

Article IV: Dimensional Standards

Division 35 Dimensional Standards, Modifications, and Special Standards

Section 35.01 Applicability:

Unless otherwise provided in these regulations, the minimum standards and requirements established in this Division shall apply to all uses. Special development standards and requirements for certain uses are located in Article III, Development Standards, may exceed the minimum requirements listed below.

Section 35.02 Schedule of Dimensional Standards by Residential Zoning Districts

Dimensional Standards – Residential Districts

		AR	R-30	R-20	R-15	R-8
1	Min. Lot Size (sq. ft.) Single Family & Permissible Nonresidential Uses	30,000	30,000	20,000	15,000	8,000
2	Min. Lot size (sq. ft.) if water and sewer are available – single family	20,000	20,000	18,000	15,000	8,000
3	Min. Lot Width (ft) Single Family & Permissible Nonresidential Uses	100	100	100	100	75
4	Min. Front Yard Setback (ft) Permissible Nonresidential	50 50	50 55	50 55	35 45	25 35
5	Min. Side Yard Setback (ft) Permissible Nonresidential	20 25	20 25	20 25	10 15	10 15
6	Min. Corner Lot Side Yard Setback(ft) from Rd. R-O-W	25	25	20	18	15
7	Min. Rear Yard Setback (ft)	35	35	30	25	20
8	Maximum Height (feet)	35	35	35	35	35

Dimensional Standards – Nonresidential Districts

		B-1	B-2
1	Minimum Development Size * (sq. ft)	----	15,000
2	Minimum lot size and other Dimensional Requirements for Residences	----	----
3	Minimum lot Width (feet)	----	75
4	Minimum Front Yard Setback (ft)	----	35
5	Minimum Side Yard Setback (ft)	----	25*^
6	Minimum Corner lot side yard setback from abutting street (ft)	----	35
7	Minimum Rear Yard Setback (ft)	**	20*^
8	Maximum Height (ft)	#	#

*Lots/Parcels not served by public water or sewer, must meet the minimum lot size required by Edgecombe County Health Dept.

**For each full story of structural height above the first story, add three additional feet to each side yard

***When the nonresidential lot/parcel abuts an R-30, AR, R-20, or R-15 residential district, then 50 feet setback is required from the property line

#No maximum height limit; however, all building setbacks shall increase one foot for every foot in height between 50 and 80 feet. No additional setback is required for building height greater than 80 feet

*^When the nonresidential lot/parcel abuts a residential district, then 50 feet setback is required from the property line.

Section 35.03 Exception for New Building on Existing Developed Block

In the Residential Districts, where the average setback distance for existing buildings on all lots located wholly or partly within two hundred (200) feet of any lot, and within the same zoning district and fronting on the same side of the same street as such lot, is less than the minimum setback required, but not less than the existing average setback distance for all lots within the two hundred (200) feet, or a distance of ten (10) feet from the street right-of-way line, whichever is greater. When lots within the two hundred (200) feet are vacant, said vacant lots shall be considered as having the average setback for the purpose of computing an average setback distance.

Section 35.04 Measuring Setbacks

- A. Corner lot side yard and street setbacks represent the minimum distance required between the nearest exterior finished wall of all structures and the adjacent street right-of-way line.
- B. Front, side, and rear setbacks represent the minimum distance required between the nearest exterior finished wall of all structures and the adjacent front, side, or rear property lines.
- C. Setbacks from the principal building represent the minimum distance required between the nearest exterior finished wall of an accessory building and the nearest exterior finished wall of the principal building structure on the lot.

Section 35.05 Lot Frontage Requirements

- A. Unless otherwise provided, no principal and/or accessory building, structure, or use shall be erected, expanded, enlarged, increased, or initiated on any lot that does not abut a public street with a right-of-way in conformity with the Subdivision Ordinance.
- B. Single Family Exemption: A single-family dwelling may be constructed on a lot that does not abut a public street, provided that such lot is at least two (2) acres in size and is provided with direct access to a public street by an easement created for the exclusive use of such dwelling. Any easement created pursuant to this exemption shall be at least forty

(40) feet in width and shall not exceed three hundred (300) feet in length. Otherwise, streets must meet the requirements of subsection “A” above.

- C. Planned Business Development Exemption: A permit for construction or use within any planned business (unit) development may be allowed on a lot or tract that does not abut directly on a public street, provided such development is platted pursuant to the Subdivision Ordinance meeting private road standards, which are maintained by the property owner association. The original development tract or lot met the minimum lot frontage requirement.
- D. All portions of each building erected in accordance with this section shall be located within five hundred (500) feet of an approved public or private street.

