



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION NUMBER	NAME	PAGE (S)
2.1	Official Zoning Map	2-1
2.2	Interpretation of Zoning Map	2-1
2.3	Fractional Requirements	2-2
2.4	Text Controls Over Graphics	2-2
2.5	Conflicting Provisions	2-3
2.6	Interpretations of Terms and Words	2-3
2.7	Terms Defined in This Ordinance	2-5

SECTION 2.1 OFFICIAL ZONING MAP

- A. Each lot and tract located within the territorial jurisdiction of this Ordinance shall be located in one or more zoning districts contained in this Ordinance. The map identifying the location of such zoning district boundaries shall be identified as the “Official Zoning Map.” If the Board of Commissioners enacts subsequent zoning map changes, such changes shall be made upon the Official Zoning Map. No changes to any zoning district boundaries shall be made on the Official Zoning Map except in conformance with the procedures set forth in this Ordinance.
- B. The Official Zoning Map may be comprised of one (1) or more sheets or digital maps, properly identified as such, which shall be on file with the office of the UDO Administrator. Land within zoning districts on the Official Zoning Map shall be classified with a zoning district designation, which shall supersede any contrary designation on a former Official Zoning Map. Regardless of the existence of any alleged copy of the Official Zoning Map, the Official Zoning Map in the UDO Administrator office shall be the final authority as to the current zoning status of a piece of property. A copy of the Official Zoning Map shall be located in the office of the UDO Administrator.

SECTION 2.2 INTERPRETATION OF ZONING MAP

Where uncertainty exists with respect to the boundaries of the zoning districts shown on the Zoning Map, the following rules shall be used to interpret the maps:

- A. Where a map shows a boundary line located within a street or alley right-of-way, railroad or utility line right-of-way, easement, or navigable or non-navigable waterway, it shall be considered to be in the center of the right-of-way, easement, or waterway. If the actual location of such right-of-way, easement, or waterway



- varies slightly from the location as shown on a map, then the actual location shall control.
- B. Where a map shows a boundary line as being located a specific distance from a street line or other physical feature, that distance shall control.
 - C. Where a map shows a district boundary to approximately coincide with a property line or city, town, or county border, the property line or city, town, or county border shall be considered to be the district boundary, unless otherwise indicated.
 - D. Where a map shows a district boundary not coinciding or approximately coinciding with any street, alley, railroad, waterway, or property line, and no dimensions are shown, the location of the boundary shall be determined by use of the scale appearing on the map.
 - E. In instances when a zoning case file contains detailed information regarding the boundary, that information will be used as the correct boundary location.
 - F. If it is alleged by any party that an error exists on the zoning maps with respect to any zoning district designation, zoning district boundary, special use permit or conditional district boundary, the lines showing the effective dates of zoning enactment or any other matter with respect to the provisions of this ordinance relating to zoning information, the party may request a review of the alleged error by the Board of Adjustment, per Section 4.5.1A4.
 - G. Whenever a single lot is located within two or more different zoning districts, each portion of that lot shall be subject to the regulations applicable to the district in which it is located.

SECTION 2.3 FRACTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Whenever any requirement of this Ordinance results in a fraction of a unit, a fraction of will be rounded up to the next whole unit. Whenever a density calculation for a lot of record existing prior to January 9, 1992, results in less than one dwelling unit being permitted, the fractional requirement will be disregarded and one dwelling unit will be permitted.

SECTION 2.4 TEXT CONTROLS OVER GRAPHICS

This Ordinance contains numerous graphics, pictures, illustrations and drawings. However, in case of conflict between the text and a graphic, picture, illustration or



drawing or any other depiction, the Land Use Administrator shall determine the intent of the section.

SECTION 2.5 CONFLICTING PROVISIONS

- A. Where the provisions of this Ordinance are inconsistent with those of the state or federal government, the more restrictive provisions shall apply, however those provisions will be enforced by the designated regulatory agencies.
- B. Where the provisions of this Ordinance are inconsistent with one another, or are in conflict with provisions found in other adopted ordinances or regulations adopted by Gaston, the more restrictive provisions shall govern. The more restrictive provision is the one that imposes greater restrictions or more stringent controls and enforced by those county agencies.
- C. This ordinance is not intended to interfere with, abrogate, or annul any deed restriction or other agreement between private parties. Gaston County and its staff shall not enforce any such private agreements.

SECTION 2.6 INTERPRETATIONS OF TERMS AND WORDS

The following rules shall be followed in interpreting words and terms used in this Ordinance.

- 1. Words used in the present tense include the future tense.
- 2. Words used in the singular number include the plural, and words used in the plural number include the singular, unless the context of the particular usage clearly indicates otherwise.
- 3. The word "person" includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, corporation, trust and company as well as an individual.
- 4. The word "lot" includes the word "plot" or "parcel"
- 5. The words "must" or "shall" are always mandatory and not merely directory.
- 6. The word "may" is permissive in nature, except when the context of the particular use is negative. In such case it is mandatory.
- 7. The words "used" or "occupied" as applied to any land or building shall be construed to include the words "intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied".



