

# Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

For The Town Of

# Mapleton

Prepared By:  
Northern Maine  
Regional Planning  
Commission



ADOPTED MARCH 16, 1992  
AMENDED DECEMBER 17, 1996

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**Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for the Town  
of  
Mapleton**

**Section 1. Purposes**

The purposes of this Ordinance are to further the maintenance of safe and healthful conditions; to prevent and control water pollution; to protect fish spawning grounds, aquatic life, bird and other wildlife habitat; to protect buildings and lands from flooding and accelerated erosion; to protect archaeological and historic resources; to protect commercial fishing and maritime industries; to protect freshwater wetlands; to control building sites, placement of structures and land uses; to conserve shore cover, and visual as well as actual points of access to inland waters; to conserve natural beauty and open space; and to anticipate and respond to the impacts of development in shoreland areas.

**Section 2. Authority**

This Ordinance has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Title 38 Sections 435-449 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated (M.R.S.A.).

**Section 3. Applicability**

This Ordinance applies to all land areas within 250 feet, or 375 feet horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any great pond or river; within 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland; and within 100 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a tributary. This Ordinance also applies to any structure built on, over or abutting a dock, wharf or pier, or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland.

**Section 4. Effective Date and Repeal of Formerly Adopted Ordinance**

This Ordinance, which was adopted March 16, 1992, and amended December 17, 1996, by the municipal legislative body, shall not be effective unless approved by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). A certified copy of the Ordinance, attested and signed by the Municipal Clerk, shall be forwarded to the Department of Environmental Protection for approval. If the Department of Environmental Protection fails to act on this Ordinance within forty-five (45) days of its receipt of the Ordinance, it shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of this Ordinance, the shoreland zoning ordinance previously adopted on June 18, 1975 is hereby repealed.

Any application for a permit submitted to the Town of Mapleton within the forty-five (45) day period shall be governed by the terms of this Ordinance if the Ordinance is approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.

## **Section 5. Availability**

A certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Municipal Clerk and shall be accessible to any member of the public. Copies shall be made available to the public at reasonable cost at the expense of the person making the request. Notice of availability of this Ordinance shall be posted.

## **Section 6. Severability**

Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, such decision shall not invalidate any other section or provision of the Ordinance.

## **Section 7. Conflicts with Other Ordinances**

Whenever a provision of this Ordinance conflicts with or is inconsistent with another provision of this Ordinance or of any other ordinance, regulation or statute, the more restrictive provision shall control.

## **Section 8. Amendments**

This Ordinance may be amended by majority vote of the legislative body. Copies of amendments, attested, and signed by the Municipal Clerk, shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection following adoption by the municipal legislative body and shall not be effective unless approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. If the Department of Environmental Protection fails to act on any amendment within forty-five (45) days of the Department's receipt of the amendment, the amendment is automatically approved. Any application for a permit submitted to the Town of Mapleton within the forty-five (45) day period shall be governed by the terms of the amendment, if such amendment is approved by the Department.

## **Section 9. Districts and Zoning Map**

### **A. Official Shoreland Zoning Map**

The areas to which this Ordinance is applicable are hereby divided into the following districts as shown on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map(s) which is (are) made a part of this Ordinance:

1. Resource Protection
2. Limited Residential
3. General Development
4. Tributary Protection

### **B. Scale of Map**

The Official Shoreland Zoning Map shall be drawn at a scale of not less than: 1 inch = 2000 feet. District boundaries shall be clearly delineated and a legend indicating the symbols for each district shall be placed on the map.

### **C. Certification of Official Shoreland Zoning Map**

The Official Shoreland Zoning Map shall be certified by the attested signature of the Municipal Clerk and shall be located in the municipal office.

### **D. Changes to the Official Shoreland Zoning Map**

If amendments, in accordance with Section 8, are made in the district boundaries or other matter portrayed on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map, such changes shall be made on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map within thirty (30) days after the amendment has been approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.

## **Section 10. Interpretation of District Boundaries**

Unless otherwise set forth on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map, district boundary lines are property lines, the centerlines of streets, roads and rights of way, and the boundaries of the shoreland area as defined herein. Where uncertainty exists as to the exact location of district boundary lines, the Board of Appeals shall be the final authority as to location.

## **Section 11. Land Use Requirements**

Except as hereinafter specified, no building, structure or land shall hereafter be used or occupied, and no building or structure or part thereof shall hereafter be erected, constructed, expanded, moved, or altered and no new lot shall be created except in conformity with all of the regulations herein specified for the district in which it is located, unless a variance is granted.

## **Section 12. Non-conformance**

### **A. Purpose**

It is the intent of this Ordinance to promote land use conformities, except that non-conforming conditions that existed before the effective date of this Ordinance shall be allowed to continue, subject to the requirements set forth in this section.

### **B. General**

1. Transfer of Ownership: Non-conforming structures, lots, and uses may be transferred, and the new owner may continue the non-conforming use or continue to use the non-conforming structure or lot, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance.

W 2. Repair and Maintenance: This Ordinance allows Ordinance allows, without a permit, the normal upkeep maintenance of non-conforming uses and structures including repairs or renovations which do not involve expansion of the non-conforming use or structure, and such other changes in a non-conforming use or structure as federal, state, or local building and safety codes may require.

### C. Non-conforming Structures

1. Expansions: A non-conforming structure may be added to or expanded after obtaining a permit from the same permitting authority as that for a new structure, if such addition or expansion does not increase the non-conformity of the structure.

Further Limitations:

- a. After January 1, 1989 if any portion of a structure is less than the required setback from the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland, that portion of the structure shall not be expanded in floor area or volume, by 30% or more, during the lifetime of the structure.
- b. Construction or enlargement of a foundation beneath the existing structure shall not be considered an expansion of the structure provided; that the structure and new foundation are placed such that the setback requirement is met to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board, basing its decision on the criteria specified in subsection 2. Relocation, below; that the completed foundation does not extend beyond the exterior dimensions of the structure; and that the foundation does not cause the structure to be elevated by more than three (3) additional feet.
- c. No structure which is less than the required setback from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland shall be expanded toward the water body, tributary stream, or wetland.

2. Relocation: A non-conforming structure may be relocated within the boundaries of the parcel on which the structure is located provided that the site of relocation conforms to all setback requirements to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board, and provided that the applicant demonstrates that the present subsurface sewage disposal system meets the requirements of State law and the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules (Rules), or that a new system can be installed in compliance with the law and said Rules.

In no case shall a structure be relocated in a manner that causes the structure to be more non-conforming.

In determining whether the building relocation meets the setback to the greatest practical extent, the Planning Board shall consider the size of the lot, the slope of the land, the potential for soil erosion, the location of other structures on the property and on adjacent properties, the location of the septic system and other on-site soils suitable for septic systems, and the type and amount of vegetation to be removed to accomplish the relocation.

**3. Reconstruction or Replacement:** Any non-conforming structure which is located less than the required setback from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland and which is removed, or damaged or destroyed by more than 50% of the market value of the structure before such damage, destruction or removal, may be reconstructed or replaced provided that a permit is obtained within one year of the date of said damage, destruction, or removal, and provided that such reconstruction or replacement is in compliance with the water setback requirement to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board in accordance with the purposes of this Ordinance. In no case shall a structure be reconstructed or replaced so as to increase its non-conformity.

Any non-conforming structure which is damaged or destroyed by 50% or less of the market value of the structure, excluding normal maintenance and repair, may be reconstructed in place with a permit, from the code enforcement officer. In determining whether the building reconstruction or replacement meets the water setback to the greatest practical extent the Planning Board shall consider in addition to the criteria in paragraph 2 above, the physical condition and type of foundation present, if any.

**4. Change of Use of a Non-conforming Structure:** The use of a non-conforming structure may not be changed to another use unless the Planning Board after receiving a written application determines that the new use will have no greater adverse impact on the water body or wetland, or on the subject or adjacent properties and resources than the existing use.

In determining that no greater adverse impact will occur, the Planning Board shall require written documentation from the applicant, regarding the probable effects on public health and safety, erosion and sedimentation, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetative cover, visual and actual points of public access to waters, natural beauty, flood plain management, archaeological and historic resources, and commercial fishing and maritime activities, and other functionally water-dependent uses.

