

ARTICLE 2

PURPOSE & INTERPRETATION

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote and preserve the public health, safety and general welfare; to encourage the use of lands in accordance with their character and adaptability; to limit the improper use of land; to conserve natural resources and energy; to meet the needs of the State's residents for food, fiber and other natural resources; places of residence; recreation; industry; trade; service and other uses of land; to ensure that uses of the land shall be situated in appropriate locations and relationships; to avoid the overcrowding of population; to provide adequate light and air; to lessen congestion on the public roads and streets; to reduce hazards to life and property; to facilitate adequate provision for a system of transportation; sewage disposal; safe and adequate water supply; education; recreation and other public requirements; and to conserve the expenditure of funds for public improvements and services to conform with the most advantageous uses of land resources and properties. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for the reasonable consideration of the character of each Zoning District located within Clark Township, its peculiar suitability for particular uses; for conservation of property values and natural resources and the general and appropriate trend in character of land, building and population development. The purpose of this Zoning Ordinance is also intended to assist with the implementation of the Clark Township Land Use Plan.

2.1 INTERPRETATION

2.1.1 Interpretation of Provisions

In the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Ordinance, the provisions shall be held to be the minimum requirements for the promotion of the public health, safety, and general welfare.

2.1.2 Interpretation of Words

For the purposes of this Ordinance:

- a.) Words used in the present tense shall be deemed to include the future
- b.) Words in the singular number shall be deemed to include the plural and words in the plural shall be deemed to include the singular
- c.) Words of gender shall include all genders
- d.) The word "person" shall include a firm, partnership, association, trust, company of corporation, as well as an individual
- e.) The words "use" or "used" shall be deemed to include the words "intended, arranged or designed for use" or "intended, arranged or designed to be used"
- f.) The word "shall" is mandatory and not discretionary; and
- g.) The word "may" is permissive.

2.1.3 Changes in Legislation

Where the provisions of this Ordinance refer to specific legislation, such provisions shall be deemed to also refer to any legislation that is a successor thereto.