8. The word "Zoning Map", or "Gaston County Zoning Map", or "Official Zoning Map" shall mean the Official Zoning Map of Gaston County, North Carolina.
9. Any word denoting gender includes the female and the male.
10. The term "Board of Commissioner(s)" shall mean the "Board of Commissioners of Gaston County, North Carolina".
11. The term "Planning Board" shall mean the "Planning Board of Gaston County, North Carolina". The Planning Board shall also act as the Watershed Review Board.
12. The term "Board of Adjustment" shall mean the "Board of Adjustment of Gaston County, North Carolina".
13. The terms "Zoning Administrator", "UDO Administrator", "Subdivision Administrator", "Flood Plain Administrator", "Watershed Administrator" or "Administrator", shall refer to the person(s) administering said Ordinance.
14. The term "Street" shall mean "Road".
15. The Board of Adjustment shall also act as the Flood Control Appeal (or Control) Board.
16. The term "zoning jurisdiction" shall mean "planning jurisdiction" and shall refer to the geographical area in which this Ordinance has applicability.
17. The term "County" shall refer to "Gaston County, North Carolina."
18. The term "Gaston County Planning Department" or "Planning Department" shall mean the "Gaston County Planning and Development Services Department."
19. The term "screening", "buffering" and "buffer" shall all mean the same.
20. The following acronyms may be used throughout this ordinance:
 - i. UDO – Unified Development Ordinance
 - ii. USO – Urban Standards Overlay District
 - iii. CH – Corridor Highway Overlay District
 - iv. SV – Scenic View Overlay District
 - v. WS – Water Supply Watershed Overlay District
 - vi. FH – Flood Hazard Overlay District
 - vii. SH – Special Highway Overlay District



- viii. TH – Thoroughfare Highway Overlay District
- ix. WF – Water Front Overlay District
- x. NCDOT – North Carolina Department of Transportation
- xi. MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization
- xii. RPO – Rural Planning Organization
- xiii. PIM – Public Information Meeting
- xiv. PCUP – Parallel Conditional Use District
- xv. CD – Conditional Zoning District
- xvi. FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
- xvii. BOA – Board of Adjustment

SECTION 2.7 TERMS DEFINED IN THIS ORDINANCE

- A. A list of definitions of terms, phrases and words used in this Ordinance follows. Other terms may be defined elsewhere in this Ordinance. Terms that are specifically defined in this Ordinance outside of Section 2.7 shall apply solely to the Sections or Chapters as so indicated, may supersede the definition list in this Section 2.7. Definitions of Terms found in Section 2.7 shall otherwise be applicable throughout the Ordinance.
- B. Words not specifically defined in this Ordinance shall be defined by reference in the following order: first in the most recently adopted version of the State Building Code; second in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, and third in the American Collegiate Dictionary. The Land Use Administrator shall make the interpretation if not found in the above references.

The list of terms defined in this Ordinance and shown in Table 2.7-1 is as follows:
(Note: an * means it is also on the Use Table in Chapter 7)

Abandoned
Abattoir Class 1*
Abattoir Class 2*
ABC Store*
Active Construction
Adjacent Property(ies)
Administrator, Land Use Ordinance
Adult Establishment*
Adult Hotel
Adult Video
Agricultural Use
Airport *

Airstrip*
Alley
Alteration
Amusement and Sporting Facility, Indoor*
Amusement and Sporting Facility, Outdoor*
Amusement Arcade *
Amusement Park *
Animal Grooming Services for household pets*
Animal Hospital (indoor kennels)*
Animal Hospital (outdoor kennel) *
Animal Kennel *
Animal Shelter*

Animal, Wild
Antenna
Antenna, Amateur Radio
Apartment
Appeal
Art Gallery *
Arterial, Minor
Arterial, Principal
Articulation
Assisted Living Center*
ATM (Automated Teller Machine)*
Auction

Gaston County, North Carolina
Chapter 2 - Definitions



Auction House*
Auditorium / Assembly Hall / Amphitheatre*
Automobile Body Shop *
Automobile Detail Shop *
Automobile Hobbyist *
Automobile Repair Shop *
Automobile Service Station*
Automobile Towing and Wrecker Service*
Automobile, Truck, Boat, Motorcycle, Manufactured Home and Recreational Vehicle Sales and Rental*
Awning
Bail Bond *
Banner
Baseball Hitting Range*
Bay Window
Beacon
Bed and Breakfast Inn*
Berm
Billboard *
Billiard Parlor*
Bona Fide Farm*
Botanical Garden *
Boundary Structure
Bowling Lanes *
Building
Building Elevation
Building Face
Building Footprint
Building Height
Building Materials and Lumber Sales *
Building Permit
Building Setback Line
Building, Accessory
Building, Agricultural / Farm
Building, Principal
Bulletin Board
Bus or Train Terminal, Passenger*
Business Services *
Caliper
Camping and Recreational Vehicle Park*
Canopy
Car Wash, Automatic*
Car Wash, Self Service*
Cemetery *

Certificate of Compliance
Certificate of Occupancy
Changeable Copy
Charitable Service Facility*
Check Cashing Establishment *
Church/Place of Worship *
Cleaning and Maintenance Service *
Close
Club, Private (without adult entertainment)*
College/University*
Commercial Message
Commercial Vehicle and Truck Storage*
Common Open Space
Common Open Space, Improved
Community Center
Comprehensive Plan
Conditional Use Permit (CUP)
Conservation Organization
Construction
Construction Trailer (temporary use)
Continuing Care Facility *
Contractor Storage and Equipment Yard *
Contractor's Office and Operation Center *
Convenience Store *
Correctional Facility *
Country Club *
Crematorium*
Cul-de-sac
Curb, Standard
Curb, Valley
Day Care Center, Accessory*
Day Care Center, Class A*
Day Care Center, Class B*
Day Care Center, Class C*
Deck
Density Credit
Density, Gross
Developer
Development, Multi-Family*
Development, Planned Multi-tenant*
Diameter at Breast Height
Display of Goods, Outdoors
Distribution / Wholesale / Storage Operations*
Ditch