#### **D. Non-conforming Uses**

**1. Expansions:** Expansions of non-conforming uses are prohibited, except that non-conforming residential uses may, after obtaining a permit from the Planning Board, be expanded within existing residential structures or within expansions of such structures as permitted in Section 12(C)(1)(a) above.

**2. Resumption Prohibited Use:** A lot, building or structure in or on which a non-conforming use is discontinued for a period exceeding one year, or which is superseded by a conforming use, may not again be devoted to a non-conforming use except that the Planning Board may, for good cause shown by the applicant, grant up to a one year extension to that time period. This provision shall not apply to the resumption of a use of a residential structure provided that the structure has been used or maintained for residential purposes during the preceding five (5) year period.

**3. Change of Use:** An existing non-conforming use may be changed to another non-conforming use provided that the proposed use has no greater adverse impact on the subject and

adjacent properties and resources, as determined by the Planning Board. The determination of no greater adverse impact shall be made according to criteria listed in Section 12 (C) (4) above.

#### E. Non-conforming Lots

**1. Non-conforming Lots:** A non-conforming lot of record as of the effective date of this Ordinance or amendment thereto may be built upon, without the need for a variapon, without the need for that such lot is in separate ownership and not contiguous with any other lot in the same ownership, and that all provisions of this Ordinance except lot size and frontage can be met. Variances relating to setback or other requirements not involving lot size or frontage shall be obtained by action of the Board of Appeals.

**2. Contiguous Built Lots:** If two or more contiguous lots or parcels are in a single or joint ownership of record at the time of adoption of this Ordinance, if all or part of the lots do not meet the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance, and if a principal use or structure exists on each lot, the non-conforming lots may be conveyed separately or together, provided that the State Minimum Lot Size Law and Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules are complied with.

If two or more principal uses or structures existed on a single lot of record on the effective date of this ordinance, each may be sold on a separate lot provided that the above referenced law and rules are complied with. When such lots are divided each lot thus created must be as conforming as possible to the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance.

**3. Contiguous Lots - Vacant or Partially Built:** If two or more contiguous lots or parcels are in single or joint ownership of record at the time of or since adoption or amendment of this Ordinance, if any of these lots do not individually meet the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance or subsequent amendments, and if one or more of the lots are vacant or contain no principal structure the lots shall be combined to the extent necessary to meet the dimensional requirements.

### Section 13. Establishment of Districts

#### A. Resource Protection District

The Resource Protection District includes areas in which development would adversely affect water quality, productive habitat, biological ecosystems, or scenic and natural values. This district shall include the following areas when they occur within the limits of the Shoreland Zone, exclusive of the Tributary Protection District, except that areas which are currently developed and areas which meet the criteria for the General Development District need not be included within the Resource Protection District:

1. Areas within 250 feet, or 375 feet horizontal distance, of the upland edge of freshwater wetlands, and wetlands associated with great ponds and rivers, whether rated or not by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W) as of January 1, 1973. These include all of the freshwater wetlands of Mapleton. (See Appendix B).



Habitat for species appearing on the official state or federal lists of endangered or threatened species; high and moderate value deer wintering areas and travel corridors as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; high and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats, including nesting and feeding areas as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; critical spawning and nursery areas for Atlantic sea run salmon as defined by the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission; and shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas and seabird nesting islands as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

As these areas are mapped and development standards are established, municipalities should incorporate should incorporate such areas and standards into their locally adopted ordinances.

2. Flood plains along rivers and flood plains along artificially formed great ponds along rivers, defined by the 100 year flood plain as designated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps, or the flood of record, or in the absence of these, by soil types identified as recent flood plain soils.
3. Areas of two or more contiguous acres with sustained slopes of 20% or greater.
4. Areas of two (2) or more contiguous acres supporting wetland vegetation and hydric soils, which are not part of a freshwater wetland as defined, and which are not surficially connected to a water body during normal spring high water.
5. Land areas along rivers subject to severe bank erosion, undercutting, or river bed movement.

#### **B. Limited Residential District**

The Limited Residential District includes those areas suitable for residential and recreational development. It includes areas other than those in the Resource Protection District, or Tributary Protection District, and areas which are used less intensively than those in the General Development District.

#### **C. General Development District**

The General Development District includes the following types of areas:

1. Areas of two or more contiguous acres devoted to commercial, industrial or intensive recreational activities, or a mix of such activities, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Areas devoted to manufacturing, fabricating or other industrial activities;
  - b. Areas devoted to wholesaling, warehousing, retail trade and service activities, or other commercial activities; and
  - c. Areas devoted to intensive recreational development and activities, such as, but not limited to amusement parks, race tracks and fairgrounds.

2. Areas otherwise discernable as having patterns of intensive commercial, industrial or recreational uses.

Portions of the General Development District may also include residential development. However, no area shall be designated as a General Development District based solely on residential use.

In areas adjacent to great ponds classified GPA and adjacent to rivers flowing to great ponds classified GPA, the designation of an area as a General Development District shall be based upon uses existing at the time of adoption of this Ordinance. There shall be no newly established General Development Districts or expansions in area of existing General Development Districts adjacent to great ponds classified GPA.

#### **D. Tributary Protection District**

The Tributary Protection District includes all land areas within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a tributary, exclusive of those areas within two-hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond or river, or within two hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland. Where a tributary and its associated shoreland area is located within two-hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the above water bodies or wetlands, that land area shall be regulated under the terms of the shoreland district associated with that water body or wetland.

### **Section 14. Table of Land Uses**

All land use activities, as indicated in Table 1, Land Uses in the Shoreland Zone, shall conform with all of the applicable land use standards in Section 15. The district designation for a particular site shall be determined from the Official Shoreland Zoning Map.

#### **Key to Table 1:**

<b>Yes</b>	-	Allowed (no permit required but the use must comply with all applicable
<b>No</b>	-	Prohibited
<b>PB</b>	-	Requires permit issued by the Planning Board
<b>CEO</b>	-	Requires permit issued by the Code Enforcement Officer
<b>LPI</b>	-	Requires permit issued by the Local Plumbing Inspector

#### **Abbreviations:**

<b>RP</b>	-	Resource Protection
<b>LR</b>	-	Limited Residential
<b>GD</b>	-	General Development
<b>TP</b>	-	Tributary Protection

The following notes are applicable to the Land Uses Table on the following page:

#### Section 14. Table of Land Uses

All land use activities, as indicated in Table 1, Land Uses in the Shoreland Zone, shall conform with all of the applicable land use standards in Section 15. The district designation for a particular site shall be determined from the Official Shoreland Zoning Map.

#### Key to Table 1:

Yes	-	Allowed (no permit required but the use must comply with all applicable land use standards.)
No	-	Prohibited
PB	-	Requires permit issued by the Planning Board
CEO	-	Requires permit issued by the Code Enforcement Officer
LPI	-	Requires permit issued by the Local Plumbing Inspector

#### Abbreviations:

RP	-	Resource Protection
LR	-	Limited Residential
GD	-	General Development
TP	-	Tributary Protection

The following notes are applicable to the Land Uses Table on the following page:

