out. (AC3)

**Campground:** An area of land on which accommodations for temporary occupancy are located or may be placed, including cabins, motor homes, tents and campers.

**Car Wash:** An area of land and/or structures with machine or hand-operated facilities used principally for the cleaning, washing and waxing of motor vehicles.

**Cemeteries:** Land used or intended to be used for the burial of the dead, and dedicated for cemetery purposes, including columbarium's, crematories, and mortuaries when operated in conjunction with and within the boundaries of such cemetery.

**Chemical Manufacturing:** An operation creating products used in or obtained by a chemical process.

**Co-locate:** To place or install wireless communications equipment on an existing wireless communications support structure or in an existing equipment compound. "Co-location" has a corresponding meaning.

**Commercial Freestanding Towers:** A structure situated on a non-residential site that is intended for transmitting and/or receiving television, radio, telephone communications or telecommunications for commercial purposes.

**Community Building:** A structure used for providing fraternal, social and/or recreational programs generally open to the public.

**Community Shopping Center** See Strip Mall (**Strip Mall**): A group of stores attached or separate, each of which are accessed from a separate outside entrance.

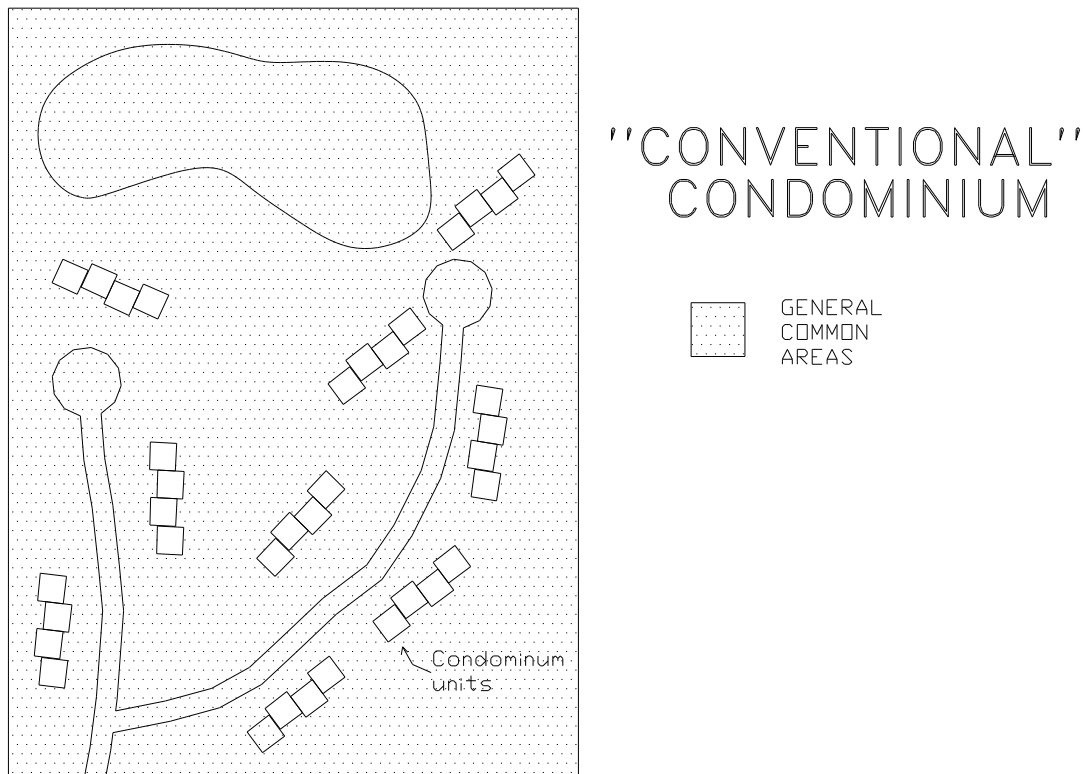
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### Condominium Definitions:

**Condominium Development:** A development created under the Condominium Act PA 59 of 1978.

**Conventional Condominium Development:** As used in this ordinance, the term conventional condominium means development in which ownership interest is divided under the authority of the Condominium Act (PA 59 of 1978) and in which the condominium unit consists primarily of the dwelling or other principal structure and most of the land in the development is part of the general common area.