Drive-in Window
Drive-through Facility
Driveway, Front-loaded
Dry Cleaning / Laundry Plant*
Dry Cleaning Service Outlet
Duplex
Dwelling, Atrium House
Dwelling, Detached
Dwelling, Lot Line House
Dwelling, Manufactured Home
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Accessory
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class A*
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class B*
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class C*
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class D*
Dwelling, Mixed Use *
Dwelling, Multi-family
Dwelling, Patio House
Dwelling, Row House
Dwelling, Single-family Attached
Dwelling, Single-family Detached *
Dwelling, Townhouse
Dwelling, Twin Home
Dwelling, Two-family*
Dwelling, Unit
Dwelling, Village House
Easement
Electric, Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilating, Plumbing Supplies & Equipment Sales *
Encroachment
Engineer
Entrance, Primary
Entrance, Secondary
Essential Services
Essential Services, Class 1 *
Essential Services, Class 2 *
Essential Services, Class 3 *
Essential Services, Class 4 *
Exterminator's Office *
Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
Façade
Family
Family Burial Ground
Family Care Home *
Family Member

Gaston County, North Carolina
Chapter 2 - Definitions



Farm Supply Store *
Farmers Market *
Fence
Fence, Deer
Fenestration
Financial Institution *
Firing Range *
Fish Hatcheries *
Flag
Flea Market *
Flex Space*
Floor Area Ratio
Food Catering Facility *
Food Pantry*
Fraternal and Service Organization Meeting Facility (Nonprofit and Not-For-Profit) *
Freeway
Freight and Flying Services*
Fuel Nozzle
Fueling Pump
Funeral Home *
Furniture Store
Furrier*
Game Room*
Garage, Private
Garage, Rear Load Detached
Glass and Mirror Shop *
Golf, Course *
Golf, Driving Range*
Golf, Miniature*
Grade, Finished
Grade, Street
Greenhouse, Commercial
Greenway
Grocery Store (Food Store)*
Grooming Services*
Gross Floor Area
Ground Covers
Group Home *
Gunsmith, Gun and Ammunition Sales *
Handicapped Person
Hardware Sales *
Health and Behavioral Care Facility*
Health Club, Spa, Gymnasium (principal use)*

Heavy, Industrial, Farm Equipment Sales and Service *
Heliport / Helistop*
Highway, Corridor
Highway, Special
Holiday Decorations
Home Occupation, Customary*
Home Occupation, Rural *
Hospital *
Hotel *
Hotel, Full service*
HVAC Equipment
Impervious Surface
Impervious Surface Ratio
Industrial Heavy Equipment Bulk Storage Yard *
Junkyard and Salvage Yard*
Laboratories – Dental, Medical *
Land-disturbing Activity
Landfill, Beneficial Fill*
Landfill, Land Clearing and Inert Debris (major)*
Landfill, Land Clearing and Inert Debris (minor)*
Landfill, Onsite
Landowner
Laundromat *
Lawn and Garden Center *
Leasable Area, Gross
Library *
Loading Space, Off-street
Logo
Lot
Lot Area
Lot Line
Lot Line, Front
Lot Line, Interior
Lot Line, Rear
Lot Line, Side
Lot of Record
Lot Width
Lot, Corner
Lot, Interior
Lot, Nonconforming
Lot, Reverse Frontage
Lot, Through
Lounge / Nightclub *

Machine, Metal and Woodworking Shop*
Manufactured Goods
Manufactured Goods, Class 1*
Manufactured Goods, Class 2*
Manufactured Home Park*
Manufactured Home Space
Marina, Accessory *
Marina, Commercial *
Maternity Home*
Military Reserve Center *
Mini-Warehouse*
Mobile Home
Mobile Home Park
Model Sales Home
Modular Home
Monument Sales *
Motel *
Motor Home
Moving and Storage Facilities *
Multi-family Development*
Museum *
Noncommercial Copy
Nonconformity
Nursery (garden)*
Nursing Home*
Office*
Office, Medical Services*
Open Space
Organic Waste
Outdoor Event (temporary use)
Outdoor Resale Business
Outparcel
Package Treatment Plant
Paintball Facility*
Paintball Game
Parapet
Park *
Parking Bay
Parking Deck
Parking Facility, Overflow
Parking Lot (principal use)*
Parking Space, Off-street
Pennant
Permit, Zoning

Gaston County, North Carolina
Chapter 2 - Definitions



Personal Business Service*
Petroleum Distribution Facility
Photo Finish Laboratory *
Planned Residential Development (PRD) *
Planned Unit Development (PUD) *
Plat
Playground
Plaza
Porch
Portable Toilet Services*
Post Office*
Postal & Parcel Processing & Bulk Handling Facility *
Premises
Private Residential Quarters *
Produce Stand*
Property Owner
Public Information Meetings (PIM)
Public Safety Station
Quarry
Racetrack, Large*
Racetrack, Small*
Railroad Terminal and Yard*
Recreation Center and Sports Center *
Recreation, Active
Recreational Vehicle
Recycling Deposit Station, Accessory *
Recycling Deposit Station, Principal Use *
Recycling Processing Facility*
Residential Development, Infill*
Restaurant*
Restaurant with Drive Through U
Restaurant within Other Facilities*
Retail*
Riding Stable*
Right-of-Way
Road, Frontage
Road, Private
Road, Public
Rodeo*
Rodeo, Accessory*
Rooming House
Satellite Dish
School, Elementary and Middle (Public and Private) *