## Land Use chart

TABLE 1. LAND USES IN THE SHORELAND ZONE

LAND USES	DISTRICTS			
	TP	RP	LR	GD
1. Non-intensive recreational uses not requiring structures such as hunting, fishing and hiking	yes	yes	yes	yes
2. Motorized vehicular traffic on existing roads and trails	yes	yes	yes	yes
3. Forest management activities except for timber harvesting	yes	yes	yes	yes
4. Timber harvesting	yes	CEO	yes	yes
5. Clearing of vegetation for approved construction and other allowed uses	CEO	CEO	yes	yes
6. Fire prevention activities	yes	yes	yes	yes
7. Wildlife management practices	yes	yes	yes	yes
8. Soil and water conservation practices	yes	yes	yes	yes
9. Mineral exploration	no	yes <sup>2</sup>	yes <sup>2</sup>	yes <sup>2</sup>
10. Mineral extraction including sand and gravel extraction	no	PB <sup>3</sup>	PB	PB
11. Surveying and resource analysis	yes	yes	yes	yes
12. Emergency operations	yes	yes	yes	yes
13. Agriculture	yes	PB	yes	yes
14. Aquaculture	PB	PB	PB	yes
15. Principal structures and uses				
A. One and two family residential	no	no	CEO	CEO
B. Multi-unit residential	no	no	PB	PB
C. Commercial	no	no	no	PB
D. Industrial	no	no	no	PB
E. Governmental and Institutional	no	no	no	PB
F. Small non-residential facilities for educational, scientific or nature interpretation purposes	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB	CEO	CEO
16. Structures accessory to allowed uses	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB	CEO	yes
17. Piers, docks, wharfs, bridges and other structures and uses extending over or below the normal high-water line or within a wetland				
a. Temporary	CEO	CEO	CEO	CEO
b. Permanent	PB	PB	PB	PB
18. Conversions of seasonal residences to year-round residences	LPI	no	LPI	LPI
19. Home occupations	PB	no	PB	yes
20. Private sewage disposal systems for allowed uses	no	no	LPI	LPI
21. Essential services	PB <sup>5</sup>	PB <sup>5</sup>	PB	PB
22. Service drops, as defined, to allowed uses	yes	yes	yes	yes
23. Public and private recreational areas involving minimal structural development	PB	PB	PB	PB
24. Individual, private campsites	CEO	CEO	CEO	CEO
25. Campgrounds	no	no <sup>6</sup>	PB	PB
26. Road and driveway construction	PB	no <sup>7</sup>	PB	PB
27. Parking facilities	no	no <sup>6</sup>	PB	PB
28. Marinas	PB	no	PB	PB
29. Filling and earth moving of < 10 cubic yards	CEO	CEO	yes	yes
30. Filling and earth moving of > 10 cubic yards	PB	PB	CEO	CEO
31. Signs	yes	yes	yes	yes
32. Uses similar to allowed uses	CEO	CEO	CEO	CEO
33. Uses similar to uses requiring a CEO permit	CEO	CEO	CEO	CEO
34. Uses similar to uses requiring a PB permit	PB	PB	PB	PB

1In RP not permitted within 75 feet of the normal high-water line of great ponds, except to remove safety hazards.

2Requires permit from the Code Enforcement Officer if more than 100 square feet of surface area, in total, is disturbed.

3In RP not permitted in areas so designated because of wildlife value.

4Provided that a variance from the setback requirement is obtained from the Board of Appeals.

5See further restrictions in Section 15(L)(2) on page 21.

6Except when area is zoned for resource protection due to flood plan criteria in which case a permit is required from the PB.

7Except to provide access to permitted uses within the district, or where no reasonable alternative route or location is available outside the RP area, in which case a permit is required from the PB.

## Section 15. Land Use Standards

### A. Minimum Lot Standards

		Minimum Lot Area (sq.ft.)	Minimum Shore Frontage (ft.)
<b><u>Residential per dwelling unit</u></b>			
a.	Within the Shoreland Zone Adjacent to Non-Tidal Areas	40,000	200

### **Governmental, Institutional, Commercial, or Industrial per principal structure**

a.	Within the Shoreland Zone Adjacent to Non-Tidal Areas	60,000	300
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### **Public and Private Recreational Facilities**

a.	Within the Shoreland Zone Adjacent to Non-Tidal Areas	40,000	200
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- Land below the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland and land beneath roads serving more than two (2) lots shall not be included toward calculating minimum lot area.
- Lots located on opposite sides of a public or private road shall be considered each a separate tract or parcel of land unless such road was established by the owner of land on both sides thereof after September 22, 1971.
- The minimum width of any portion of any lot within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland shall be equal to or greater than the shore frontage requirement for a lot with the proposed use.
- If more than one residential dwelling unit or more than one principal commercial or industrial structure is constructed on a single parcel, all dimensional requirements shall be met for each additional dwelling unit or principal structure.

### B. Principal and Accessory Structures

All new principal and accessory structures shall be set back at least one hundred and twenty-five (125) feet from the normal high-water line of all great ponds, rivers, tributaries, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland, except that in the General Development District the setback from the normal high-water line shall be at least twenty-five (25) feet.

In addition:

- a. The water body or wetland setback provision shall neither apply to structures which require direct access to the water as an operational necessity, such as piers, docks and retaining walls, nor to other functionally water-dependent uses.
2. Principal or accessory structures and expansions of existing structures which are permitted in the Resource Protection, Limited Residential, and Tributary Protection Districts, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height. This provision shall not apply to structures such as transmission towers, windmills, antennion towers, windmills, antennas, and similar structures having no floor
3. The first floor elevation or openings of all buildings and structures including basements shall be elevated at least one foot above the elevation of the 100 year flood, the flood of record, or in the absence of these, the flood as defined by soil types identified as recent flood plain soils.
4. The total area of all structures, parking lots and other non-vegetated surfaces, within the Shoreland Zone shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the lot or a portion there of, located within the Shoreland Zone, including land area previously developed, except in the General Development District adjacent to rivers which do not flow to great ponds classified GPA, where lot coverage shall not exceed seventy (70) percent.
5. Notwithstanding the requirements stated above, stairways or similar structures may be allowed with a permit from the Code Enforcement Officer, to provide shoreline access in areas of steep slopes or unstable soils provided; that the structure is limited to a maximum of four (4) feet in width; that the structure does not extend below or over the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland, (unless permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act, Title 38, Section 480-C); and that the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable access alternative exists on the property.

**C. Piers, Docks, Wharfs, Bridges and Other Structures and Uses Extending Over or Beyond the Normal High-Water Line of a Water Body or Within a Wetland**

1. Access from shore shall be developed on soils appropriate for such use and constructed so as to control erosion.
2. The location shall not interfere with existing developed or natural beach areas.
3. The facility shall be located so as to minimize adverse effects of fisheries.

4. The facility shall be no larger in dimension than necessary to carry on the activity and be consistent with existing conditions, use, and character of the area.
5. No new structure shall be built on, over or abutting a pier, wharf, dock or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland unless the structure requires direct access to the water as an operational necessity.
6. No existing structures built on, over or abutting a pier, dock, wharf or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland shall be converted to residential dwelling units in any district.
7. Except in the General Development District structures built on, over or abutting a pier, wharf, dock or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland shall not exceed twenty (20) feet in height above the pier, wharf, dock or other structure.

#### **D. Campgrounds**

Campgrounds shall conform to the minimum requirements imposed under State licensing procedures and the following:

1. Campgrounds shall contain a minimum of five thousand (5,000) square feet of land, not including roads and driveways, for each site. Land supporting wetland vegetation, and land below the normal high-water line of a water body shall not be included in calculating land area per site.
2. The areas intended for placement of a recreational vehicle, tent or shelter, and utility and service buildings shall be set back a minimum of one hundred (100) feet from the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and seventy-five (75) feet from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland.

#### **E. Individual Private Campsites**

Individual, private campsites not associated with campgrounds are permitted provided the following conditions are met:

1. One campsite per lot existing on the effective date of this Ordinance, or thirty thousand (30,000) square feet of lot area within the Shoreland Zone, whichever is less, may be permitted.
2. Campsite placement on any lot, including the area intended for a recreational vehicle or tent platform, shall be set back one hundred (100) feet from the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and seventy-five (75) feet from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland.
3. Recreational vehicles shall not be located on any type of permanent foundation except for a gravel pad, and no structure(s) except canopies shall be attached to the recreational vehicle.

4. The clearing of vegetation for the siting of the recreational vehicle, tent or similar shelter in a Resource Protection District shall be limited to one thousand (1000) square feet.
5. A written sewage disposal plan describing the proposed method and location of sewage disposal shall be required for each campsite and shall be approved by the Local Plumbing Inspector. Where disposal is off-site, written authorization from the receiving facility or land owner is required.
6. When a recreational vehicle, tent or similar shelter is placed on-site for more than one hundred and twenty (120) days per year, all requirements for residential structures shall be met, including the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system in compliance with the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules unless served by public sewage facilities.