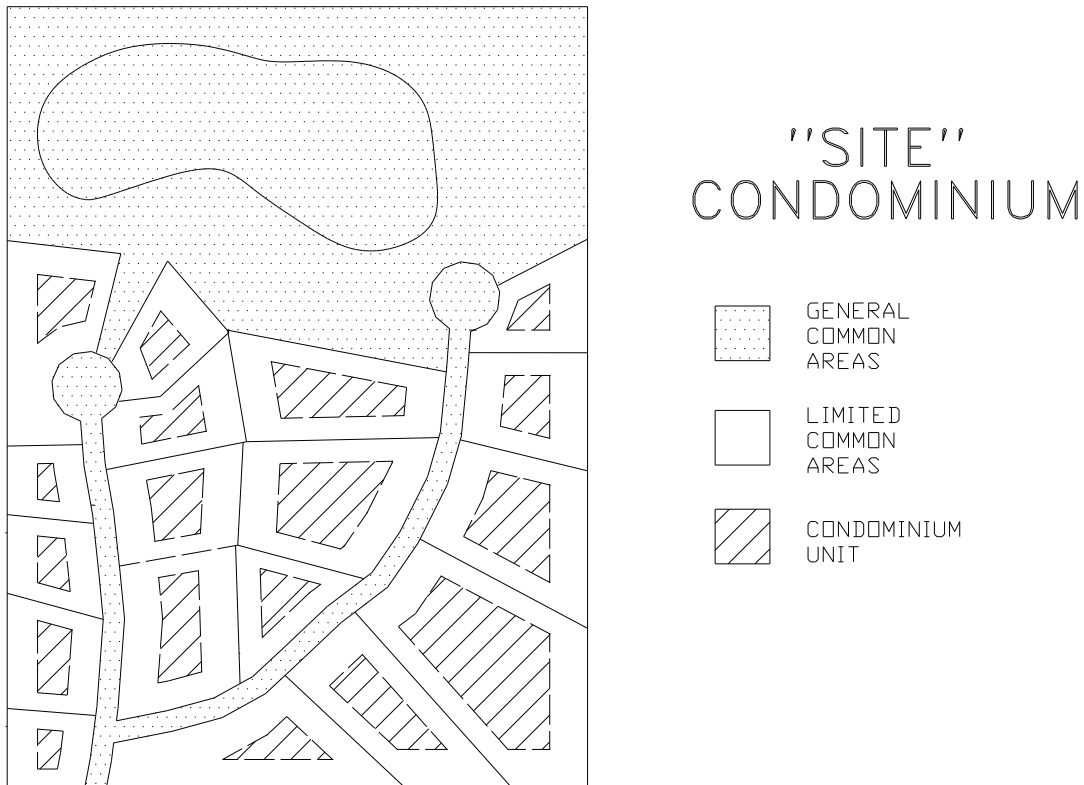


**Site Condominium Development:** As used in this ordinance, the term site condominium means a development in which ownership interest is divided under the authority of the Condominium Act (PA 59 of 1978) and in which the condominium unit consists of a building site, with or without structures, which along with associated limited common area, constitutes the equivalent of a lot.

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### Condominium Definitions (continued):



**General Common Element:** Portions of the Condominium development owned and maintained by the condominium association.

**Limited Common Areas:** Portions of the condominium development other than the condominium unit itself reserved for the exclusive use of less than all of the co-owners of the condominium development.

**Condominium Subdivision Plan:** Drawings and information prepared pursuant to section 66 of the Condominium Act, PA 59 of 1978

**Master Deed:** The condominium document recording the condominium project to which are attached as exhibits and incorporated by reference the bylaws for the project and including those items required in Section 8 of the Condominium Act, PA 59 of 1978.

### End of Condominium Definitions

**Conservation Easement:** Means that term as defined in section 2140 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.2140

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**Convalescent Home:** A facility where aged, infirmed or incapacitated persons are furnished care, food, lodging and medical attention.

**Correctional Facility:** A building or group of buildings and land used to house inmates confined to that institution by the local, state or federal courts, including jails, prisons, and work camps.

**Country Club:** A club established to provide its members with access to outdoor activities such as golf, tennis and swimming.

**Crematory:** A facility designed with an incinerator for the burning of human corpses.

**Crop Production:** Agricultural activities required in the raising and harvesting of grains, fruits, vegetables and similar foodstuffs, of which more than ten percent (10%) of the yield is processed or consumed off of the premises.

**Drive-Thru Establishment:** A business establishment that provides customers the opportunity to pay or receive goods or services without leaving their vehicle, by use of a driveway approach that customers use to access a service window, purchase their product and leave.

**Dry Bulk Blending Plant:** A facility that manufactures products by the mixing of large amounts of separate non-liquid chemicals and other substances.

**Duplex:** Two residences attached by a common wall or ceiling/floor.

**Dwelling:** See definition for Single Family Residence.

**Easement:** A legal right, evidenced by a document recorded with the Tuscola County Registrar of Deeds, to use the property of another for purposes of ingress, egress, utilities, drainage or similar uses for a parcel of land. (AC3)

**Equestrian Sport Facility:** A facility for the care and training of horses, including stables, arenas, and riding trails.

**Equipment Compound:** An area surrounding or adjacent to the base of a wireless communications support structure and within which wireless communications equipment is located.

**Erected:** Includes built, constructed, reconstructed, moved upon or any physical operations on the land required for the building. Excavations, fill, drainage, and the like shall be considered a part of erection.

**Essential Public Services:** The erection, construction, alteration or maintenance by public utilities or municipal departments or commissions of underground, surface, or overhead gas, electrical, steam, or water transmission or distribution systems, collections, communication, including mains, drains, sewers, pipes, conduits, wires, cables, fire alarm boxes, police call boxes, traffic signals, hydrants, towers and other similar equipment and accessories in connection therewith reasonably necessary for the

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furnishing of adequate service by such public utilities or municipal departments or commissions, or for the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community, but not including buildings other than such buildings as primary enclosures or shelters of the above essential service equipment. Personal wireless communication facilities are not considered an essential public service.

**Fabrication, Forming, Molding of Metal or Plastic Products:** Manufacturing facilities whose principal function is production of items using these processes.

**Family Day Care Home:** A private home, as defined in Section 1 of 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.111, where not more than six children are received for care and supervision for a period of less than 24 hours per day. The six-child limitation includes children under seven years old in the resident family and shall not include more than 2 children under 1 year old. The Michigan law applies only to the bona fide private residence of the operator of the family day care home. (MZEA)

**Farm Implement and Supplies:** Businesses dealing primarily with the sale of farm machinery and supplies that are characterized by the need for outdoor display and storage of their merchandise.

**Feed Lot:** A parcel of land or structure, pen, or corral, wherein cattle, horses, sheep, goats, swine, and other livestock are maintained in close proximity.

**Fertilizer Blending Plant:** A facility that mixes liquid and non-liquid chemicals to produce fertilizer.

**Finishing or Assembly Facility:** A type of manufacturing facility limited to the assembly of previously manufactured products.

**Fraternal Club:** A group of individuals, banded together for mutual benefit or to work towards a common goal.

**Frontage:** Frontage is the distance along the front lot line.

**Fuel Storage Facility:** An establishment that stores various types and grades of products including petroleum, propane, ethanol, butanol, fuel oil, natural gas and petrochemicals.

**Garden Supplies:** Businesses dealing primarily with the sale of garden supplies, characterized by the need for outdoor display and storage of their merchandise.

**Gasoline Service Station:** A place for the dispensing, retail sale or offering for retail sale of motor fuels, together with the sale of minor accessories and services for motor vehicles, but not including major automobile repair such as engine overhauls or auto body repair.

**General Building Contractor's Establishment:** An area of land and structures used for the operation of contracting construction services including offices and storage of equipment and supplies.



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**Golf Course:** A tract of land for playing golf, with tees, greens, fairways and hazards. A miniature golf course is not a golf course in the meaning of this term in this ordinance.

**Golf Driving Range:** A facility including golf tees and fairways designed to permit participants to practice driving golf balls. Practice putting greens are also permitted as an accessory use.

**Grain Elevators:** Facilities for the storage of grains and other agricultural products as well as the sale of seed, fertilizers, herbicides and other material used in agricultural production.

**Greenhouse:** A building designed to regulate temperature and humidity for the cultivation of plants for sale.

**Group Day Care Home:** A private home, as defined in section 1 of PA 116, MCL 722.111, where not less than 7 or more than 12 children are received for care and supervision for a period of less than 24 hours per day, and shall not include more than 2 children under 2 years old. The Michigan law applies only to the bona fide private residence of the operator of the group day care home. (MZEA)

**Home Occupation:** The operation of a business as an accessory use in a residence.

**Hospital:** An institution specializing in giving clinical, temporary and emergency services of a medical or surgical nature to sick or injured human patients and including accessory facilities such as laboratories, out-patient departments, training facilities and staff offices.

**Hotel:** A building or group of buildings used primarily for providing transient sleeping accommodations at a daily rate to the general public.

**House of Worship:** A place. Recognized by the State of Michigan, where religious worship is conducted, such as a Church, Chapel, Mosque, or Temple.

**Improvements:** Those features and actions associated with a project that are considered necessary by the body or official granting zoning approval to protect natural resources or the health, safety, and welfare of residents of Tuscola Township and future users or inhabitants of the proposed project or project area, including roadways, lighting, utilities, sidewalks, screening, and drainage. Improvements do not include the entire project that is the subject of zoning approval. (MZEA)

**Industrial Park:** An area of land with or without buildings, planned and developed to provide appropriate sites for industrial operations.

**Jobbing and Machine Shop:** A facility with machine equipment in which various grinding, finishing, drilling and welding services are provided to various clients.

**Kennels:** An establishment where three or more dogs, cats or other pets over 1 year of age are confined or kept for sale, boarding, breeding or training purposes for remuneration, or the boarding of 5 or more dogs, whether for remuneration or not.

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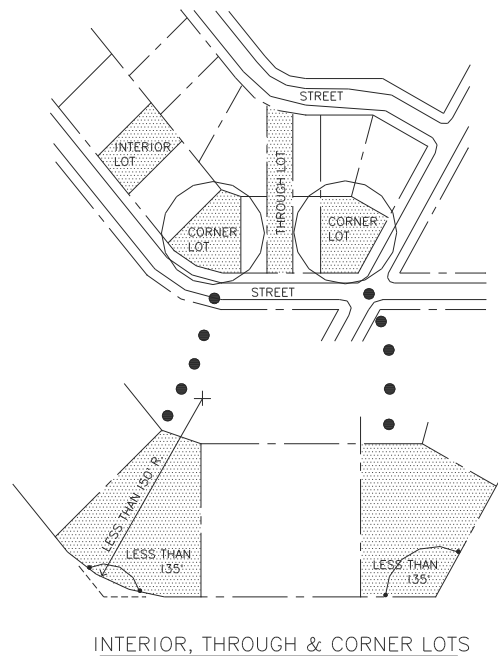
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**Library:** A public or private institution responsible for the care and circulation of a collection of books and other accessory reference material including audio and video tapes, access to databanks, records and audio CD's and DVD's.

**Lodging House:** A house or portion of a house where long-term lodging rooms are provided.

**Lot:** A parcel of land occupied or to be occupied by a building and its accessory buildings, or by any other activity permitted thereon and including the open spaces required under this ordinance and having frontage upon a public street or any private accessibility from a public street. A lot need not be specifically designated as such on public records.

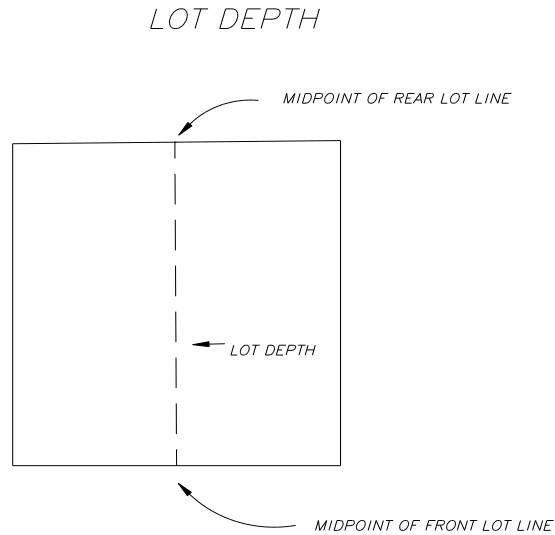
**Lot, Corner:** A lot of which at least 2 adjacent sides abut, for their full length upon a street or highway, provided that such 2 sides intersect at an angle of not more than 135 degrees. Where a lot is on a curve, if tangents through extremist point of the street line of such lot make an interior angle of not more than 135 degrees it is a corner lot. In the case of a corner lot with a curved street line, the corner shall be considered to be that point on the street line nearest to the point of intersection of the tangents herein prescribed.



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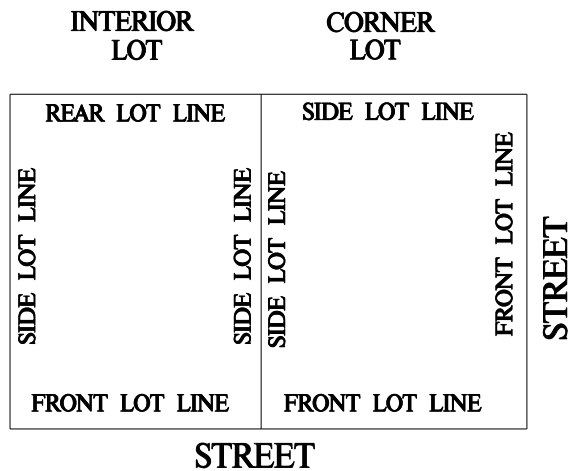
**Lot Depth:** The distance from the midpoint of the front lot line to the midpoint of the rear lot line.



**Lot Line, Front:** The line dividing a lot from a street. On a corner lot, both lot lines fronting a street shall be considered a front lot line.