School, Senior High (Public and Private)*
School, Vocational*
Schools for the Arts, Etc.*
Septic Tank Cleaning Service *
Setback
Setback, Front
Setback, Rear
Setback, Side
Sewer, Community
Shopping Center *
Shrub
Sight Triangle
Sign
Sign Face
Sign Shop *
Sign, Awning
Sign, Building Marker
Sign, Canopy
Sign, Changeable Copy
Sign, Copy
Sign, Directional
Sign, Directory
Sign, Flashing
Sign, Government
Sign, Ground
Sign, Identification
Sign, Incidental
Sign, Light Emitting Diode (LED)
Sign, Mailbox
Sign, Marquee
Sign, Menu Board
Sign, Monument
Sign, Non-commercial Copy
Sign, Nonconforming
Sign, Off-premise Advertising
Sign, Pole
Sign, Political
Sign, Portable
Sign, Projecting
Sign, Real Estate
Sign, Roof
Sign, Rotating
Sign, Sandwich Board
Sign, Subdivision Identification

Sign, Suspended
Sign, Wall
Sign, Vehicular
Site Plan
Site Specific Development Plan
Skating Rink
Sketch Plan
Slope
Solid Waste and Septic Tank Contractor's Office and Operation Center*
Solid Waste Transfer Station*
Special Exception
Special Outdoor Event
Square
Stadium*
Staging Space
Stay
Story, Building
Street, Center-line
Street, Collector
Street, Marginal Access
Street, Residential
Street, Right-of-Way
Structure
Structure, Accessory
Structure, Detached
Structure, Nonconforming
Structure, Permanent
Structure, Principal
Structure, Temporary
Subdivision
Subdivision, Major
Subdivision, Major1
Subdivision, Major2
Subdivision, Minor
Swimming Pool Sales, Service and Supplies *
Tattoo Parlor / Body Piercing Establishment
Taxidermy*
Technical Review Committee (TRC)
Terminal Vista
Theater, Indoor Movie *
Theater, Outdoor Movie *
Thoroughfare
Thoroughfare Plan

*Gaston County, North Carolina
Chapter 2 - Definitions*



Thoroughfare, Major
Thoroughfare, Minor
Tire Recap Facility *
Tire Sales, New and / or Used*
Tower and/or Station, Radio and Television Broadcast*
Tower, Co-location on
Tower, Ham Radio
Tower, Height
Tower, Lattice
Tower, Monopole
Tower, Stealth*
Tower, Telecommunication *
Tower, Telecommunication Equipment Buildings*
Tract, Parent
Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND)*
Traffic Impact Analysis
Transit Station*
Tree, Canopy
Tree, Understory
Truck Stop *
Truck Terminal*

Truck Washing Facility*
Upholstery Shop *
Use, Accessory
Use, By Right
Use, Conditional
Use, Incidental
Use, Nonconforming
Use, Permitted
Use, Principal
Use, Temporary
Variance
Vehicle, Commercial
Vehicle, Emergency
Vehicle, Inoperable
Vehicle, Junked
Vehicle, Passenger
Vehicle, Recreational
Vehicle, Septic Tank
Vehicle, Solid Waste
Vested Right
Wall, Building
Wall, Shared

Warehouse *
Water, Public
Wireless Communications
Wood Waste Grinding Operation*
Working Days
Yard Sale
Yard, Front
Yard, Rear
Yard, Side
Zoning District, Commercial
Zoning District, Conditional
Zoning District, Industrial
Zoning District, Office
Zoning District, Overlay
Zoning District, Parallel Conditional Use
Zoning District, Residential
Zoning District, Urban Standards Overlay (USO)
Zoo*



