CHAPTER 1181 General Regulations.

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CROSS REFERENCES  
Power to Grant Variances – See P. & Z. 1137

### 1181.01 RESIDENTIAL FLOOR AREA REQUIREMENTS.
The residential floor area for a single or two-family dwelling erected on any lot shall not be less than established by the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zoning District</th>
<th>Number of Stories</th>
<th>Minimum Ground Floor Area (sq. ft.)</th>
<th>Minimum Floor Area per Dwelling Unit (sq. ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;A-1&quot;</td>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;S-1&quot;</td>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;R-1&quot;</td>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;R-2&quot;</td>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;R-3&quot;</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
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<td>1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;R-4&quot;</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1181.02 MINIMUM LOT AREA.
The minimum lot size, without central water and sewer services, shall be one (1) acre per family for single-family dwellings

    Unless a larger lot size is required by the Ottawa County Health Board, due to soil conditions.

(Ord. 5-97. Passed 2-4-97.)

1181.03 EXISTING LOTS of RECORD.
Any lot of record may be used for the erection of a single-family dwelling provided it:

    Was existing at the effective date of this Zoning Ordinance (Ord. 10-63, passed February 10, 1964), or any amendment thereto,

    In any “A”, “S” or “R” District,

    Even though its area and width are less than the minimum requirements set forth herein.

Front, rear and side yards, for existing lots of record, shall not be less than the established yards prevailing in the immediate area,

    But in no case shall side yards be less than five (5’) feet.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may require that the two lots be combined and used for one main building

    Where two adjacent lots of record, with less than the required area and width, are held by one owner.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may require replatting to fewer lots to permit compliance with minimum yard requirements,

    Where three or more lots of record, with less than the required area and width, are held by one owner.

In any “B” or “M” District, any lot of record may be used for any use permitted in the District in which the property is located, provided it was:

    Existing at the effective date of this Zoning Ordinance (Ord. 10-63. Passed February 10, 1964), or amendment thereto,

    Even though the area and/or width are less than the minimum
requirements set forth herein.

All other requirements shall be met unless a variance has been properly obtained.
(Ord. 5-97. Passed 2-4-97).

1181.04 SPECIAL YARD REQUIREMENTS.

A. No building shall project beyond the average front yard so established, when:

Forty percent (40%) or more of the frontage on one side of the Street, between two intersecting streets is improved with buildings that have a front yard,

Which is greater or less than the required front yard in the district,

Provided, however, that a front yard depth shall not be required to exceed fifty (50%) percent in excess of the front yard otherwise required in the district in which the lot is located.

B. Front Yard Requirement.
Lots having frontage on more than one street (through lots and corner lots) shall provide the required front yards along every street.

C. Accessory building.
Except as hereinafter provided, no accessory building shall be erected in any required yard, except a rear yard, and shall be subject to the following:

1. Shall not occupy more than thirty-five percent (35%) of a required rear yard.

2. Shall not exceed eighteen (18’) feet in height.

3. Shall be at least ten feet (10’) distant from any dwelling situated on the same lot, unless an integral part thereof.

4. Shall be at least ten feet (10’) from any other accessory building.

5. Shall be at least ten feet (10’) from an alley or intersection alley’s right-of-ways.

6. Shall be at least three (3’) feet from all lot lines of adjoining lots which are in an “R” District.

**1181.05 FENCE AND WALLS (Excluding Hedges and Vegetation).**

A. The following regulations apply to the erection of a fence or wall in the Village.

1. Agricultural Uses Exempt.
   Any premises whose principal use is agricultural shall be exempt from the following
   
   Except that no fence shall be constructed in the public right-of-way.

   No fences shall be located within the public right-of-way in all Zoning Districts,
   
   Except as provided in Chapter 1167 Central Business District and more particularly
   
   The Historic Downtown District as it relates to Outdoor Cafes on Public Sidewalks, within the Business District.

3. Types of Fence.
   a. A fence or wall shall be constructed using traditional or natural materials such as:
      
      Brick,
      
      Chain link or other similar material,
      
      Stone,
      
      Wood,
      
      Wrought iron (also includes aluminum reproduction, plastic vinyl, or wrought iron),
      
      Unless specifically prohibited elsewhere in this Ordinance.
      
      Additionally, plastic may be used for any picket or post and rail fences and
      
      Poured concrete may be used for any post and rail fence.
      
   b. The height of a fence or wall shall be measured from the ground level of the outward face to the highest part of the fence or wall.
c. The finished exposed side of any fence shall face outwards from the property, where the fence or wall is situated, when situated in a front yard, side yard or rear yard.

d. The use of the following materials shall be prohibited, where the surface of such material is exposed, and visible from any direction

   Concrete,
   Poured concrete,
   Corrugated metal or rebar,
   Masonry unit,
   Metal panel, or
   Other similar product

   Unless specifically permitted elsewhere in this Ordinance.