**Lot Line, Rear:** The line opposite the front lot line on an interior lot. There is no rear lot line on a corner lot.

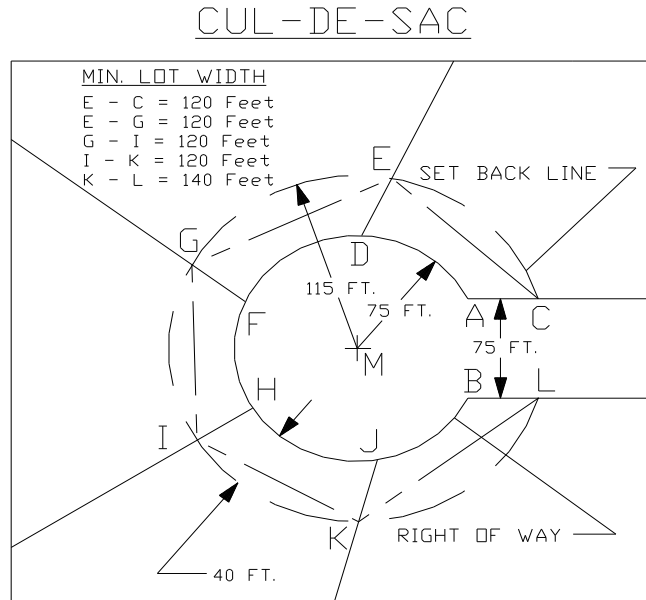
### LOT LINE DEFINITIONS



**Lot Line, Side:** Any lot line other than a front lot line or rear lot line.

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**Lot Width:** Lot width will be measured from side lot to side lot where the front yard setback intersects the side lot lines. In the case of a curvilinear street or cul-de-sac, the lot width shall be a straight line connecting the intersection of the side lot line with the front setback line.



**Manufacturing Facility:** A building or parcel housing an operation in which raw materials or partially finished material is processed into goods for sale. This processing can include stamping, rolling, machining, forging, plating, heat-treating, forming, molding and assembly.

**Manufacturing of Electrical and Electronic Equipment:** A facility used in the fabrication of components and subcomponents equipment that operate through the use of transistors and computer chips.

**Mobile Home:** A structure, transportable in 1 or more sections, which is built on a chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without permanent foundation, when connected to the required utilities, and including the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems contained in the structure.

**Mobile Home Park:** A parcel or tract of land under the control of a person upon which 3 or more mobile homes are located on a continual, non-recreational basis and which is offered to the public for that purpose regardless of whether a charge is made therefor, together with any building, structure, enclosure, street, equipment or facility used or intended for use incident to the occupancy of a mobile home.

**Monument and Art Stone Production:** An area of land and buildings used in the forming, engraving and sculpting on monuments and stone art including headstones.

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**Motel:** A building or group of buildings used primarily for providing transient sleeping accommodations at a daily rate for automobile travelers with parking spaces adjacent to the sleeping rooms.

**Motor Home:** A vehicle built on a truck or bus frame that includes kitchen facilities and sleeping areas. (AC3)

**Municipal Building:** A building used and dedicated for the official functions of the township.

**Museum:** A place for preserving and exhibiting artistic, historical or scientific objects.

**MZEA:** The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, 2006 PA 110 as amended. (AC3) When it is referenced in this ordinance it lists the section of the MZEA authorizing the specific item(s) in this ordinance. (AC13)

**New and Used Automobile Sales:** An area of land and structures used to display and sell automobiles, and may include auto servicing and repair as accessory uses.

**Non-conforming Structures:** A structure conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance.

**Non-conforming Use:** The use of a structure or land area conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance.

**Nursery:** Land with or without buildings used for the raising and sale of trees, shrubs, flowers and other plants.

**Office:** A building or portion of a building in which services are performed involving predominantly administrative, professional, or clerical operations.

**Parcel:** A continuous quantity of land owned by the same person.

**Park:** An area open to the general public and reserved for recreational, educational or scenic purposes.

**Person:** An individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

**Personal Service Establishment:** A business that provides services to individuals such as a barbershop, beauty salon, dry cleaners, photography studio, and shoe repair.

**Pet Crematory:** A facility designed with an incinerator for the burning of animal corpses.

**Petroleum Refining:** An establishment that processes crude petroleum into various types and grades of products including fuel and petrochemicals.

**Planned Unit Development:** A development of land that is under unified control and is planned and developed as a whole in a single development operation or programmed series of development stages.

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**Population:** The population according to the most recent federal decennial census or according to a special census conducted under section 7 of the Glenn Steil state revenue sharing act. 1971 PA 140, MCL 141.907, whichever is the more recent. (MZEA)

**Private Landing Fields:** A private airfield, closed to the public, which accommodates the take-off and landing of aircraft and which has sod runways (BI class airfield).

**Private Road:** A road that provides direct access to a parcel and which is not dedicated to and accepted by an authorized governmental road agency. A common driveway as used in this ordinance does not constitute a private road. (AC3)

**Processing of Agricultural Products:** A facility used in the modifying or grading of agricultural products including dairy products, fruits and vegetables for final consumption or secondary processing by processes including washing, steaming milling, candling and pasteurizing.

**Restaurant, Conventional:** An establishment serving prepared food or beverages for consumption on the premises and which may or may not include accessory “take-out” service.

**Restaurant, Drive In:** An establishment serving prepared food or beverages for consumption on the premises and so developed that its principle form or service delivery is to patrons parked in provided driveway parking spaces.

**Retail Sales Establishment:** A building or site used for the sale of products directly to the customer.

**Right-of-way:** An area or strip of land, either public or private, on which a right-of-passage has been recorded for the use of vehicles, pedestrians or both.

**Roadside Stand:** A temporary or portable structure designed for the display and sale of fresh produce.

**Salvage Yard:** A tract of land on which inoperable vehicles and other machinery and their component parts are collected, stored, salvages, recycled, processed or sold.

