

2. certification from a registered professional engineer, architect, or landscape architect that the proposed construction has been adequately designed to protect against damage from the base flood;
3. a statement, certified by a registered professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, or other qualified person which contains a complete and accurate description of the nature and extent of pollution that might possibly occur from the development during the course of a base flood, including a statement concerning the effects such pollution may have on human life;
4. a statement certified by a registered professional engineer, architect, or landscape architect, which contains a complete and accurate description of the effects the proposed development will have on base flood elevation and flows;
5. a statement, certified by a registered professional engineer, architect, or landscape architect, which contains a complete and accurate description of the kinds and amounts of any loose buoyant materials or debris that may possibly exist or be located on the site below the base flood elevation and the effects such materials and debris may have on base flood elevation and flows;
6. the appropriate component of the Department of Environmental Protection's "Planning Module for Land Development;"
7. where any excavation or grading is proposed, a plan meeting the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection to implement and maintain erosion and sedimentation control;
8. any other applicable permits such as, but not limited to, a permit for any activity regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection under Section 302 of Act 1978-166; and
9. an evacuation plan which fully explains the manner in which the site will be safely evacuated before or during the course of a base flood.

Section 6.03 Application Review Procedures

Upon receipt of an application for a Special Permit by the Township of Schuylkill the following procedures shall apply in addition to those of Article III:

- A. Within three (3) working days following receipt of the application, a complete copy of the application and all accompanying documentation shall be forwarded to the County Planning Commission by registered or certified mail for its review and recommendations. Copies of the application shall also be forwarded to the Township of Schuylkill Planning Commission and Township of Schuylkill engineer for review and comment.
- B. If an application is received that is incomplete, the Township of Schuylkill shall notify the applicant in writing, stating in what respect the application is deficient.
- C. If the Township of Schuylkill decides to disapprove an application, it shall notify the applicant, in writing, of the reasons for the disapproval.

- D. If the Township of Schuylkill approves an application, it shall file written notification, together with the application and all pertinent information, with the Department of Community and Economic Development, by registered or certified mail, within five (5) working days after the date of approval.
- E. Before issuing the Special Permit, the Township of Schuylkill shall allow the Department of Community and Economic Development thirty (30) days, after receipt of the notification by the Department, to review the application and decision made by the Township of Schuylkill.
- F. If the Township of Schuylkill does not receive any communication from the Department of Community and Economic Development during the thirty (30) day review period, it may issue a Special Permit to the applicant.
- G. If the Department of Community and Economic Development should decide to disapprove an application, it shall notify the Township of Schuylkill and the applicant, in writing, of the reasons for the disapproval, and the Township of Schuylkill shall not issue the Special Permit.

Section 6.04 Special Technical Requirements

- A. In addition to the requirements of Article V of this Ordinance, the following minimum requirements shall also apply to any proposed development requiring a Special Permit. If there is any conflict between any of the following requirements and those in Article V of this Ordinance or in any other code, ordinance, or regulation, the more restrictive provision shall apply.
- B. No application for a Special Permit shall be approved unless it can be determined that the structure or activity will be located, constructed and maintained in a manner which will:
 - 1. Fully protect the health and safety of the general public and any occupants of the structure. At a minimum, all new structures shall be designed, located, and constructed so that:
 - a. the structure will survive inundation by waters of the base flood without any lateral movement or damage to either the structure itself, or to any of its equipment or contents below the BFE.
 - b. the lowest floor (including basement) will be elevated to at least one and one half (1 ½) feet above base flood elevation.
 - c. the occupants of the structure can remain inside for an indefinite period of time and be safely evacuated at any time during the base flood.
 - 2. Prevent any significant possibility of pollution, increased flood levels or flows, or debris endangering life and property.

All hydrologic and hydraulic analyses shall be undertaken only by professional engineers or others of demonstrated qualifications, who shall certify that the technical methods used correctly reflect currently accepted technical concepts. Studies, analyses, computations, etc. shall be

submitted in sufficient detail to allow a thorough technical review by the Township of Schuylkill and the Department of Community and Economic Development.

ARTICLE VII EXISTING STRUCTURES IN IDENTIFIED FLOODPLAIN AREAS

Section 7.01 Existing Structures

The provisions of this Ordinance do not require any changes or improvements to be made to lawfully existing structures. However, when an improvement is made to any existing structure, the provisions of Section 7.02 shall apply.