#### **F. Commercial and Industrial Uses**

The following new commercial and industrial uses are prohibited within the Shoreland Zone adjacent to great ponds classified GPA , and tributaries which flow to great ponds classified GPA :

- a. Auto washing facilities
- b. Auto or other vehicle service and/or repair operations, including body shops
- c. Chemical and bacteriological laboratories
- d. Storage of chemicals, including herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers other than amounts normally associated with individual households or farms
- e. Commercial painting, wood preserving, and furniture stripping
- f. Dry cleaning establishments
- g. Electronic circuit assembly
- h. Laundromats, unless connected to a sanitary sewer
- i. Metal plating, finishing, or polishing
- j. Petroleum or petroleum product storage and/or sale except storage on same property as use occurs and except for storage and sales associated with marinas
- k. Photographic processing
- l. Printing

#### **G. Parking Areas**



1. Parking areas shall meet the shoreline setback requirements for structures for the district in which such areas are located. The setback requirement for parking areas serving public boat launching facilities, in Districts other than the General Development District may be reduced to no less than fifty (50) feet from the normal high-water line or upland edge of a wetland if the Planning Board finds that no other reasonable alternative exists.
2. Parking areas shall be adequately sized for the proposed use and shall be designed to prevent stormwater runoff from flowing directly into a water body, and where feasible, to retain all runoff on-site.
3. In determining the appropriate size of proposed parking facilities, the following shall apply:
  - a. Typical parking space: Approximately ten (10) feet wide and twenty (20) feet long, except that parking spaces for a vehicle and boat trailer shall be forty (40) feet long.
  - b. Internal travel aisles: Approximately twenty (20) feet wide.

## **¶. Roads and Driveways**

The following standards shall apply to the construction of roads and/or driveways and drainage systems, culverts and other related features.

1. Roads and driveways shall be set back at least one-hundred (100) feet from the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and seventy-five (75) feet from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland unless no reasonable alternative exists as determined by the Planning Board. If no other reasonable alternative exists, the Planning Board may reduce the road and/or driveway setback requirement to no less than fifty (50) feet upon clear showing by the applicant that appropriate techniques will be used to prevent sedimentation of the water body. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the installation of settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and turnouts placed so as to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland.

On slopes of greater than twenty (20) percent the road and/or driveway setback shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each five (5) percent increase in slope above twenty (20) percent.

This paragraph shall neither apply to approaches to water crossings nor to roads or driveways that provide access to permitted structures, and facilities located nearer to the shoreline due to an operational necessity.

2. Existing public roads may be expanded within the legal road right-of-way regardless of its setback from a water body.
3. New roads and driveways are prohibited in a Resource Protection District except to provide access to permitted uses within the district, or as approved by the Planning Board upon a

finding that no reasonable alternative route or location is available outside the district, in which case the road and/or driveway shall be set back as far as practicable from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland.

4. Road banks shall be no steeper than a slope of two (2) horizontal to one (1) vertical, and shall be graded and stabilized in accordance with the provisions for erosion and sedimentation control contained in subsection Q.
5. Road grades shall be no greater than ten (10) percent except for short segments of less than two hundred (200) feet.
6. In order to prevent road surface drainage from directly entering water bodies, roads shall be designed, constructed, and maintained to empty onto an unscarified buffer strip at least (50) feet plus two times the average slope, in width between the outflow point of the ditch or culvert and the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland. Road surface drainage which is directed to an unscarified buffer strip shall be diffused or spread out to promote infiltration of the runoff and to minimize channelized flow of the drainage through the buffer strip.
7. Ditch relief (cross drainage) culverts, drainage dips and water turnouts shall be installed in a manner effective in directing drainage onto unscarified buffer strips before the flow in the road or ditches gains sufficient volume or head to erode the road or ditch. To accomplish this, the following shall apply:
  - a. Ditch relief culverts, drainage dips and associated water turnouts shall be spaced along the road at intervals no greater than indicated in the following table:

Road Grade (%)	Spacing (Feet)
0 - 2	250
3 - 5	200 - 135
6 - 10	100 - 80
11 - 15	80 - 60
16 - 20	60 - 45
21 +	40

- b. Drainage dips may be used in place of ditch relief culverts only where the road grade is ten (10) percent or less.
- c. On road sections having slopes greater than ten (10) percent, ditch relief culverts shall be placed across the road at approximately a thirty (30) degree angle downslope from a line perpendicular to the centerline of the road.
- d. Ditch relief culverts shall be sufficiently sized and properly installed in order to allow for effective functioning, and their inlet and outlet ends shall be stabilized with appropriate materials.

1. Where feasible, the installation of essential services shall be limited to existing public ways and existing service corridors.
2. The installation of essential services is not permitted in a Resource Protection or Tributary Protection District, except to provide services to a permitted use within said district, or except where the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable alternative exists. Where permitted, such structures and facilities shall be located so as to minimize any adverse impacts on surrounding uses and resources, including visual impacts.

### **M. Mineral Exploration and Extraction**

Mineral exploration to determine the nature or extent of mineral resources shall be accomplished by hand sampling, test boring, or other methods which create minimal disturbance of less than one hundred (100) square feet of ground surface. A permit from the Code Enforcement Officer shall be required for mineral exploration which exceeds the above limitation. All excavations, including test pits and holes shall be immediately capped, filled or secured by other equally effective measures, so as to restore disturbed areas and to protect the public health and safety.

Mineral extraction may be permitted under the following conditions:

1. A reclamation plan shall be filed with, and approved by the Planning Board before a permit is granted. Such plan shall describe in detail procedures to be undertaken to fulfill the requirements of paragraph 4 below.
2. Unless authorized pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act, Title 38, M.R.S.A, Section 480-C no part of any extraction operation, including drainage and runoff control features shall be permitted within one hundred (100) feet of the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and within seventy-five (75) feet of the normal high-water line of any other water body, tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland. Extraction operations shall not be permitted within seventy-five (75) feet of any property line, without written permission of the owner of such adjacent property.
3. Within twelve (12) months following the completion of extraction operations at any extraction site, which operations shall be deemed complete when less than one hundred (100) cubic yards of materials are removed in any consecutive twelve (12) month period, ground levels and grades shall be established in accordance with the following:
  - a. All debris, stumps, and similar material shall be removed for disposal in an approved location, or shall be buried on-site. Only materials generated on-site may be buried or covered on-site.
  - b. The final graded slope shall be two to one (2:1) slope or flatter.

- c. Top soil or loam shall be retained to cover all disturbed land areas, which shall be reseeded and stabilized with vegetation native to the area. Additional topsoil or loam shall be obtained from off-site sources if necessary to complete the stabilization project.
- 4. In keeping with the purposes of this Ordinance, the Planning Board may impose such conditions as are necessary to minimize the adverse impacts associated with mineral extraction operations on surrounding uses and resources.

#### **N. Agriculture**

- 1. All spreading or disposal of manure shall be accomplished in conformance with the Maine Guidelines for Manure and Manure Sludge Disposal on Land published by the University of Maine Soil and Water Conservation Commission in July, 1972.
- 2. Manure shall not be stored or stockpiled within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of a great pond classified GPA, or within seventy-five (75) feet horizontal distance, of other water bodies, tributary streams, or wetlands. Within five (5) years of the effective date of this ordinance all manure storage areas within the Shoreland Zone must be constructed or modified such that the facility produces no discharge of effluent or contaminated storm water. Existing facilities which do not meet the setback requirement may remain, but must meet the no discharge provision within the above five (5) year period.
- 3. Agricultural activities involving tillage of soil greater than forty thousand (40,000) square feet in surface area, or the spreading, disposal or storage of manure within the Shoreland Zone shall require a Soil and Water Conservation Plan to be filed with the Planning Board. Non-conformance with the provisions of said plan shall be considered to be a violation of this Ordinance.
- 4. There shall be no new tilling of soil within one-hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA; within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from other water bodies; nor within twenty-five feet, horizontal distance, of tributary streams, and wetlands. Operations in existence on the effective date of this ordinance and not in conformance with this provision may be maintained.
- 5. After the effective date of this Ordinance, newly established livestock grazing areas shall not be permitted within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA; within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance of other water bodies, nor; within twenty-five (25) feet, horizontal distance, of tributary streams, and wetlands. Livestock grazing associated with ongoing farm activities, and which are not in conformance with the above setback provisions may continue, provided that such grazing is conducted in accordance with a Soil and Water Conservation Plan.

#### **O. Timber Harvesting**

1. Within the strip of land extending 75 feet inland from the normal high-water line in a shoreland area zoned for Resource Protection abutting a great pond there shall be no timber harvesting, except to remove safety hazards.
2. Except in areas as described in Paragraph 1 above, timber harvesting shall conform with the following provisions:
  - a. Selective cutting of no more than forty (40) percent of the total volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter measured at 4 1/2 feet above ground level on any lot in any ten (10) year period is permitted. In addition:
    - i. Within one-hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance of the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland, there shall be no clearcut openings and a well-distributed stand of trees and other vegetation, including existing ground cover, shall be maintained.
    - ii. At distances greater than one-hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of a great pond classified GPA, and greater than seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of other water bodies or the upland edge of a wetland, harvesting operations shall not create single clearcut openings greater than ten-thousand (10,000) square feet in the forest canopy. Where such openings exceed five-thousand (5000) square feet they shall be at least one hundred (100) feet apart. Such clearcut openings shall be included in the calculation of total volume removal. For the purposes of these standards volume may be considered to be equivalent to basal area.
  - b. No accumulation of slash shall be left within fifty (50) feet of the normal high-water line of a water body. In all other areas slash shall either be removed or disposed of in such a manner that it lies on the ground and no part thereof extends more than four (4) feet above the ground. Any debris that falls below the normal high-water line of a water body shall be removed.
  - c. Timber harvesting equipment shall not use stream channels as travel routes except when:
    - i. Surface waters are frozen; and
    - ii. The activity will not result in any ground disturbance.
  - d. All crossings of flowing water shall require a bridge or culvert, except in areas with low banks and channel beds which are composed of gravel, rock or similar hard surface which would not be eroded or otherwise damaged.
  - e. Skid trail approaches to water crossings shall be located and designed so as to prevent water runoff from directly entering the water body or tributary stream. Upon completion of timber harvesting, temporary bridges and culverts shall be removed and areas of exposed soil revegetated.

- f. Except for water crossings, skid trails and other sites where the operation of machinery used in timber harvesting results in the exposure of mineral soil shall be located such that an unscarified strip of vegetation of at least seventy-five (75) feet in width for slopes up to ten (10) percent shall be retained between the exposed mineral soil and the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland. For each ten (10) percent increase in slope, the unscarified strip shall be increased by twenty (20) feet. The provisions of this paragraph apply only to a face sloping toward the water body or wetland, provided, however, that no portion of such exposed mineral soil on a back face shall be closer than twenty five (25) feet from the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland.

#### P. Clearing of Vegetation for Development

1. Within a shoreland area zoned for Resource Protection abutting a great pond, there shall be no cutting of vegetation within the strip of land extending 75 feet, horizontal distance, inland from the normal high-water line, except to remove safety hazards.

Elsewhere, in any Resource Protection District the clearing of vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for uses expressly authorized in that district.

2. Except in areas as described in Paragraph 1, above, and except to allow for the development of permitted uses, within a strip of land extending one-hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, inland from the normal high-water line of a great pond classified GPA, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from any other water body, tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland, a buffer strip of vegetation shall be preserved as follows:
- a. There shall be no cleared opening greater than 250 square feet in the forest canopy as measured from the outer limits of the tree crown. However, a footpath not to exceed ten (10) feet in width as measured between tree trunks is permitted provided that a cleared line of sight to the water through the buffer strip is not created. Adjacent to a great pond classified GPA, or tributary flowing to a great pond classified GPA, the width of the foot path shall be limited to six (6) feet.
  - b. Selective cutting of trees within the buffer strip is permitted provided that a well distributed stand of trees and other vegetation is maintained. For the purposes of this section a "well-distributed stand of trees and other vegetation" adjacent to a great pond classified GPA or a tributary flowing to a great pond classified GPA, shall be defined as maintaining a rating score of 12 or more in any 25-foot by 25-foot square (625 square feet) area as determined by the following rating system.

Diameter of Tree at 4-1/2 feet Above Ground Level (inches)	Points
2 - 4 in.	1
4 - 12 in.	2

>12 in.

4

Adjacent to other water bodies, tributary streams, and wetlands, a "well-distributed stand of trees and other vegetation" is defined as maintaining a minimum rating score of 8 per 25-foot square area.

Note: As an example, adjacent to a great pond, if a 25-foot x 25-foot plot contains three (3) trees between 2 and 4 inches in diameter, three trees between 4 and 12 inches in diameter, and three trees over 12 inches in diameter, the rating score is:

$$(3 \times 1) + (3 \times 2) + (3 \times 4) = 21 \text{ points}$$

Thus, the 25-foot by 25-foot plot contains trees worth 21 points. Trees totaling 9 points ( $21 - 12 = 9$ ) may be removed from the plot provided that no cleared openings are created.

Notwithstanding the above provisions, no more than 40% of the total volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured at 4 1/2 feet above ground level may be removed in any ten (10) year period.

- c. In order to protect water quality and wildlife habitat, adjacent to great ponds classified GPA, and tributaries which flow to great ponds classified GPA, existing vegetation under three (3) feet in height and other ground cover shall not be removed, except to provide for a footpath or other permitted uses as described in paragraphs 2 and 2a. above.
- d. Pruning of tree branches, on the bottom 1/3 of the tree is permitted.
- e. In order to maintain a buffer strip of vegetation, when the removal of storm-damaged, diseased, unsafe, or dead trees results in the creation of cleared openings, these openings shall be replanted with native tree species unless existing new tree growth is present.

The provisions contained in paragraph 2 above shall not apply to those portions of public recreational facilities adjacent to public swimming areas. Cleared areas, however, shall be limited to the minimum area necessary.

3. At distances greater than one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from a great pond classified GPA, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of any other water body, tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland, except to allow for the development of permitted uses, there shall be permitted on any lot, in any ten (10) year period, selective cutting of not more than forty (40) percent of the volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured 4 1/2 feet above ground level. Tree removal in conjunction with the development of permitted uses shall be included in the forty (40) percent calculation. For the purposes of these standards volume may be considered to be equivalent to basal area.

In no event shall cleared openings for development, including but not limited to, principal and accessory structures, driveways and sewage disposal areas, exceed in the aggregate, 25% of the

lot area or ten thousand (10,000) square feet, whichever is greater, including land previously developed. This provision shall not apply to the General Development District.

4. Cleared openings legally in existence on the effective date of this Ordinance may be maintained, but shall not be enlarged, except as permitted by this Ordinance.
5. Fields which have reverted to primarily shrubs, trees, or other woody vegetation shall be regulated under the provisions of this section.

#### **Q. Erosion and Sedimentation Control**

1. All activities which involve filling, grading, excavation or other similar activities which result in unstabilized soil conditions and which require a permit shall require a written soil erosion and sedimentation control plan. The plan shall be submitted to the permitting authority for approval and shall include, where applicable, provisions for:
  - a. Mulching and revegetation of disturbed soil.
  - b. Temporary runoff control features such as hay bales, silt fencing or diversion ditches.
  - c. Permanent stabilization structures such as retaining walls or riprap.
2. In order to create the least potential for erosion, development shall be designed to fit with the topography and soils of the site. Areas of steep slopes where high cuts and fills may be required shall be avoided wherever possible, and natural contours shall be followed as closely as possible.
3. Erosion and sedimentation control measures shall apply to all aspects of the proposed project involving land disturbance, and shall be in operation during all stages of the activity. The amount of exposed soil at every phase of construction shall be minimized to reduce the potential for erosion.
4. Any exposed ground area shall be temporarily or permanently stabilized within one (1) week from the time it was last actively worked, by use of riprap, sod, seed, and mulch, or other effective measures. In all cases permanent stabilization shall occur within nine (9) months of the initial date of exposure. In addition:
  - a. Where mulch is used, it shall be applied at a rate of at least one (1) bale per five hundred (500) square feet and shall be maintained until a catch of vegetation is established.
  - b. Anchoring the mulch with netting, peg and twine or other suitable method may be required to maintain the mulch cover.
  - c. Additional measures shall be taken where necessary in order to avoid siltation into the water. Such measures may include the use of staked hay bales and/or silt fences.



5. Natural and man-made drainage ways and drainage outlets shall be protected from erosion from water flowing through them. Drainage ways shall be designed and constructed in order to carry water from a twenty five (25) year storm or greater, and shall be stabilized with vegetation or lined with rip-rap.