**Sand and Gravel Extraction:** An operation under which material is removed from an area of land in connection with the production of sand or gravel by surface or open pit methods.

**Sawmill:** A facility where logs are sawed into boards.

**School:** A facility that provides instruction.

**Set Back Lines:** Lines established as a distance offset from lot lines for the purpose of defining the limits within which no building or structure or any part thereof shall be erected or maintained. “Within a set back line,” means between the set back line and the lot line.

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### Sign Definitions:

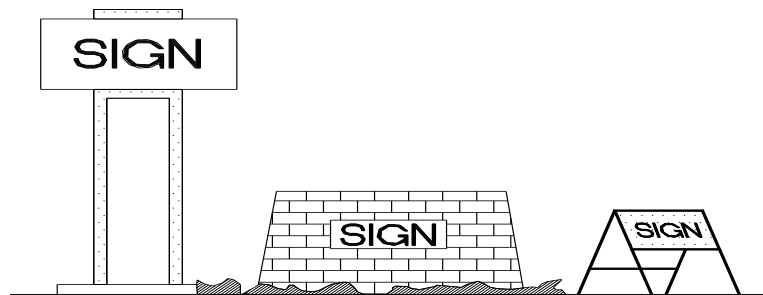
**Advertising Signs:** A sign that directs attention to a business or profession conducted or to a commodity, service or entertainment sold or offered.

**On-Premises:** An advertising sign, whose message relates to a business, service, commodity, or profession lawfully being conducted, sold or offered on the same premises.

**Off-Premises:** An advertising sign whose message relates to a business, service, commodity, or profession lawfully being conducted, sold or offered on premises other than that upon which the sign is located.

**Election Signs:** Signs advertising candidates or soliciting votes in support of or against any proposition or issue at any general, primary, special, school or any other election.

**Freestanding Signs:** A sign supported by 1 or more uprights, poles or braces placed in the ground and not attached to any building. Such sign may also be commonly known as a ground sign or pole sign.



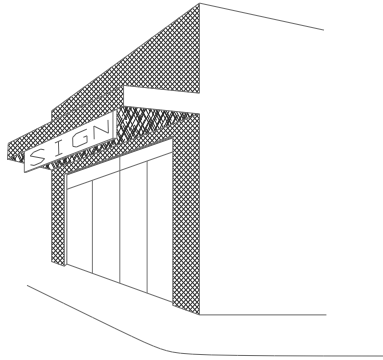
**Illuminated Signs:** A sign that provides artificial light directly (or through any transparent or translucent material) from a source of light connected with such sign, or a sign illuminated by a light so shielded that no direct rays from it are visible from any public right-of-way or from abutting properties.

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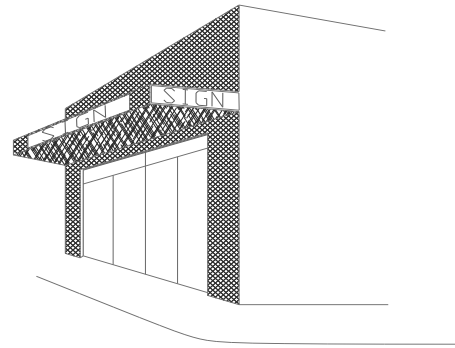
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### Sign Definitions (continued):

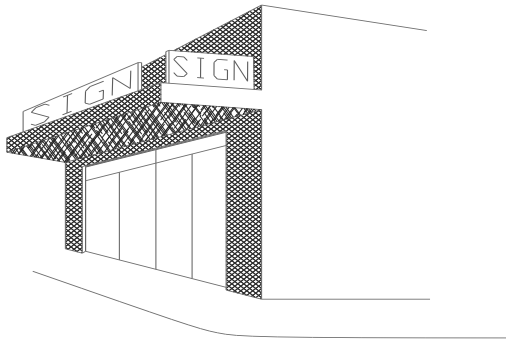
**Marquee Sign:** An identification sign attached to a marquee, canopy or awning projecting from and supported by the building, no less than 9 feet above sidewalk level.