Section 7.02 Improvements

The following provisions shall apply whenever any improvement is made to an existing structure located within any Identified Floodplain Area:

- A. No expansion or enlargement of an existing structure shall be allowed within any Floodway Area/District that would cause any increase in BFE.
- B. Any modification, alteration, reconstruction, or improvement of any kind to an existing structure to an extent or amount of fifty (50) percent or more of its market value, shall constitute a substantial improvement and shall be undertaken only in full compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance.
- C. The above activity shall also address the requirements of the 34 PA Code, as amended and the 2009 IBC and the 2009 IRC.

ARTICLE VIII VARIANCES

Section 8.01 General

If compliance with any of the requirements of this Ordinance would result in an exceptional hardship to a prospective builder, developer or landowner, the Township of Schuylkill may, upon request, grant relief from the strict application of the requirements.

Section 8.02 Variance Procedures and Conditions

Requests for variances shall be considered by the Township of Schuylkill in accordance with the procedures contained in Section 3.10 and the following:

- A. No variance shall be granted for any construction, development, use, or activity within any Floodway Area/District that would cause any increase in the BFE.
- B. Except for a possible modification of the regulatory flood elevation requirement involved, no variance shall be granted for any of the other requirements pertaining specifically to development regulated by Special Permit (Article VI) or to Development Which May Endanger Human Life (Section 5.04).
- C. If granted, a variance shall involve only the least modification necessary to provide relief.

- D. In granting any variance, the Township of Schuylkill shall attach whatever reasonable conditions and safeguards it considers necessary in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and to achieve the objectives of this Ordinance.
- E. Whenever a variance is granted, the Township of Schuylkill shall notify the applicant in writing that:
 - 1. The granting of the variance may result in increased premium rates for flood insurance.
 - 2. Such variances may increase the risks to life and property.
- F. In reviewing any request for a variance, the Township of Schuylkill shall consider, at a minimum, the following:
 - 1. That there is good and sufficient cause.
 - 2. That failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant.
 - 3. That the granting of the variance will
 - a. neither result in an unacceptable or prohibited increase in flood heights, additional threats to public safety, or extraordinary public expense,
 - b. nor create nuisances, cause fraud on, or victimize the public, or conflict with any other applicable state or local ordinances and regulations.
- G. A complete record of all variance requests and related actions shall be maintained by the Township of Schuylkill. In addition, a report of all variances granted during the year shall be included in the annual report to the FEMA.

Notwithstanding any of the above, however, all structures shall be designed and constructed so as to have the capability of resisting the one-percent (1%) annual chance flood.

ARTICLE IX. DEFINITIONS

Section 9.01 General

Unless specifically defined below, words and phrases used in this Ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give this Ordinance its' most reasonable application.

Section 9.02 Specific Definitions

- 1. Accessory use or structure - a use or structure on the same lot with, and of a nature customarily incidental and subordinate to, the principal use or structure.
- 2. Base flood - a flood which has a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (also called the "100-year flood" or one-percent (1%) annual chance flood).

3. Base flood discharge - the volume of water resulting from a Base Flood as it passes a given location within a given time, usually expressed in cubic feet per second (cfs).
4. Base flood elevation (BFE) - the elevation shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Zones AE, AH, A1-30 that indicates the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a 1-percent or greater chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.
5. Basement - any area of the building having its floor below ground level on all sides.
6. Building - a combination of materials to form a permanent structure having walls and a roof. Included shall be all manufactured homes and trailers to be used for human habitation.
7. Development - any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to the construction, reconstruction, renovation, repair, expansion, or alteration of buildings or other structures; the placement of manufactured homes; streets, and other paving; utilities; filling, grading and excavation; mining; dredging; drilling operations; storage of equipment or materials; and the subdivision of land.
8. Existing manufactured home park or subdivision – a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.
9. Expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision – the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).
10. Flood - a temporary inundation of normally dry land areas.
11. Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) - the official map on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both the areas of special flood hazards and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.
12. Flood Insurance Study (FIS) - the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that includes flood profiles, the Flood Insurance Rate Map, the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map, and the water surface elevation of the base flood.
13. Floodplain area - a relatively flat or low land area which is subject to partial or complete inundation from an adjoining or nearby stream, river or watercourse; and/or any area subject to the unusual and rapid accumulation of surface waters from any source.
14. Floodproofing - any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or

improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

15. Floodway - the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.
16. Historic structures – any structure that is:
 - a. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
 - b. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
 - c. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
 - d. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation that have been certified either:
 - i. By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
 - ii. Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.
17. Identified Floodplain Area- this term is an umbrella term that includes all of the areas within which the community has selected to enforce floodplain regulations. It will always include the area identified as the Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Flood Insurance Study, but may include additional areas identified by the community. See Sections 4.01 and 4.02 for the specifics on what areas the community has included in the Identified Floodplain Area.
18. Lowest floor - the lowest floor of the lowest fully enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished, flood resistant partially enclosed area, used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, and incidental storage, in an area other than a basement area is not considered the lowest floor of a building, provided that such space is not designed and built so that the structure is in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of this ordinance.
19. Manufactured home - a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis, and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term includes park trailers, travel trailers, recreational and other similar vehicles which are placed on a site for more than 180 consecutive days.