Section 35.06 Residential Accessory Structure and Building Standards

- A. The Table of Permissible Uses classifies different principal uses according to their different impacts. Whenever an activity (which may or may not be separately listed as a principal use in this table) is conducted in conjunction with another principal use and the former use constitutes only an incidental or insubstantial part of the total activity that takes place on a lot or is commonly associated with the principal use and integrally related to it, then the former use may be regarded as accessory to the principal use and may be carried on underneath the umbrella of the permit issued for the principal use. For example, a swimming pool/tennis court complex is customarily associated with and integrally related to a residential subdivision or multifamily development and would be regarded as accessory to such principal uses, even though such facilities, if developed apart from a residential development, would require a zoning permit.
- B. Residential detached accessory –
 - 1. May be located only in the rear yard, not in any side or front yard.
 - 2. Setbacks; rear and side yards
 - a. Not less than the principal setback for the district, except as provided under “b” below.
 - b. Structures or buildings not exceeding fifteen (15) feet in height shall be setback not less than five (5) feet. Minimum corner lot side yard setbacks for the district shall apply for all corner lots. Minimum front yard setbacks shall apply for all double frontage lots.
 - 3. Setbacks from principal building: Must be a minimum distance of eight (8) feet from the principal structure.
 - 4. The height shall not exceed the height of the existing principal building or district maximum height, whichever is less.
 - 5. The total building footprint area of all accessory buildings on the lot shall be no greater than eighty (80) percent of the gross floor area of the principal building.
- C. Residential Attached Accessory:
 - 1. The location, setback, and height shall be in accordance with the district standards established for the principal building unless otherwise provided.

- D. Residential accessory structures and buildings may include but not be limited to the following:
1. Garage
 2. Greenhouse
 3. Playhouse
 4. Pumphouse
 5. Storage shed
 6. Tool shed
 7. Swimming Pool
 8. Work shop
 9. Dog pens
 10. Satellite Dish
 11. Hobbies or recreation activities of a non-commercial nature
 12. Yard sales or garage sales. So long as such sales are not conducted on the same lot for more than three (3) days, whether consecutive or not, during any ninety-day period
 13. Offices or Studios with an enclosed building and used by an occupant of a residence located on the same lot as such building to carry on administrative or artistic activities, so long as such activities do not fall within the definition of a home occupation or business.
- E. Special Requirements for Certain Accessory Structures or Buildings:
1. Swimming Pools: Pools permanently or semi-permanently constructed below grade and which exceed forty (40) square feet in water surface area shall be protected by a five (5) foot or higher fence containing a latching gate to keep children and animals from having unsupervised access.
 2. Stables:
 - a. Shall be erected no closer than one hundred (100) feet to any existing dwelling or residential district
 - b. Shall meet the minimum dimensional standards and setbacks within the acceptable district, except as provided under subsection "a" above.

Section 35.07 Commercial, Industrial, and Office Accessory Structure and Building Standards
The location, setback, and height of any commercial, industrial, or office accessory structure or building shall be in accordance with the district minimum established for the principal use and the buffer yard regulations.

Section 35.08 Projections into Required Yards

- A. The following structures are permitted in required setbacks provided that compliance is maintained with the street visibility standards of the Town of Macclesfield:
1. Landscaping features, including but not limited to ornamental pools, planting boxes, sculpture, arbors, trellises, and birdbaths.
 2. Pet shelters, at-grade patios, play equipment, outdoor furniture, ornamental entry columns and gates, flagpoles, lampposts, address posts, HVAC equipment,

- mailboxes, outdoor fireplaces, public utility lines, poles, pumps, and boxes, wells, fences, or retaining walls.
3. Handicap ramps except for porches and landings.
 4. Steps not connected to any above grade structure.
- B. The following attached structures will be permitted to project into specified yard for the following distance:
1. Cornices, overhanging eaves and gutters, window sills, bay windows, or similar architectural features, chimneys and fireplaces, fire escapes, fire balconies, fire towers, open unenclosed stoops, open unenclosed decks, and open unenclosed steps may project no more than two and one-half (5) feet into any required yard, but in no case closer than three (3) to any property line or in compliance with North Carolina State Building Codes.
 2. Open unenclosed porches (excluding glassed) may project no more than ten (10) into a front or rear yard. Open unenclosed decks may project into the rear yard (with no limitation on size) provided that it does not come any closer than ten (10) feet from any property line.
 3. Open unenclosed carports which are attached to and part of the principal structure and which are unenclosed on all exterior sides except for necessary supports may project into interior side or rear yards but shall be no closer than fifteen (15) feet to a side or rear yard adjoining a street right-of-way and no closer than five (5) feet to a side or rear property line.
 4. Gas pump islands can project into any yard in accordance with the buffer yard regulations; however, no gas pump island shall be located closer than ten (10) feet to a street right-of-way line.
 5. Canopies and awnings can project into any yard in accordance with the buffer yard regulations or the following requirements, whichever is greater:
 - a. B-1 district – not closer than five (5) feet to any street right-of-way.
 - b. All other nonresidential districts – not closer than ten (10) feet to any street right-of-way.
 - c. All residential districts – five (5) feet into any yard.

Section 35.09 Special Purpose Lots

Requirements of this Article with respect to road frontage, minimum lot area, and minimum lot dimensions shall not apply to lots for family or church cemeteries, water pump stations, or sewer lift stations, and similar utility uses. Such lots shall comply with the requirements below:

- A. Minimum Size: The special purpose lot shall be permitted only after the Zoning Administrator has determined that the proposed lot has sufficient dimensions to accommodate the intended use and, where required by this Ordinance, buffer yards.
- B. Access Easement: If the special purpose lot does not have direct access to a public street or road, an access easement for ingress and egress with a minimum width of ten (10) feet shall be platted.

C. Platting: The subdivision to create the lot shall be approved in accordance with the town's Subdivision Regulations. The Final Plat shall label the lot as a "Special Purpose Lot for use as _____."