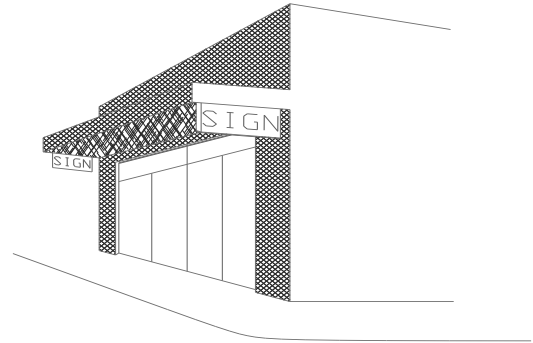
BELOW-PARALLEL MARQUEE SIGNS



VERTICAL-SURFACE MARQUEE SIGNS



ABOVE-PARALLEL MARQUEE SIGNS



BELOW-PERPENDICULAR MARQUEE SIGNS

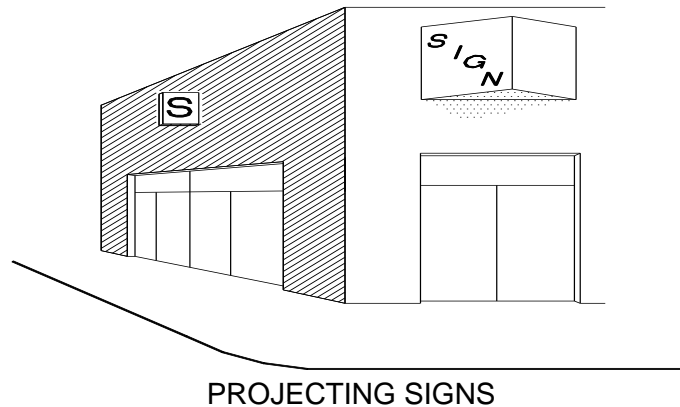


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### Sign Definitions (continued):

**Projecting Signs:** A sign which projects from and is supported by a wall of a building and does not extend beyond the minimum required setback line or into and over street right-of-way, and not less than 9 feet, at its lowest point, above sidewalk or ground level.



**Real Estate Signs:** A sign located on premises containing land or buildings for sale, rent or lease or buildings under construction and intended for sale, rent or lease.

**Surface Display Area:** The surface display area of any sign is the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of lettering, representations, emblems, or other figures, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the background against which it is placed. Structural members bearing no sign copy shall not be included. (One side or all faces of a freestanding or projecting sign shall be included in calculating surface display area.)

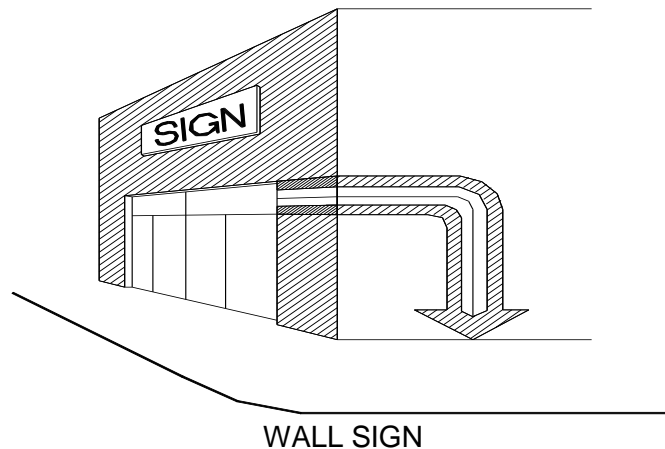
**Temporary Sign:** A display or informational sign with or without a structural frame including seasonal produce sales, decorative display, for holiday or public demonstrations.

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### Sign Definitions (continued):

**Wall Sign (Fascia Sign):** A sign which is attached directly to or painted upon a building wall and which does not extend more than 18 inches from the wall or above the roof line, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the building wall.



**Window Sign:** Signs affixed to, in contact with, or within 12 inches of a window; installed for purposes of viewing from outside the premises. This does not include merchandise located in a window.

### End of Sign Definitions

**Single Family Residence:** An unattached residence meeting the requirements of Section 3.12 and occupied by a single family.

**Site Plan:** Includes the documents and drawings required by this ordinance to ensure that a proposed land use or activity is in compliance with local ordinances and county state and federal statutes. (MZEA)

**Street:** A public thoroughfare that affords a principal means of access to abutting property.

**Strip Mall:** A Group of stores attached or separate, all of which are accessed from a separate entrance.

**Structure:** A structure is any production or piece of work artificially built up or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner; any construction.

**Subject Property:** All property identified in the notice for and included in a public hearing. (AC3)

**Tent:** A portable shelter or dwelling of canvas, cloth, etc..

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**Theater:** A building arranged for the presentation of motion pictures, plays or operas.

**Townhouse:** Three or more residences attached by a common wall, each residence with its own exterior entrance.

**Township Board:** Whenever in this ordinance the words, “Township Board” appear it shall mean the Tuscola Township Board of Trustees .

**Travel Trailer:** A unit that is towed by a vehicle that includes kitchen facilities and sleeping areas. (AC3)

**Variance:** An exception to the requirements of the zoning ordinance granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals to a specific parcel.

**Dimensional Variance:** Any variance other than a use variance.

**Use Variance:** A variance that permits a use not specifically permitted by this Ordinance for the district in which it is located. . Use variances are not permitted in Tuscola Township.

**Veterinary Facility:** A facility for the examination and treatment of animals, including temporary boarding facilities.