20. Manufactured home park or subdivision – a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.
21. Minor repair - the replacement of existing work with equivalent materials for the purpose of its routine maintenance and upkeep, but not including the cutting away of any wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or cutting of any structural beam or bearing support, or the removal or change of any required means of egress, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the exitway requirements; nor shall minor repairs include addition to, alteration of, replacement or relocation of any standpipe, water supply, sewer, drainage, drain leader, gas, oil, waste, vent, or similar piping, electric wiring, mechanical or other work affecting public health or general safety.
22. New construction - structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after November 19, 2014 and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures. Any construction started after March 11, 1983 and before November 19, 2014 is subject to the ordinance in effect at the time the permit was issued, provided the start of construction was within 180 days of permit issuance.
23. New manufactured home park or subdivision – a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.
24. Person - an individual, partnership, public or private association or corporation, firm, trust, estate, municipality, governmental unit, public utility or any other legal entity whatsoever, which is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties.
25. Post-FIRM Structure - is a structure for which construction or substantial improvement occurred after December 31, 1974 or on or after the community's initial Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated March 11, 1983, whichever is later, and, as such, would be required to be compliant with the regulations of the National Flood Insurance Program.
26. Pre-FIRM Structure - is a structure for which construction or substantial improvement occurred on or before December 31, 1974 or before the community's initial Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated March 11, 1983, whichever is later, and, as such, would not be required to be compliant with the regulations of the National Flood Insurance Program.
27. Recreational vehicle - a vehicle which is:
 - a. built on a single chassis;
 - b. not more than 400 square feet, measured at the largest horizontal projections;
 - c. designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light-duty truck,
 - d. not designed for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for

recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

28. Regulatory flood elevation - the base flood elevation (BFE) or estimated flood height as determined using simplified methods plus a freeboard safety factor of one and one-half (1 ½) feet.
29. Special permit - a special approval which is required for hospitals, nursing homes, jails, and new manufactured home parks/ subdivisions and substantial improvements to such existing parks, when such development is located in all, or a designated portion of a floodplain.
30. Special flood hazard area (SFHA) - means an area in the floodplain subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. It is shown on the FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-A30, AE, A99, or, AH.
31. Start of construction - includes substantial improvement and other proposed new development and means the date the Permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement was within 180 days after the date of the permit and shall be completed within twelve (12) months after the date of issuance of the permit unless a time extension is granted, in writing, by the Floodplain Administrator. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufacture home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.
32. Structure – a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home.
33. Subdivision - the division or re-division of a lot, tract, or parcel of land by any means into two or more lots, tracts, parcels or other divisions of land including changes in existing lot lines for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of lease, partition by the court for distribution to heirs, or devisees, transfer of ownership or building or lot development: Provided, however, that the subdivision by lease of land for agricultural purposes into parcels of more than ten acres, not involving any new street or easement of access or any residential dwelling, shall be exempted.
34. Substantial damage - damage from any cause sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed fifty (50) percent or more of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.
35. Substantial improvement - any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other

improvement of a structure, of which the cost equals or exceeds fifty (50) percent of the market value of the structure before the "start of construction" of the improvement. This term includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage" regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions.

36. Uniform Construction Code (UCC) – The statewide building code adopted by The Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1999 applicable to new construction in all municipalities whether administered by the municipality, a third party or the Department of Labor and Industry. Applicable to residential and commercial buildings, The Code adopted The International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC), by reference, as the construction standard applicable with the State floodplain construction. For coordination purposes, references to the above are made specifically to various sections of the IRC and the IBC.
37. Variance- A grant of relief by a community from the terms of a floodplain management regulation.
38. Violation - means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in 44 CFR §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

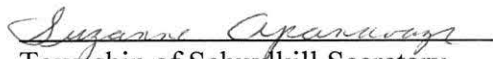
ARTICLE X. ENACTMENT

Section 10.01 Adoption

This Ordinance shall be effective on November 19, 2014 and shall remain in force until modified, amended or rescinded by Township of Schuylkill, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

ENACTED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors this 5th day of November, 2014.

ATTEST:


Township of Schuylkill Secretary

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SCHUYLKILL

By: 
Board of Supervisors Chairman

APPROVED, this 5th day of November, 2014, by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
Township of Schuylkill

ATTEST:





Township of Schuylkill Secretary

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors