

ARTICLE 9.00

Performance Standards

Section 9.01 Intent and Scope of Application

A. Intent

The purpose of this Article is to establish controls on the impacts generated by permitted uses so as to prevent an unreasonable negative impact that might interfere with another person's use of his or her property, or that might cause harm to the public health safety, and welfare.

B. Scope of Application

After the effective date of this Ordinance, no structure or tract of land shall hereafter be used, created or occupied, and no structure, or part thereof, shall be erected, altered, reconstructed, or moved, except in conformity with all applicable performance standards set forth in this Article. No site plan or other land use or development application shall be approved unless evidence is presented to indicate conformity with the requirements of this Article.

C. Submission of Additional Data

Nothing in this Article shall preclude the applicant or other interested party from submitting additional data or evidence related to a specific case. In consideration of such data or evidence, the Planning Commission may waive or modify the regulations set forth in this Article, provided that the Planning Commission finds that no harm to the public health, safety and welfare will result and that the intent of this Ordinance will be upheld.

Section 9.02 Performance Standards

No activity, operation or use of land, buildings, or equipment shall be permitted if such activity, operation, or use produces an environmental impact or irritant to sensory perception which exceeds the standards set forth in this Section. Agricultural operations are exempt from these performance standards provided the agricultural operation is in compliance with Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPs).

A. Noise

1. Definitions

The terms used in this section shall have the meaning ascribed to them as follows. Terms used in this section but not defined below or in Section 1.03 shall have the meaning ascribed to them by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or its successor body.

- a. *A-Weighted Sound Level*: The sound pressure level in decibels as measured on a sound level meter using the A-weighting network. The level so read may be designated dB(A).
- b. *Day-Night Average Sound Level*: The 24-hour energy average of the A-weighted sound pressure level, with the levels during the period of 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. the following day increased by 10 dB(A) before averaging.
- c. *Emergency*: Any occurrence or set of circumstances involving actual or imminent physical trauma or property damage which demands immediate attention.
- d. *Impulsive Sound*: Sound of short duration, usually less than one second, with an abrupt onset and rapid decay. Examples of sources of impulsive sound include explosions, drop forge impacts, and discharge of firearms.
- e. *Noise*: Any sound which annoys or disturbs humans or which causes or tends to cause an adverse psychological or physiological effect on humans.

- f. *Noise Disturbance*: Any sound which (a) endangers or injures the safety or health of humans or animals, or (b) annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivities, or (c) endangers or injures personal or real property. For the purposes of this ordinance, a Noise Disturbance shall be further defined as any sound which exceeds the limits set forth in Table A, following, or other standards set forth in this section.
- g. *Noise Sensitive Zone*: An area which contains noise-sensitive activities such as but not limited to, operations of school libraries, churches, hospitals, and nursing homes.
- h. *Pure Tone*: Any sound which can be distinctly heard as a single pitch or a set of single pitches.
- i. *Sound*: An oscillation in pressure, particle displacement, particle velocity or other physical parameter, in a medium with internal forces that causes compression and rarefaction of that medium.
- j. *Sound Level*: The weighted sound pressure level obtained by the use of a sound level meter and frequency weighing network (for the purposes of this ordinance an A-weighted network), as specified by the American National Standards Institute.
- k. *Vibration*: An oscillatory motion of solid bodies of deterministic or random nature described by displacement, velocity, or acceleration with respect to a given reference point.

2. Noise Disturbances Prohibited

No person shall unreasonably make, continue, or cause to be made or continued, any noise disturbance. Examples of noise disturbances include, but are not limited to:

- a. *Sounds Which Exceed Limits in Table A*. Any sound which exceeds the limits set forth in Table A, following, shall be deemed a Noise Disturbance.
- b. *Loading and Unloading*. Loading and unloading, opening, closing, or other handling of boxes, crates, containers, building materials, garbage cans, or similar objects shall be prohibited between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance across a residential district boundary or within a noise sensitive zone.
- c. *Construction*. Operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, drilling, or demolition work shall be prohibited where the sound therefrom creates a noise disturbance across a residential district boundary or within a noise sensitive zone, between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Monday through Saturday or any time on Sundays or holidays. This provision shall not apply to emergency work of public service utilities.
- d. *Vibration*. Operating of any device that creates vibration which is above the vibration perception threshold of an individual at or beyond the property of the source shall be prohibited. For the purposes of this section, vibration perception threshold means the minimum ground or structure-borne vibrational motion necessary to cause a normal person to be aware of the vibration by such direct means as, but not limited to, sensation by touch or observation of moving objects.
- e. *Noise Sensitive Zones*. Creating of any sound within any noise sensitive zone so as to disrupt the activities normally conducted within the zone shall be prohibited, even if the average A-weighted sound level is lower than the values shown in Table A, provided that conspicuous signs are displayed indicating the presence of the zone.

3. Exceptions

- a. *Emergency Exceptions*. The provisions in this section shall not apply to (a) the emission of sound for the purpose of alerting persons to existence of an emergency, or (b) the emission of sound in the performance of emergency work.
- b. *Additional Exceptions*. The provisions in this section shall not apply to the following activities, provided that such activities are conducted in a legally-accepted manner:
 - Snow plowing, street sweeping, and other public works activities.
 - Agricultural uses.
 - Church bells, chimes, and carillons.
 - Lawn care and house maintenance that occurs between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

- Licensed vehicles being operated on a road or street.
- Trains and aircraft when on the ground.

4. Variances

An application for a variance from the provisions in this section may be submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The owner or operator of equipment on the property shall submit a statement regarding the effects of sound from the equipment on the overall sound level in the area. The statement shall include a study of the background sound levels, predicted level of sound at the boundary line due to the proposed operation, and justification for the variance. Upon review of the request for a variance, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a variance where strict adherence to the permitted sound level would create unnecessary hardship and only if the variance would not create a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The Zoning Board of Appeals may impose conditions of operation when granting a variance.

5. Maximum Permitted Sound Levels by Receiving Zoning District

Sound emitted by any source is considered a Noise Disturbance when its average A-weighted sound level exceeds the limit set forth for the receiving zoning district in Table A, when measured at or within the property boundary of the receiving district. All measurements and designations of sound levels shall be expressed in day-night average sound levels.

Table A		
Maximum Permitted Average A-Weighted Sound Levels		
Receiving Zoning District	Time	Average Sound Level dB(A)
Residential Districts	7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.	55
	9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	50
Commercial, Office, and Industrial Districts	7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	62
	6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	55

Notes Related to Table A

- a. Correction for Tonal Sounds.** For any source of sound which emits a pure tone sound, the maximum sound level limits in Table A shall be reduced by 5 dB(A) where the receiving district is residential or commercial-noise sensitive.
- b. Correction for Impulsive or Impact-Type Sounds.** For any source of sound which emits an atypical impulsive or impact-type sound, the maximum sound level limits in Table A shall be reduced by 5 dB(A) where the receiving district is residential or commercial-noise sensitive.
- c. Planned Development.** Where the receiving district is a planned development district, the applicable standard in Table A shall be based on the types of uses within the planned development.

6. Permitted Land Use

No new or substantially modified structure shall be approved for construction unless the owner or developer of such land demonstrates that the completed structure and the activities associated with and on the same property as the structure will not generate a Noise Disturbance as set forth in this section at the time of initial full-scale operation of such activities.

B. Surface Water Flow

No site plan review application and no proposal for division of land shall be approved if subsequent development within the required setbacks would result in identifiable disruption to the existing or natural flow of water within drainage ditches, natural water courses, or drains having a recorded easement, unless evidence of a feasible alternate method of drainage is presented and approved by the County Drain Commissioner.

C. Dust, Smoke, Soot, Dirt, Fly Ash and Products of Wind Erosion

Dust, smoke, soot, dirt, fly ash, and products of wind erosion shall be subject to the regulations established in conjunction with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Michigan Public Act 451 of 1994, as amended, or other applicable state or federal regulations. No person, firm or corporation shall operate or maintain any process for any purpose, or furnace or combustion device for the burning of coal or other natural or synthetic fuels, unless such processes or devices use or are equipped with recognized and approved equipment, methods, or technology to reduce the quantity of gas-borne or airborne solids or fumes emitted into the open air.

The drifting of air-borne matter beyond the lot line, including wind-blown dust, particles or debris from open stock piles, shall be prohibited. Emission of particulate matter from material products, or surfaces subject to wind erosion shall be controlled by paving, oiling, wetting, covering, landscaping, fencing, or other means.

D. Odor

Offensive, noxious, or foul odors shall not be allowed to escape into the atmosphere in concentrations which are offensive, which produce a public nuisance or hazard on adjoining property, or which could be detrimental to human, plant, or animal life.

E. Glare and Heat

Any operation or activity which produces glare shall be conducted so that direct and indirect illumination from the source of light does not exceed one-half (1/2) of one (1) foot candle when measured at any point along the property line of the site on which the operation is located. Any operation which produces intense glare or heat shall be conducted within an enclosure so as to completely obscure and shield such operation from direct view from any point along the lot lines. If heat is a result of an industrial operation, it shall be so insulated as to not raise the temperature at any property line at any time.

F. Impacts from Other Activities

Proper owners shall provide the Township with evidence of compliance with county, state and federal laws, ordinances, rules and regulations related to any of the following activities:

1. Storage and handling of flammable liquids, liquefied petroleum, and explosives.
2. Use of above or below ground storage tanks to contain flammable or toxic material.
3. The storage, use or manufacture of detonable material.
4. Operation of a waste water treatment plant.
5. Emission of gasses that could be injurious or destructive to life or property.
6. Use of electronic equipment in an industrial, commercial or other operation.
7. Use of radioactive material and production of radioactive waste.

Section 9.03 Procedures for Determining Compliance

In the event that the Township receives complaints or otherwise acquires evidence of possible violation of any of the performance standards set forth in this Article, the following procedures shall be used to investigate, and if necessary, resolve the violation:

A. Official Investigation

Upon receipt of evidence of possible violation, the Zoning Administrator shall make a determination whether there is reasonable cause to suspect the operation is indeed in violation of the performance standards. The Zoning Administrator may initiate an official investigation in order to make such a determination.

Upon initiation of an official investigation, the Zoning Administrator is empowered to require the owner or operator of the facility in question to submit data and evidence deemed necessary to make an objective determination regarding the possible violation. Failure of the owner or operator to supply requested data shall constitute grounds for taking legal action to terminate the use and/or deny or cancel any permits required for continued use of the land. Data which may be required includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Plans of the existing or proposed facilities, including buildings and equipment.

2. A description of the existing or proposed machinery, processes, and products.
3. Specifications for the mechanisms and techniques used or proposed to be used to control emissions regulated under the provisions of this Article.
4. Measurement of the amount or rate of emissions of the material purported to be in violation.

B. Method and Cost of Determination

The Zoning Administrator shall take measurements and complete investigation necessary to make an objective determination concerning the purported violation. Where required measurements and investigation can be accurately made by the Zoning Administrator using equipment and personnel normally available to the Township without extraordinary expense, such measurements and investigation shall be completed before notice of violation is issued. If necessary, skilled personnel and spec equipment or instruments shall be secured in order to make the required determination.

If the alleged violation is found to exist in fact, the costs of making such determination shall be charged against those responsible, in addition to such other penalties as may be appropriate. If it is determined that no substantive violation exists then the costs of this determination shall be paid by the Township.

C. Appropriate Remedies

If, after appropriate investigation, the Zoning Administrator determines that a violation does exist, the Zoning Administrator shall take or cause to be taken lawful action as provided by this Ordinance to eliminate such violation. The owners or operators of the facility deemed response shall be given written notice of the violation. The Zoning Administrator shall take appropriate action in accordance with the owner or operator's response to the notice of violation. Appropriate action includes the following:

1. Correction of Violation within Time Limit

If the alleged violation is corrected within the specified time limit, even if there is no reply to the notice, the Zoning Administrator shall note "Violation Corrected" on the Township's copy of the notice, and the notice shall be retained on file. If necessary, the Zoning Administrator may take other action as may be warranted by the circumstances of the case, pursuant to the regulations in this and other ordinances.

2. Violation Not Corrected and No Reply from Owner or Operator

If there is no reply from the owner or operator within the specified time limits (thus establishing admission of violation, as provided Section 9.03, sub-section A), and the alleged violation is not corrected in accordance with the regulations set forth in this Article, then the Zoning Administrator shall take such action as may be warranted to correct the violation.

3. Reply Requesting Extension of Time

If a reply is received within the specified time limit indicating that an alleged violation will be corrected in accordance with the regulations set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, but that more time is required than was granted by the original notice, the Zoning Administrator may grant an extension if-

- a. The Zoning Administrator deems that such extension is warranted because of the circumstances in the case, and
- b. The Zoning Administrator determines that such extension will not cause imminent peril to life, health, or property.

4. Reply Requesting Technical Determination

If a reply is received within the specified time limit request further review and technical analysis even though the alleged violations continue, then the Zoning Administrator may call in properly qualified experts to complete such analysis and confirm or refute the initial determination of violation.

If expert findings indicate that violations of the performance standards do exist in fact, the costs incurred in making such a determination shall be paid by the persons responsible for the violations, in addition to such other penalties as may be appropriate under the terms of this Ordinance. Such costs shall be billed to those owners or operators of the subject use who are deemed responsible for the violation. If the bill is not paid within thirty (30) calendar days, the Township shall take whatever appropriate action is necessary to recover such costs, or alternately, the cost shall be charged against the property where the violation occurred. If no substantial violation is found, cost of determination shall be paid by the Township.

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