### Wind Energy Definitions:

**Anemometer:** A temporary wind speed indicator constructed for the purpose of analyzing the potential of using a wind turbine at a given site. This includes the tower, base plate, anchors, cables and hardware, wind direction vanes, booms to hold equipment, data logger, instrument wiring, and any telemetry devices that are used to monitor or transmit wind speed and wind flow characteristics over a period of time for either instantaneous wind information or to characterize the wind resource at a given location.

**Decibel:** A unit of measure used to express the magnitude of sound pressure and sound intensity. Decibels as used in this ordinance are to be measured on the dB(A) weighted scale as defined by the American National Standards Institute.

**Decommissioning:** The process of terminating operation and completely removing a WET(s) and all related buildings, structures, foundations, access roads and equipment from the site.

**Large Grid Wind Energy Turbine (LGWET):** A large tower-mounted wind energy system that converts wind energy into electricity through the use of equipment that includes any base, blade, foundation, generator, nacelle, rotor, transformer, vane, wire, inverter, batteries, or other components used in the system. The maximum total height of a LGWET is 495 feet.

**LGWET:** See Large Grid Wind Energy Turbine.

## Chapter 2 – Definitions

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### Wind Energy Definitions (continued):

**Net Metering:** A metering and billing agreement between utility companies and their customers, that facilitates the connection of renewable energy generating systems to the power grid.

**Occupied Building:** A residence, school, hospital, church, public library, business or other building used for public gatherings.

**Operator:** The entity responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of a wind energy turbine.

**Owner:** The individual or entity, including their respective successors and assigns, that have an equity interest or own the wind energy turbine in accordance with this ordinance.

**Participating Landowner Agreement:** An agreement between the landowner and the owner/operator of the Electric Grid Class WET(s) to be installed on the landowner's property.

**Rotor Diameter:** The circle swept by the rotating blades of a wind energy turbine.

**SGWET:** See Small Grid Wind Energy Turbine.

**Shadow Flicker:** The moving shadow, created by the sun shining through the rotating blades of a wind energy turbine. The amount of shadow flicker created by a WET is calculated by a computer model that takes into consideration turbine location, elevation, tree cover, location of all structures, wind activity and sunlight.

**Small Grid Wind Energy Turbine (SGWET)** A tower-mounted wind energy system that converts wind energy into electricity through the use of equipment that includes any base, blade, foundation, generator, nacelle, rotor, vane, wire, inverter, batteries, or other components used in the system. The total height of a SGWET must not exceed 150 feet.

**Small Tower Mounted Wind Energy Turbine (STWET):** A type of wind energy turbine in the Personal Use Class that converts wind energy into electricity through the use of equipment that includes any base, blade, foundation, generator, nacelle, rotor, transformer, vane, wire, inverter, batteries, or other components used in the system. The total height does not exceed 100 feet.

**SMWET:** See Structure-Mounted Wind Energy Turbine.

**Structure:** Any building or other structure, such as a municipal water tower that is a minimum of 12 feet high at its highest point of roof and is secured to frost-footings on a concrete slab.

## Chapter 2 – Definitions

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### Wind Energy Definitions (continued):

**Structure-Mounted Wind Energy Turbine (SMWET):** Equipment that converts wind energy into electricity that includes any base, blade, foundation, generator, nacelle, rotor, tower, transformer, vane, wire, inverter, batteries, or other components used in the system. A SMWET is attached to a structures roof, walls, or other elevated surface. The Total height of a SMWET must not exceed 25 feet as measured from the highest point of the roof, excluding chimneys, antennae, and other similar protuberances.

**STWET:** See Small Tower Mounted Wind Energy Turbine.

**Total Height:** The vertical distance measured from the ground at the base of the tower to the uppermost vertical extension of any blade, or the maximum height reached by any part of the wind energy turbine.

**WET:** See Wind Energy Turbine.

**Wind Energy Turbine (WET):** The device propelled by the wind that generates the electrical current.

### End of Wind Energy Definitions

**Wholesale and Warehouse Facilities:** A building or group of buildings and area of land used for the storage of products prior to shipment to retail establishments.

**Wireless Communications Equipment:** The set of equipment and network components used in the provision of wireless communications services, including, but not limited to, antennas, transmitters, receivers, base stations, equipment shelters, cabinets, emergency generators, power supply cables, and coaxial and fiber optic cables, but excluding wireless communications support structures.

**Wireless Communications Support Structure:** A structure that is designed to support, or is capable of supporting, wireless communications equipment, including a monopole, self-supporting lattice tower, guyed tower, water tower, utility pole, or building.

**Yard:** Any open space located on the same lot with a building, unoccupied and except for accessory buildings. The minimum depth or width of a yard is measured as the horizontal distance from the lot line and the nearest point of the principal structure, not including any projections expressly excluded in this ordinance.



## Chapter 2 – Definitions

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**Zoning Ordinance:** This Tuscola Township Zoning Ordinance, adopted under the authority of PA 110 of 2006, as amended.

## Chapter 2 – Definitions

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