#### **R. Soils**

All land uses shall be located on soils in or upon which the proposed uses or structures can be established or maintained without causing adverse environmental impacts, including severe erosion, mass soil movement, improper drainage, and water pollution, whether during or after construction. Proposed uses requiring subsurface waste disposal, and commercial or industrial development and other similar intensive land uses, shall require a soils report based on an on-site investigation and be prepared by state-certified professionals. Certified persons may include Maine Certified Soil Scientists, Maine Registered Professional Engineers, Maine State Certified Geologists and other persons who have training and experience in the recognition and evaluation of soil properties. The report shall be based upon the analysis of the characteristics of the soil and surrounding land and water areas, maximum ground water elevation, presence of ledge, drainage conditions, and other pertinent data which the evaluator deems appropriate. The soils report shall include recommendations for a proposed use to counteract soil limitations where they exist.

#### **S. Water Quality**

No activity shall deposit on or into the ground or discharge to the waters of the State any pollutant that, by itself or in combination with other activities or substances will impair designated uses or the water classification of the water body.

#### **T. Archaeological Sites**

Any proposed land use activity involving structural development or soil disturbance on or adjacent to sites listed on, or eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by the permitting authority shall be submitted by the applicant to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission for review and comment, at least twenty (20) days prior to action being taken by the permitting authority. The permitting authority shall consider comments received from the Commission prior to rendering a decision on the application.

### **Section 16. Administration**

#### **A. Administering Bodies and Agents**

1. Code Enforcement Officer

A Code Enforcement Officer shall be appointed or reappointed annually by July 1st.

2. Board of Appeals

A Board of Appeals shall be created in accordance with the provisions of Title 30-A Section 2691.

3. Planning Board

A Planning Board shall be created in accordance with the provisions of State law.

## **B. Permits Required**

After the effective date of this Ordinance no person shall, without first obtaining a permit, engage in any activity or use of land or structure requiring a permit in the district in which such activity or use would occur; or expand, change, or replace an existing use or structure; or renew a discontinued nonconforming use.

## **C. Permit Application**

1. Every applicant for a permit shall submit a written application, including a scaled site plan, on a form provided by the Town, to the appropriate official as indicated in Section 14.
2. All applications shall be signed by the owner or owners of the property or other person authorizing the work, certifying that the information in the application is complete and correct. If the person signing the application is not the owner or lessee of the property then that person shall submit a letter of authorization from the owner or lessee.
3. All applications shall be dated, and the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as appropriate, shall note upon each application the date and time of its receipt.
4. If the property is not served by a public sewer, a valid plumbing permit or a completed application for a plumbing permit, including the site evaluation approved by the Plumbing Inspector, shall be submitted whenever the nature of the proposed structure would require the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system.

## **D. Procedure for Administering Permits**

Within 35 days of the date of receiving a written application, the Planning Board or Code Enforcement Officer, as indicated in Section 14, shall notify the applicant in writing either that the application is a complete application, or, if the application is incomplete, that specified additional material is needed to make the application complete. The Planning Board or the Code Enforcement Officer, as appropriate, shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny all permit applications in writing within 35 days of receiving a completed application. However, if the Planning Board has a waiting list of applications, a decision on the application shall occur within 35 days after the first available date on the Planning Board's agenda following receipt of the completed application, or within 35 days of the public hearing, if one is held.

Permits shall be approved if the proposed use or structure is found to be in conformance with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance.

The applicant shall have the burden of proving that the proposed land use activity is in conformity with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance.

After the submission of a complete application to the Planning Board, the Board shall approve an application or approve it with conditions if it makes a positive finding based on the information presented that the proposed use:

1. Will maintain safe and healthful conditions,
2. Will not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters,
3. Will adequately provide for the disposal of all wastewater,
4. Will not have an adverse impact on spawning grounds, fish, aquatic life, bird or other wildlife habitat,
5. Will conserve shore cover and visual, as well as actual, points of access to inland waters,
6. Will protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the comprehensive plan,
7. Will avoid problems associated with flood plain development and use, and
8. Is in conformance with the provisions of Section 15, Land Use Standards.

If a permit is either denied or approved with conditions, the reasons as well as conditions shall be stated in writing.

No approval shall be granted for an application involving a structure if the structure would be located in an unapproved subdivision or would violate any other local ordinance or regulation or any State law which the Town is responsible for enforcing.

#### **E. Expiration of Permit**

Following the issuance of a permit, if no substantial start is made in construction or in the use of the property within one year of the date of the permit, the permit shall lapse and become void.

#### **F. Installation of Public Utility Service**

No public utility, water district, sanitary district or any utility company of any kind may install services to any new structure located in the Shoreland Zone unless written authorization attesting to the validity and currency of all local permits required under this or any previous Ordinance, has been issued by the appropriate municipal officials. Following installation of service, the company or district shall forward the written authorization to the municipal officials, indicating that installation has been completed.

#### **G. Appeals**

##### **1. Powers and Duties of the Board of Appeals**

The Board of Appeals shall have the following powers:

- a. Administrative Appeals: To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by, or failure to act by, the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board in the administration of this Ordinance.
- b. Variance Appeals: To authorize variances upon appeal, within the limitations set forth in this Ordinance.

## 2. Variance Appeals

Variances may be permitted only under the following conditions:

- a. Variances may be granted only from dimensional requirements including but not limited to, lot width, structure height, percent of lot coverage, and setback requirements.
- b. Variances shall not be granted for establishment of any uses otherwise prohibited by this Ordinance.
- c. The Board shall not grant a variance unless it finds that:
  - (1) The proposed structure or use would meet the provisions of Section 15 except for the specific provision which has created the non-conformity and from which relief is sought; and
  - (2) The strict application of the terms of this Ordinance would result in undue hardship.

The term "undue hardship" shall mean:

- (i) That the land in question cannot yield a reasonable return unless a variance is granted;
  - (ii) That the need for a variance is due to the unique circumstances of the property and not to the general conditions in the neighborhood;
  - (iii) That the granting of a variance will not alter the essential character of the locality; and
  - (iv) That the hardship is not the result of action taken by the applicant or a prior owner.
- d. The Board of Appeals shall limit any variances granted as strictly as possible in order to insure conformance with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance to the greatest extent possible, and in doing so may impose such conditions to a variance as it deems necessary. The party receiving the variance shall comply with any conditions imposed.
  - e. A copy of all variances granted by the Board of Appeals shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection within fourteen (14) days of the decision.

### 3. Appeal Procedure

#### a. Making an Appeal

- (1) An administrative or variance appeal may be taken to the Board of Appeals by an aggrieved party from any decision of the Code Enforcement Officer or the Planning Board, except that enforcement action for violations of this ordinance or any permit issued pursuant to this ordinance by the code enforcement officer is not appealable to the Board of Appeals. Said administrative or variance appeal shall be taken within thirty (30) days of the date of the decision appealed from, and not otherwise, except that the Board, upon a showing of good cause, may waive the thirty (30) day requirement.
- (2) Such appeal shall be made by filing with the Board of Appeals a written notice of appeal which includes:
  - (i) A concise written statement indicating what relief is requested and why it should be granted.
  - (ii) A sketch drawn to scale showing lot lines, location of existing buildings and structures and other physical features of the lot pertinent to the relief sought.
- (3) Upon being notified of an appeal, the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as appropriate, shall transmit to the Board of Appeals all of the papers constituting the record of the decision appealed from.
- (4) The Board of Appeals shall hold a public hearing on the appeal within thirty-five (35) days of its receipt of an appeal request.

#### b. Decision by Board of Appeals

- (1) A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of deciding an appeal. A member who abstains shall not be counted in determining whether a quorum exists.
- (2) The concurring vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Appeals present and voting shall be necessary to reverse an order, requirement, decision, or determination of the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, or to decide in favor of the applicant on any matter on which it is required to decide under this Ordinance, or to affect any variation in the application of this Ordinance from its stated terms. The board may reverse the decision, or failure to act, of the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board only upon a finding that the decision, or failure to act, was clearly contrary to specific provisions of this Ordinance.
- (3) The person filing the appeal shall have the burden of proof.

- (4) The Board shall decide all appeals within thirty five (35) days after the close of the hearing, and shall issue a written decision on all appeals.
- (5) All decisions shall become a part of the record and shall include a statement of findings and conclusions as well as the reasons or basis therefor, and the appropriate order, relief or denial thereof.

#### **4. Appeal to Superior Court**

Any aggrieved party who participated as a party during the proceedings before the Board of Appeals may take an appeal to Superior Court in accordance with State laws within thirty (30) days from the date of any decision of the Board of Appeals.