4. Permitted Style or Type of Fence.

   a. Chain link,
   b. Picket,
   c. Shadow Box,
   d. Split Rail,
   e. Stockade,
   f. Wrought Iron.

5. Prohibited Style or Type of Fence.

   a. Open wire mesh,
   b. Solid board privacy fence (six (6’) feet or higher, or
   c. Brick or masonry walls.


   Retaining walls, or short sections of walls, or fences, that are primarily of a decorative, rather than an enclosing nature, are exempted.
1181.06 TRAFFIC VISIBILITY ACROSS CORNER LOTS.
No fence or wall structure shall be erected or maintained, on any corner lot, in any “S” or “R” District,

Within twenty (20’) feet of the corner
At a height of more than three (3’) feet above the curb or street grade, or
So as to interfere with traffic visibility across the corner.
(Ord. 10-63. Passed 2-10-64.)

1181.07 FENCE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE. (RESERVED)

1181.08 FENCE LOCATION.

A. No fence in a residential District shall be constructed closer than three (3’) feet to the adjoining property line,

   Except where the side or rear yard abuts a street or alley.

B. No fence shall be maintained in front of a line which is

   Parallel to the rear of the dwelling and

   Six (6”) inches in front of such rear of such dwelling,
(Ord. 26-73. Passed 12-17-73.)

C. Adjoining property owners may request permission from the BZA, if they agree in writing, to have the fence erected on the common property line, subject to the following:

   1. The applicant (property owner) is responsible to provide evidence that the fence is to be erected in the proper place. For example, if the fence is to be erected on the property line, the applicant must provide a survey signed and certified by a registered surveyor.

D. Fence Height.

   1. In a Residential District, the normal height of a fence will not be greater than four (4’) feet.

   2. The applicant may petition the BZA, with a variance request, if applicant wishes to have a fence in the rear yard

      a. That is greater than four (4’) feet, but

      b. Does not exceed a total height (from the ground) of six (6’) feet. (see the Section 1137 on the BZA variance applications),

   3. Fence height for a tennis court is not to exceed twelve (12’) feet
maximum.

However, any part of a tennis court fence above six (6’) feet high must be constructed of an open material which minimally obstructs vision.

E. Side Yard location: Maximum height of fence not to exceed four (4’) feet unless approved otherwise.

F. Fence in a Business District (“B-1”, “B-2” and “B-3”).

1. A six (6’) foot fence may be placed on the side yard property line(s) provided:

   It is agreed to in writing by both property owners, and
   Presented to the BZA for approval.

2. If the property is located in the downtown Historic District, approval of the

   Design,
   Materials, and
   Color

   Will be required from the Design Review Board of the Village, prior to review by the BZA.

1181.09 FENCE PERMIT.
(See also Chapter 1187.)

A. New Fence.
No fence shall be erected without first securing a permit from the Zoning Administrator regardless of cost.
(Ord. 20-79. Passed 8-6-79.)

B. Existing Fence Repair.
If the repair to an existing fence is in excess of fifteen percent (15%) of the total length of the fence, the applicant will need to apply for a new permit,

C. A new permit will not be necessary if the applicant can substantiate any of the following:

1. The existing fence has been in place for more than fifteen (15) years, or

2. Has an approved permit for the existing fence.
1181.10 LANDSCAPING OF SCREENING PROVISIONS.

A. Screening or buffering shall be provided for any permitted, or conditionally permitted, nonresidential uses, which abut any residential district, in compliance with the provisions of this Section, in addition to setback and yard requirements provided elsewhere in this Ordinance.

B. Applicants for a zoning permit may request a variance from yard or setback requirements in conjunction with a plan for screening, which the Board of Zoning Appeals may consider by weighing the relationship of

1. The proposed screening plan and
2. The requested dimensional variance with respect to their joint impact upon neighboring properties.

C. Such requested variance for a conditional permitted use shall be incorporated in the conditional use procedure specified in Chapter 1137 of this Ordinance.

D. The following provisions shall apply with respect to screening.

1. Screening shall be provided for one or more of the following purposes:
   a. A visual barrier to partially or completely obstruct the view of structures or activities.
   b. An acoustic screen to aid in absorbing or deflecting noise.
   c. A physical barrier to contain debris and litter.

2. Screening may consist of one (1) of the following, or a combination of two (2) or more, as determined by the Zoning Administrator or Board of Zoning Appeals, in the event of an appeal, variance or conditional use:
   a. A solid masonry wall;
   b. A solidly constructed decorative fence;
   c. A louvered fence;
d. A dense vegetative plantings;

c. A landscaped mounding.

3. Height of screening shall be in accordance with the following:

a. Visual screening walls, fences, plantings, or mounds shall be
   
i. A minimum of five and a half (5.5’) feet high in order to accomplish the desired screening effect, except
   
   ii. In required front yards where maximum height shall be not greater than two and a half (2.5’) feet.
   
   iii. Plantings shall be a minimum of four (4’) feet in height at the time of planting.

b. The following screenings shall be permanently maintained, along the mutual boundary of an accessory parking area and adjacent land zoned for residential uses, except for the portion of such boundary located within a required front yard.
   
i. A dense vegetative planting, with

   A minimum height of four (4’) feet at planting, and

   A mature height of at least five and a half (5.5’) feet or greater, or

   ii. A solidly constructed decorative fence.

4. Screening for purposes of absorbing or deflecting noise shall have

a. A depth of
   
i. At least fifteen (15’) feet of dense planting, or
   
   ii. A solid masonry wall in combination with decorative plantings.
b. The height shall be adequate to absorb noise, as determined by the Zoning Administrator, or Board of Zoning Appeals, in the event of an appeal, conditional use, or variance, in relation to the nature of the use.

5. Required screening shall be protected by
   a. Bumper blocks,
   b. Curbing, or
   c. Posts,

To avoid damage by vehicles, whenever required screening is adjacent to parking areas or driveways.

6. All screening shall be
   a. Trimmed,
   b. Maintained in good condition, and
   c. Free of advertising or other signs,

Except for directional signs and other signs for the efficient flow of vehicles.

E. Any owner of the adjacent “A”, “S”, or “R” District, who owns land abutting on land in such “B-2” District,

May request the owner of such “B-2” property, against whose property, such “A”, “S”, or “R” property owner’s land abuts, to construct a fence along the property line, after having first agreed in writing as to

The type of fence to be constructed, and

The contractor who is to construct it, and

Pay half of the cost of constructing such fence.

Provided the off-street parking spaces and access drives for nonresidential uses are located less than fifty (50’) feet from any lot line in an “A”, “S” or “R” District, or
Where

Entertainment facilities,

Motels,

Manufactured home parks,

Recreation facilities, and

All commercial uses

Are located less than one hundred (100') feet from any lot line in an “A”, “S” or “R” District.

It shall be the duty of each of the property owners to maintain their respective sides of such fence.

“Fence”, used herein, may include shrubbery or other type of screening.

(Ord. 5-97. Passed 2-4-97.)

1181.11 EXCEPTIONS TO HEIGHT LIMITS.
The height regulations prescribed herein shall not apply to:

Belfries,

Chimneys,

Church spires,

Conveyors,

Cooling towers,

Elevator bulkheads,

Flagpoles,

Monuments,

Ornamental towers and spires,

Smoke stacks,

Stage towers or scenery lofts,
Tanks,

Television and radio towers, and

Water and fire towers,

Except where the height of such structures will constitute a hazard to the safe operation of aircraft at an established airport.

(Ord. 10-63. Passed 2-10-64.)

1181.11 GARAGE SALE.

(See also Chapter 1185.)

A. Garage sale means any temporary private sale of personal property and merchandise which

1. Is open to the public, and

2. Shall include but not be limited to:
   a. Estate sales,
   b. Moving sales,
   c. Porch sales,
   d. Rummage sales,
   e. Yard sales, and
   f. The like.

B. Chapter 1185 shall apply to any and all garage sale signs, placed within the Village of Genoa corporation limits.

1. Placement:
   a. Not be placed in the public right-of-way,
   b. On utility poles or
   c. On street or traffic signs.

2. Exhibition length of time, not to exceed four (4) days:
   a. Twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the sale,
b. During the hours of the sale,

c. Twenty-four (24) hours after the end of the sale.

3. Garage sale signs shall be exempt from sign permit requirements.

4. No sign shall exceed four (4) square feet (2’ x 2’).

5. No more than a total of four (4) signs may be displayed, one (1) at the sale location and three (3) off-site directional signs.

6. Permission must be obtained from the property owner or occupant of the property where the sign is to be placed.

   C. All merchandise offered for public sale must be intended solely for domestic or household use and displayed on private property only.

   D. The provisions of the Traffic Code shall be followed.

(See Chapter 1185 Temporary Signs.)