#### **5. Reconsideration**

The Board of Appeals may reconsider any decision within thirty (30) days of its prior decision. The Board may conduct additional hearings and receive additional evidence and testimony.

### **VI. Enforcement**

#### **1. Nuisances**

Any violation of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a nuisance.

#### **2. Code Enforcement Officer**

- a. It shall be the duty of the Code Enforcement Officer to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. If the Code Enforcement Officer shall find that any provision of this Ordinance is being violated, he or she shall notify in writing the person responsible for such violation, indicating the nature of the violation and ordering the action necessary to correct it, including discontinuance of illegal use of land, buildings or structures, or work being done, removal of illegal buildings or structures, and abatement of nuisance conditions. A copy of such notices shall be submitted to the municipal officers and be maintained as a permanent record.
- b. The Code Enforcement Officer shall conduct on-site inspections to insure compliance with all applicable laws and conditions attached to permit approvals. The Code Enforcement Officer shall also investigate all complaints of alleged violations of this Ordinance.
- c. The Code Enforcement Officer shall keep a complete record of all essential transactions of the office, including applications submitted, permits granted or denied, variances granted or denied, revocation actions, revocation of permits, appeals, court actions, violations investigated, violations found, and fees collected. On an biennial basis, a summary of this

record shall be submitted to the Director of the Bureau of Land Quality Control within the Department of Environmental Protection.

### 3. Legal Actions

When the above action does not result in the correction or abatement of the violation or nuisance condition, the Municipal Officers, upon notice from the Code Enforcement Officer, are hereby directed to institute any and all actions and proceedings, either legal or equitable, including seeking injunctions of violations and the imposition of fines, that may be appropriate or necessary to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance in the name of the Town of Mapleton. The municipal officers, or their authorized agent, are hereby authorized to enter into administrative consent agreements for the purpose of eliminating violations of this Ordinance and recovering fines without Court action. Such agreements shall not allow an illegal structure or use to continue unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the illegal structure or use was constructed or conducted as a direct result of erroneous advice given by an authorized municipal official and there is no evidence that the owner acted in bad faith, or unless the removal of the structure or use will result in a threat or hazard to public health and safety or will result in substantial environmental damage.

### 4. Fines

Any person, including but not limited to a landowner, a landowner's agent or a contractor, who orders or conducts any activity in violation of this Ordinance shall be penalized in accordance with Title 30-A, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 4452.

## Section 17. Definitions

**Accessory Structure or Use** - a use or structure which is incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure. Accessory uses, when aggregated shall not subordinate the principal use of the lot. A deck or similar extension of the principal structure or a garage attached to the principal structure by a roof or a common wall is considered part of the principal structure.

**Agriculture** - the production, keeping or maintenance for sale or lease, of plants and/or animals, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; dairy animals and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock; fruits and vegetables; and ornamental and green house products. Agriculture does not include forest management and timber harvesting activities.

**Aggrieved Party** - an owner of land whose property is directly or indirectly affected by the granting or denial of a permit or variance under this Ordinance; a person whose land abuts land for which a permit or variance has been granted; or any other person or group of persons who have suffered particularized injury as a result of the granting or denial of such permit or variance.

**Aquaculture** - the growing or propagation of harvestable freshwater, estuarine, or marine plant or animal species.

**Boat Launching Facility** - a facility designed primarily for the launching and landing of watercraft, and which may include an access ramp, docking area, and parking spaces for vehicles and trailers.

**Campground** - any area or tract of land to accommodate two (2) or more parties in temporary living quarters, including, but not limited to tents, recreational vehicles or other shelters.

**Commercial Use** - the use of lands, buildings, or structures, other than a "home occupation," defined below, the intent and result of which activity is the production of income from the buying and selling of goods and/or services, exclusive of rental of residential buildings and/or dwelling units.

**Dimensional Requirements** - numerical standards relating to spatial relationships including but not limited to setback, lot area, shore frontage and height.

**Driveway** - a vehicular access-way less than five hundred (500) feet in length serving two lots or less.

**Emergency Operations** - operations conducted for the public health, safety or general welfare, such as protection of resources from immediate destruction or loss, law enforcement, and operations to rescue human beings, property and livestock from the threat of destruction or injury.

**Essential Services** - the construction, alteration or maintenance of gas, electrical or communication facilities; steam, fuel, electric power or water transmission or distribution lines, towers and related equipment; telephone cables or lines, poles and related equipment; gas, oil, water, slurry or other similar pipelines; municipal sewage lines, collection or supply systems; and associated storage tanks. Such systems may include towers, poles, wires, mains, drains, pipes, conduits, cables, fire alarms and police call boxes, traffic signals, hydrants and similar accessories, but shall not include service drops or buildings which are necessary for the furnishing of such services.

**Expansion of a Structure** - an increase in the floor area or volume of a structure, including all extensions such as, but not limited to attached: decks, garages, porches and greenhouses.

**Expansion of Use** - the addition of weeks or months to a use's operating season; additional hours of operation; or the use of more floor area or ground area devoted to a particular use.

**Family** - one or more persons occupying a premises and living as a single housekeeping unit.

**Floor Area** - the sum of the horizontal areas of the floor(s) of a structure enclosed by exterior walls, plus the horizontal area of any unenclosed portions of a structure such as porches and decks.

**Forest Management Activities** - timber cruising and other forest resource evaluation activities, pesticide or fertilizer application, management planning activities, timber stand improvement, pruning, regeneration of forest stands, and other similar or associated activities, exclusive of timber harvesting and the construction, creation or maintenance of roads.

**Foundation** - the supporting substructure of a building or other structure including but not limited to basements, slabs, sills, posts or frostwalls.



**Freshwater Wetland** - freshwater swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas which are:

1. of ten or more contiguous acres; or of less than 10 contiguous acres and adjacent to a surface water body, excluding any river, stream or brook such that in a natural state, the combined surface area is in excess of 10 acres; and
2. Inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and for a duration sufficient to support, and which under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of wetland vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils.

Freshwater wetlands may contain small stream channels or inclusions of land that do not conform to the criteria of this definition.

**Functionally Water-Dependent Uses** - those uses that require, for their primary purpose, location on submerged lands or that require direct access to, or location in, inland waters and which cannot be located away from these waters. The uses include, but are not limited to commercial and recreational fishing and boating facilities, retail and wholesale fish marketing facilities, waterfront dock and facilities, marinas, navigation aides, basins and channels, industrial uses dependent upon water-borne transportation or requiring large volumes of cooling or processing water and which cannot reasonably be located or operated at an inland site.

**Great Pond** - any inland body of water which in a natural state has a surface area in excess of ten acres, and any inland body of water artificially formed or increased which has a surface area in excess of thirty (30) acres except for the purposes of this Ordinance, where the artificially formed or increased inland body of water is completely surrounded by land held by a single owner.

**Great Pond Classified GPA** - any great pond classified GPA, pursuant to Title 38 Article 4-A Section 465-A. This classification includes some, but not all impoundments of rivers that are defined as great ponds.

**Height of a Structure** - the vertical distance between the mean original grade at the downhill side of the structure and the highest point of the structure, excluding chimneys, steeples, antennas, and similar appurtenances which have no floor area.

**Home Occupation** - an occupation or profession which is customarily conducted on or in a residential structure or property and which is 1) clearly incidental to and compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding residential uses; and 2) which employs no more than two (2) persons other than family members residing in the home.

**Individual Private Campsite** - an area of land which is not associated with a campground, but which is developed for repeated camping by only one group not to exceed ten (10) individuals and which involves site improvements which may include but not be limited to gravel pads, parking areas, fire places, or tent platforms.

**Industrial** - The assembling, fabrication, finishing, manufacturing, packaging or processing of goods, or the extraction of minerals.

**Lot Area** - The area of land enclosed within the boundary lines of a lot, minus land below the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland and areas beneath roads serving more than two lots.

**Marina** - a business establishment having frontage on navigable water and, as its principal use, providing for hire offshore moorings or docking facilities for boats, and which may also provide accessory services such as boat and related sales, boat repair and construction, indoor and outdoor storage of boats and marine equipment, boat and tackle shops and marine fuel service facilities.

**Market Value** - the estimated price a property will bring in the open market and under prevailing market conditions in a sale between a willing seller and a willing buyer, both conversant with the property and with prevailing general price levels.

**Minimum Lot Width** - the closest distance between the side lot lines of a lot.

**Mineral Exploration** - hand sampling, test boring, or other methods of determining the nature or extent of mineral resources which create minimal disturbance to the land and which include reasonable measures to restore the land to its original condition.

**Mineral Extraction** - any operation within any twelve (12) month period which removes more than one hundred (100) cubic yards of soil, topsoil, loam, sand, gravel, clay, rock, peat, or other like material from its natural location and to transport the product removed, away from the extraction site.

**Multi-Unit Residential** - a residential structure containing three (3) or more residential dwelling units.

**Non-Conforming Lot** - a single lot of record which, at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Ordinance, does not meet the area, frontage, or width requirements of the district in which it is located.

**Non-Conforming Structure** - a structure which does not meet any one or more of the following dimensional requirements; setback, height, or lot coverage, but which is allowed solely because it was in lawful existence at the time this Ordinance or subsequent amendments took effect.

**Non-Conforming Use** - use of buildings, structures, premises, land or parts thereof which is not permitted in the district in which it is situated, but which is allowed to remain solely because it was in lawful existence at the time this Ordinance or subsequent amendments took effect.

**Normal High-Water Line** - that line which is apparent from visible markings, changes in the character of soils due to prolonged action of the water or changes in vegetation, and which distinguishes between predominantly aquatic and predominantly terrestrial land. In the case of wetlands adjacent to rivers and great ponds, the normal high-water line is the upland edge of the wetland, and not the edge of the open water.

**Person** - an individual, corporation, governmental agency, municipality, trust, estate, partnership, association, two or more individuals having a joint or common interest, or other legal entity.

**Piers, docks, wharfs, bridges and other structures and uses extending over or beyond the normal high-water line or within a wetland-**

Temporary: Structures which remain in or over the water for less than seven (7) months in any period of twelve (12) consecutive months.

Permanent: Structures which remain in or over the water for seven (7) months or more in any period of twelve (12) consecutive months.

**Principal Structure** - a building other than one which is used for purposes wholly incidental or accessory to the use of another building or use on the same premises.

**Principal Use** - a use other than one which is wholly incidental or accessory to another use on the same premises.

**Public Facility** - any facility, including, but not limited to, buildings, property, recreation areas, and roads, which are owned, leased, or otherwise operated, or funded by a governmental body or public entity.

**Recent Flood Plain Soils** - the following soil series as described and identified by the National Cooperative Soil Survey:

Alluvial	Cornish	Charles
Fryeburg	Hadley	Limerick
Lovewell	Medomak	Ondawa
Podunk	Rumney	Saco
Suncook	Sunday	Winooski

**Recreational Facility** - a place designed and equipped for the conduct of sports, leisure time activities, and other customary and usual recreational activities, excluding boat launching facilities.

**Recreational Vehicle** - a vehicle or an attachment to a vehicle designed to be towed, and designed for temporary sleeping or living quarters for one or more persons, and which may include a pick-up camper, travel trailer, tent trailer, camp trailer, and motor home. In order to be considered as a vehicle and not as a structure, the unit must remain with its tires on the ground, and must be registered with the State Division of Motor Vehicles.

**Replacement System** - a system intended to replace: 1.) an existing system which is either malfunctioning or being upgraded with no significant change of design flow or use of the structure, or 2.) any existing overboard wastewater discharge.

**Residential Dwelling Unit** - a room or group of rooms designed and equipped exclusively for use as permanent, seasonal, or temporary living quarters for only one family. The term shall include mobile homes, but not recreational vehicles.

**Riprap** - rocks, irregularly shaped, and at least six (6) inches in diameter, used for erosion control and soil stabilization, typically used on ground slopes of two (2) units horizontal to one (1) unit vertical or less.

**River** - a free-flowing body of water including its associated flood plain wetlands from that point at which it provides drainage for a watershed of twenty five (25) square miles to its mouth.

**Road** - a route or track consisting of a bed of exposed mineral soil, gravel, asphalt, or other surfacing material constructed for or created by the repeated passage of motorized vehicles.

**Service Drop** - any utility line extension which does not cross or run beneath any portion of a water body provided that:

1. in the case of electric service
  - a. the placement of wires and/or the installation of utility poles is located entirely upon the premises of the customer requesting service or upon a roadway right-of-way; and
  - b. the total length of the extension is less than one thousand (1,000) feet.
2. in the case of telephone service
  - a. the extension, regardless of length, will be made by the installation of telephone wires to existing utility poles, or
  - b. the extension requiring the installation of new utility poles or placement underground is less than one thousand (1,000) feet in length.

**Setback** - the nearest horizontal distance from the normal high-water line to the nearest part of a structure, road, parking space or other regulated object or area.

**Shore Frontage** - the length of a lot bordering on a water body measured in a straight line between the intersections of the lot lines with the shoreline at normal high-water elevation.

**Shoreland Zone** - the land area located within two hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any great pond, river; within 250 feet of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland; or within seventy-five (75) feet of the normal high-water line of a stream.

**Structure** - anything built for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, goods or property of any kind, together with anything constructed or erected with a fixed location on or in the ground, exclusive of fences. The term includes structures temporarily or permanently located, such as decks and satellite dishes.

**Substantial Start** - completion of thirty (30) percent of a permitted structure or use measured as a percentage of estimated total cost.

**Subsurface Sewage Disposal System** - a collection of treatment tank(s), disposal area(s), holding tank(s) and pond(s), surface spray system(s), cesspool(s), well(s), surface ditch(es), alternative toilet(s), or other devices and associated piping designed to function as a unit for the purpose of disposing of wastes or wastewater on or beneath the surface of the earth. The term shall not include any wastewater discharge system licensed under 38 MRSA Section 414, any surface wastewater disposal system licensed under 38 MRSA Section 413 Subsection 1-A, or any public sewer. The term shall not include a wastewater disposal system designed to treat wastewater which is in whole or in part hazardous waste as defined in 38 MRSA Chapter 13, subchapter 1.

**Sustained Slope** - a change in elevation where the referenced percent grade is substantially maintained or exceeded throughout the measured area.

**Timber Harvesting** - the cutting and removal of trees from their growing site, and the attendant operation of cutting and skidding machinery but not the construction or creation of roads. Timber harvesting does not include the clearing of land for approved construction.

**Tributary** - any free-flowing body of water as depicted on the most recent edition of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute series topographic map, to the point where the body of water enters the shoreland zone of another water body which is subject to this ordinance. This includes any free-flowing, perennial body of water that enters Hanson Lake whether depicted on the aforementioned map or not.

**Tributary Stream** - a channel between defined banks created by the action of surface water, whether intermittent or perennial, and which is characterized by the lack of upland vegetation or presence of aquatic vegetation and by the presence of a bed devoid of topsoil containing waterborne deposits on exposed soil, parent material or bedrock, and which flows to a water body or wetland as defined. This definition does not include the term "tributary" as defined elsewhere in this Ordinance, and only applies to that portion of the tributary stream located within the Shoreland Zone of the receiving water body or wetland.

**Upland Edge** - the boundary between upland and wetland.

**Vegetation** - all live trees, shrubs, ground cover, and other plants including without limitation, trees both over and under 4 inches in diameter, measured at 4 1/2 above ground level.

**Volume of a Structure** - the volume of all portions of a structure enclosed by roof and fixed exterior walls as measured from the exterior faces of these walls and roof.

**Water Body** - any great pond, river, or stream.

**Water Crossing** - any project extending from one bank to the opposite bank of a river or stream, whether under, through, or over the water course. Such projects include but may not be limited to roads, fords, bridges, culverts, water lines, sewer lines, and cables as well as maintenance work on these crossings.

**Wetland** - a freshwater wetland.

**Wetlands Associated with Great Ponds and Rivers** - wetlands contiguous with or adjacent to a great pond or river, and which during normal high water, are connected by surface water to the great pond or river. Also included are wetlands which are separated from the great pond or river by a berm, causeway, or similar feature less than 100 feet in width, and which have a surface elevation at or below the normal high water line of the great pond or river. Wetlands associated with great ponds or rivers are considered to be part of that great pond or river.

# APPENDICES

**APPENDIX A**  
**Official Shoreland Zoning Map**



**APPENDIX B**  
**Freshwater Wetlands Map**

# Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

For The Town Of

## Mapleton