TABLE 2.7-1 DEFINED TERMS		
Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Abandoned		A use shall be considered abandoned when: (i) The use is discontinued for a continuous period of at least one hundred-eighty (180) days, other than in association with the settlement of an estate or for any cause that is seasonal in nature); or, (ii) The premises are devoted to another use; or, (iii) Failure to take all positive action to resume the nonconforming use with reasonable dispatch, including the failure to advertise the property for sale or for lease for a period of at least two (2) years.
Abattoir Class 1	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A slaughter house for wildlife.
Abattoir Class 2	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A slaughter house for livestock (domesticated state) and wildlife (undomesticated state).
ABC Store	Sales and Service	A retail establishment at which liquors are sold to the general public and which is run under the auspices of the local Alcohol and Beverage Control (ABC) Board.
Active Construction		On-site activities not discontinued for a continuous period of at least one hundred-eighty (180) days, such as installation, erection, fabrication, alteration, demolition or removal of structures, facilities, or additions that contribute directly to the completion of improvements contemplated or shown on construction plans.
Adjacent Property(ies)		<p>One (1) or more lots or tracts that abut or touch and having a boundary, or portion thereof, which is contiguous to the lot in question. Such determination shall be made by extending the exterior lot lines of the lot in question to adjacent lots and/or adjacent roads, streams, easements or rights-of-way. The term "adjacent" or "adjacent property" shall also mean "contiguous" or "contiguous property", "abutting" or "abutting property", "adjacent or adjacent property". An example of how this definition is to be applied is shown below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Adjacent Properties</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Railroad Right-of-Way</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Administrator, Land Use Ordinance		A person (or his designee) and any other officials designated by the governing board for the administration of this Ordinance. Such person(s) may also be referred to as the "Administrator."
Adult Establishment	All Other Uses	Any structure or use of land that meets the definition of "Adult Establishment" as outlined in NCGS 14-202.10 and includes, but is not limited to adult video stores and adult hotels.
Adult Hotel	All Other Uses	A hotel, motel, or similar establishment that: (i) Provides patrons with closed circuit television transmissions, films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides, or other photographic reproductions that depict or describe "specified sexual activities" or "specified anatomical areas" as one of its principal business purposes; or, (ii) Offers a sleeping room for rent for a period of time that is less than ten (10) hours; or, (iii) Allows a tenant or occupant of a sleeping room to sub-rent a sleeping room for a period of time that is less than ten (10) hours.
Adult Video	All Other Uses	Any store which predominantly displays or which receives a preponderance of its gross income during any calendar month from sale or rental of films, motion pictures, video cassettes or video reproductions, slides, computer media, or other visual or audio representations that depict or describe "specified sexual activities" or "specified anatomical areas" as defined in NCGS 14-202.10.
Agricultural Use	Agricultural Uses	The commercial production, keeping or maintenance, of plant and animals useful to man, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; dairy animals and dairy products, poultry and poultry products; livestock, including beef cattle, sheep, swine, horses, ponies, mules, or goats or any mutations or hybrids thereof, including the breeding and grazing all of such animals; bees and apiary products; fur animals; trees and forest products; fruits of all kinds, including nuts; vegetables; nursery, floral and ornamental products; or lands devoted to a soil conservation or forestry management program. Uses which shall not be deemed as "agricultural uses" include: (i) zoos, (ii) kennels, and (iii) riding stables.
Airport	Transportation	A facility where aircraft can land and take off on a recurring basis and which is equipped with hangers, refueling facilities and/or repair facilities.
Airstrip	Transportation	An area of land or water that is designed or used on a recurring basis for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, ultra lights, model airplanes or other flying apparatus excluding hot air balloons and which does not contain hangers, refueling facilities or repair facilities.
Alley		A travel way that affords only a secondary means of access to an abutting property and is not intended for general traffic circulation.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Alteration		A change in the size, configuration, or location of a structure; or a change in the use of a structure or lot from a previously approved or legally existing size, configuration, location, or use.
Amusement and Sporting Facility, Indoor	Recreation	A facility providing entertainment or games of skill activities to the general public for a fee and that is wholly enclosed in a building. This shall include, but not be limited to: a bowling alley, skating rink and movie theater. This definition does not include game rooms.
Amusement and Sporting Facility, Outdoor	Recreation	A facility providing recreational activities outside of an enclosed building. Typical uses include: miniature golf, golf driving range, skeet shooting, skating rink, etc... but does not include a stadium.
Amusement Arcade	Recreation	A place of entertainment primarily featuring coin-operated gaming machines.
Amusement Park	Recreation	A commercially operated park that offers rides, games, and other forms of entertainment.
Animal Grooming Services for household pets	Commercial Services	A facility where animals are groomed, shampooed, clipped, etc. No long term stay shall be allowed.
Animal Hospital (indoor kennels)	Medical	A place where animals are given medical or surgical treatment and the boarding of animals is incidental to the hospital use. All facilities associated with an animal hospital shall be located indoors.
Animal Hospital (outdoor kennel)	Medical	A place where animals are given medical or surgical treatment and the boarding of animals is incidental to the hospital use. Facilities may be located outdoors and may include but not be limited to: kennels and training/ exercise areas.
Animal Kennel	Commercial Services	A location where more than six (6) dogs or other domesticated animals, or wild animals are kept, groomed, bred, boarded, trained, or sold.
Animal Shelter	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility which is used to house or contain animals and which is owned, operated, or maintained by an incorporated, humane society, animal welfare society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or other nonprofit organization devoted to the welfare, protection and humane treatment of animals.
Animal, Wild		Any animal, which can normally be found in the wild state, particularly those feral, aggressive, able to harbor or transmit disease, dangerous, or non-domesticated, which generally do not live in or about the habitation of humans. These animals include, but not are limited to, deer, lions, non-human primates, bats, wolves, and wolf hybrids, hyenas, felids, as regulated by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, bears, elephants, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, exotic wild cattle, crocodilians, venomous reptiles, constrictor snakes, raccoons, and skunks. Generally, local pet stores in Gaston County do not sell items for such animals. Wild animals specifically do not include animals of a species customarily used as farm animals, fish contained in an aquarium, pool or pond, birds or insects.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Antenna		Any system of wires, poles, rods, or similar devices used for the transmission or reception of electromagnetic waves external to or attached to the exterior of any building.
Antenna, Amateur Radio		An antenna owned and utilized by a FCC-licensed amateur radio operator.
Apartment		A room or suite of rooms, with toilet and culinary accommodations, used or designed for use as a residence by a family and is located in a building that contains two (2) or more such rooms or suites.
Appeal		A request to a higher authority as a result of a decision determined by the Administrator or governing body, elected or appointed.
Art Gallery	Sales and Services	A commercial establishment where individual pieces of art are sold to the general public on a retail basis. Works of art may also occasionally be sold on an auction basis at such an establishment.
Arterial, Minor		A road so designated on the most recently adopted version of the Gaston Urban Area Thoroughfare Plan and any other adopted thoroughfare plan. Roads designated as "minor thoroughfares" shall also be classified as "minor arterials" for purposes of this Ordinance.
Arterial, Principal		A road so designated on the most recently adopted version of the Gaston Urban Area Thoroughfare Plan and any other adopted thoroughfare plan. Roads designated as "major thoroughfares" shall also be classified as "principal arterials" for purposes of this Ordinance.
Articulation		A building's detailing and ornamentation, which includes windows, balconies, porches, entries, etc. It divides large buildings into smaller identifiable pieces.
Assisted Living Center	Civic / Community Organizations	An institution licensed by the state as an "assisted living residence" and which provides, at a minimum, one meal a day, housekeeping service and personal care services to seven (7) or more aged or disabled residents.
ATM (Automated Teller Machine)	Commercial Services	An automated device that performs banking or financial functions at a location outside of or remote from the controlling financial institution.
Auction		A public or private sale in which property or items of merchandise are sold to the highest bidder.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Auditorium / Assembly Hall / Amphitheatre	Civic / Community Organization	A structure or facility designed, intended, or used primarily for outside and/or inside performing art events or other spectator events and contains seating for spectators of those events. The sale of beverages, snack foods, and sundries geared to on-premise consumption or usage by spectators shall be permitted.
Automobile Body Shop	Commercial Services	Any building, premises and land in which or upon which a business is conducted that primarily involves the painting of vehicles or external repairing of damaged vehicles.
Automobile Detail Shop	Commercial Services	An establishment primarily engaged in the hand cleaning and waxing of automobiles. Such activities may take place indoors and outdoors. Such establishments are distinguished from "car washes" in that there is no automated equipment involved with the cleaning or waxing the vehicles. No more than three (3) vehicles can be stored on-site overnight.
Automobile Hobbyist	All Other Uses	The use of a structure or building for storing and restoring automobiles for hobby purposes, with no automobile-related commercial or sales activity taking place. All vehicles shall be titled to the tenant of the building and all automobile restoration and repair shall be done indoors.
Automobile Repair Shop	Commercial Services	A commercial establishment whose primary purpose involves the maintenance and servicing of vehicles. "Auto body work" (i.e., work normally associated with an "automobile body shop,") may not be performed on premises unless the zoning district in which the use is located allows an "automobile body shop." The sale of automotive fuels and accessory automobile parts to the public may be provided on an accessory basis. Notwithstanding, an "automobile repair shop" is differentiated from an "auto parts store" in that the sale of automotive parts is not the primary service being offered.
Automobile Service Station	Commercial Services	A use where vehicular fuels are sold at the retail level and where the installation of automotive items such as lubricants, tubes, batteries and similar accessories takes place and where minor automobile repair and maintenance work is conducted. Vehicle repair services (except for paint and body work) may be conducted on premises. Not more than one (1) automatic car wash may be provided on site so long as the car wash meets all of the criteria in that zoning district for an "Automatic Car Wash". Such use shall be distinguished from a "convenience store" given that the primary product for sale is automotive fuel and not food and sundry items. Such use shall be allowed to have up to one (1) towing vehicle.
Automobile Towing and Wrecker Service	Commercial Services	An establishment primarily engaged in the towing of motor vehicles and vehicular storage associated with vehicle accidents and violations. This shall not include vehicular salvaging operations or the sale of salvaged vehicular parts. This use is not to be construed as a junkyard and salvage yard. An "Automobile Towing and Wrecker Service" may be part of an "Automobile Body Shop" in zoning districts where an "Automobile Body Shop" is allowed.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Automobile, Truck, Boat, Motorcycle, Manufactured Home and Recreational Vehicle Sales and Rental	Sales and Services	Any building, premises, and land, in which or upon the primary use of land is a business that involves the maintenance, servicing or sale of new or used automobiles, boats, and/or manufactured homes. This may also include light trucks [i.e. trucks weighing less than two and one-half (2.5) tons] or vans, trailers, or recreation vehicles. Also included in this definition is vehicle leasing, rental, parking service, preparation or repair work conducted as an accessory use. Notwithstanding the above, any premise upon which there is a regular sale of boats, vehicles, etc. shall be considered an "Automobile, Truck, Boat, Motorcycle, Manufactured Home and Recreational Vehicle Sales and Rental" establishment.
Awning		<p>A structure made of cloth, metal, or other material affixed to a building in such a manner that the structure may be raised or retracted from a building to a flat position against the building, but not to include a canopy.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Awning</small></p>
Bail Bond	Commercial Services	An office that engages in the sale or issuance of bail bonds or other financial transfers for the purpose of securing the release from jail of an accused defendant pending trial.
Banner		A sign intended to be hung either with or without a frame, possessing characters, letters, illustrations, or ornamentations applied to plastic or fabric of any kind, excluding flags and emblems of political, professional, religious, educational, or corporate organizations.
Baseball Hitting Range	Recreation	A place of business with an indoor / outdoor temporary or permanent type cage for the hitting of a baseball as practice or recreation. The baseball may either be pitched by a person or by a pitching machine within the cage to a batter within the cage to disallow the ball from going outside of the cage.
Bay Window		A window or series of windows forming a bay or recess in a room and projecting outward from the wall.
Beacon		Any light with one (1) or more beams directed into the atmosphere or directed at one (1) or more points not on the same site as the light source; also, any light with one (1) or more beams that rotate or move.

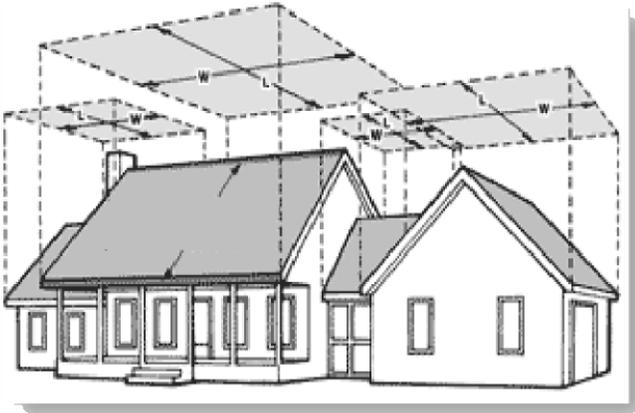


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Bed and Breakfast Inn	Commercial Services	A use that (i) takes place within a building that prior to such establishment, was designed and used as a single-family residence, (ii) that consists of renting one (1) or more dwelling rooms on a daily basis to tourist, vacationers and similar transients, (iii) where the provision of meals, if provision of meals is made, is limited to the breakfast meal, and is available only to guests, and (iv) where the bed and breakfast operation is conducted primarily by persons who reside in the dwelling unit, with the assistance of not more than the equivalent of one (1) full-time employee. The maximum number of rooms available for rent shall be five (5); the maximum length of stay shall be fourteen (14) consecutive days.
Berm		Any elongated earthen mound designed or constructed on a site to separate, screen or buffer adjacent land uses.
Billboard		See "Sign, Off-premise Advertising"
Billiard Parlor	Recreation General	Business establishments open to the public whose primary source of income is from billiards.
Bona Fide Farm		<p>The production and activities relating or incidental to the production of crops, fruits, vegetables, sod, or ornamental and flowering plants, dairy, livestock, poultry, and all other forms of agricultural products having a domestic or foreign market meeting one (1) of the present use value criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Agricultural land, consisting of at least ten (10) acres, or horticultural land, consisting of at least five (5) acres, both of which may be in one or more contiguous tracts that are in actual production. These tracts may be owned or leased by the operator and had a minimum sales of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) for the three (3) years preceding January 1 of the year of application; or ii) A minimum of twenty (20) acres of forestland for which a woodland management plan has been prepared by the N.C. Forest Service.
Botanical Garden	Agricultural Uses	A facility owned by a public or private nonprofit entity containing at least ten (10) acres of land that is primarily used for the public display and conservation of plants and related botanical education and research purposes. Such facility may also include the following facilities: conservatories; greenhouses; plant maintenance and propagation facilities; visitor centers; museums; education and research facilities; trails; boat touring and mooring facilities; bird, insect and water life observation facilities; living farm museums; petting zoos; concession facilities including meeting rooms, eating establishments, lodging and gift shops; and permanent housing for caretakers and other on-site employees.

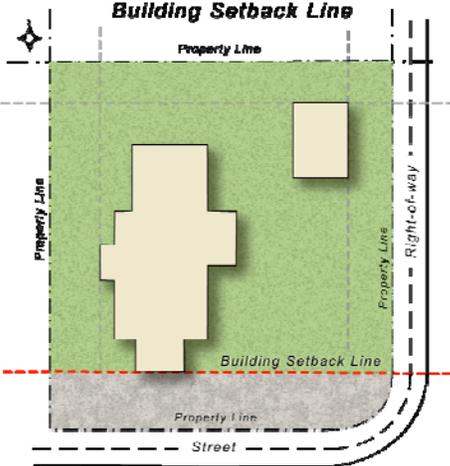


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Boundary Structure		A brick, stone, stucco or other decorative masonry, wooden, iron or vinyl clad metal fence, excluding chain link and wire fences, constructed entirely or partially around a single-family subdivision, a multifamily or multi-tenant development. Such walls or fences, regardless of their length, also include structures constructed as a signature entrance to a single-family subdivision, a multifamily complex or an office, business or retail complex.
Bowling Lanes	Recreation	A building, which contains one (1) or more alleys or lanes for bowling, whereby a bowling ball is rolled on an alley or lane (flat surface) in order to knock down objects call pins.
Building		Any structure having a roof supported by columns or walls intended for the shelter, housing or enclosure of any individual, animal, process, equipment, goods or materials of any kind or nature.
Building, Accessory		See "Structure, Accessory"
Building, Agricultural / Farm		<p>A structure designed and constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, live-stock or other horticultural products. This structure shall not be a place of human habitation or a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated or packaged, nor shall it be a place used by the public.</p> <p>In a situation where an existing principle structure is located on a parcel of five (5) acres or greater, a farm building may be constructed when it is determined by the Land Use Administrator that the primary activity to be conducted within the accessory structure is agricultural in nature as described above.</p> <p>This structure cannot be used to house items that would be typically associated with a normal residential accessory structure (i.e., vehicles, boats, car trailers, recreation vehicles, personal items, etc.)</p>
Building, Principal		A building in which the principal use is on the lot on which it is situated. A multi-occupant property may have more than one (1) principal building.
Building Elevation		The view of any building or other structure from any one (1) of four (4) sides showing features such as construction materials, design, height, dimensions, windows, doors, other architectural features, and the relationship of grade to floor level.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Building Face		<p>The dominant structural feature of the elevation of any side of a building.</p> 
Building Footprint		<p>The outline of the total area of a lot or site that is surrounded by the exterior walls of a building or portion of a building, exclusive of courtyards. In the absence of surrounding exterior walls, the building footprint shall be the area under the horizontal projection of the roof.</p> 
Building Height		<p>The vertical distance from the mean elevation of the finished grade along the front of the building to the highest point of a flat roof, a mansard roof, or a gable, hip or gambrel roof. Roof appurtenances such as skylights; roof structures for elevators; stairways; tanks; heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment; or similar operating and/or maintenance equipment shall be excluded from this measurement. In computing the height of a building, the height of a basement, if below the grade from which the height is measured, shall not be included.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Building Materials and Lumber Sales	Sales and Services	An establishment where lumber and building materials goods are the primary products sold.
Building Permit		An official document issued by Gaston County pursuant to this Ordinance and the State building code that authorizes the erection, construction, reconstruction, restoration, alteration, enlargement, conversion, remodeling, demolition, moving, or repair of a building or structure.
Building Setback Line		<p>A line establishing the minimum allowable distance between the nearest portion of any building (or any attached appurtenance thereof), and the nearest edge of the street right-of-way or property line when measured perpendicular thereto.</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates a property lot with a green lawn and a grey building. A dashed line represents the 'Property Line'. A solid red line represents the 'Building Setback Line', which is set back from the property line. A dashed line represents the 'Right-of-way' and 'Street'. A north arrow is shown in the top left corner.</p>
Bulletin Board		<p>A board for posting notices which are designed to be read by pedestrians.</p>  <p>The illustration shows a wooden bulletin board with a gabled roof, standing on a grassy area. It is flanked by a tall, thin evergreen tree on the left and a smaller bush on the right. The text 'Bulletin Board' is written above the board, and 'Possible Posting of Notices' is written on the board itself.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Bus or Train Terminal, Passenger	Transportation	Any premises for the transient housing or parking of inter-city motor-driven buses (e.g., Greyhound, Trailways) and the loading and unloading of passengers going on such bus trips. Refer to “transit station” for facilities designed to accommodate intra-city transit services.
Business Services	Commercial Services	The provision of services required for the day-to-day operation of a business such as, but not limited to, consulting service, photocopy or office supply. Such stores may have extended operating hours.
Caliper		A horticultural method of measuring the diameter of a tree trunk for the purpose of size grading. The caliper of the trunk is measured six (6) inches above the ground for trees up to and including four (4) inches in diameter, twelve (12) inches above the ground for trees greater than four (4) inches up to twelve (12) inches in diameter, and at breast height (4.5 feet) for trees greater than twelve (12) inches in diameter.
Camping and Recreational Vehicle Park	Residential	Land containing two (2) or more campsites which are located, established, or maintained for occupancy by people in temporary living quarters, such as tents, recreation vehicles, or travel trailers which are used for recreation, vacation purposes or temporary housing for construction or farm workers. Occupancy for recreation or vacation purposes shall be limited to individual stays of no greater than thirty (30) days and occupancy for temporary housing shall be limited to individual stays of no greater than one-hundred eighty (180) days.
Canopy		<p>A permanent structure other than an awning made of cloth, metal or other material attached or unattached to a building for the purpose of providing shelter to patrons or automobiles, or as a decorative feature on a building wall. A canopy shall not be considered as being a completely enclosed structure.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Car Wash, Automatic	Commercial Services	A commercial establishment primarily engaged in the washing of automobiles, motorcycles, and pick-up and panel trucks. Such washing shall be done using a combination of automatic washing devices and manual labor provided by the commercial establishment. The retail sale of fuels may also be provided in an accessory capacity. Accessory self-vacuumping facilities shall be allowed.
Car Wash, Self Service	Commercial Services	A commercial establishment primarily engaged in the washing of automobiles, motorcycles, and pick-up and panel trucks. Such washing shall be done manually by the customer (i.e., the use of fully automated devices which move the vehicle through a washing device shall not be permitted). Accessory self-vacuumping facilities shall be allowed.
Cemetery	Civic / Community Organizations	Property used for the interment of the dead, which use may include the commercial sale and location of burial lots, crypts, or vaults for use exclusively on the subject property. A cemetery shall not be used for the preparation or embalming of bodies or the cremation of bodies. This definition shall be construed to include bona fide pet cemeteries.
Certificate of Compliance		A statement, signed by the Administrator, setting forth that a building, structure or use complies with this Ordinance.
Certificate of Occupancy		A document issued by the proper authority allowing the occupancy or use of a building and certifying that the structure or use has been constructed or will be used in compliance with all applicable building codes and regulations.
Changeable Copy		<p>The display area of a sign where characters, letters, or illustrations can be changed or rearranged without altering the face or surface of the sign.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Changeable Copy of a Sign</p> </div>
Charitable Service Facility	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility, other than a food pantry (see definition), operated by a public or private entity that directly distributes charity or relief services directly to the public. Examples of such a facility include soup kitchens and homeless shelters. Public office facilities (e.g., Department of Social Services facilities) and a church/place of worship shall not be deemed a charitable service facility.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Check Cashing Establishment	Commercial Services	A business engaged in cashing checks for the general public as an element of its operation that exceeds fifty (50) percent of its gross revenue and is not licensed by the appropriate state or federal agencies as a bank, savings and loan, or credit union. Primary signage associated with a business that includes the phrase "check cashing" will be considered prima facie evidence that the business is a check cashing business.
Church/Place of Worship	Civic / Community Organizations	A building or structure, or group of buildings or structures, which by design and construction are primarily intended for conducting organized religious services whose site may include an accessory area for the interment of the dead. Certain customary accessory uses shall be allowed to take place on church premises. These include bookshops, recreation centers, outdoor playing fields, youth facilities, parsonage, cemetery, food pantry, and certain types of day care centers and schools. The overnight lodging of transient persons shall not be considered as a customary accessory use. Such accessory uses shall be subject to any applicable supplemental regulations located elsewhere in this Ordinance.
Cleaning and Maintenance Service	Commercial Services	An operation based within a building or office that offers services that includes both interior and exterior cleaning of commercial and residential building, homes, apartments, outbuildings, agricultural buildings, etc.
Close		<p>As used for transportation/land use purposes, a small square or rectangular space providing road access to several adjacent lots. Such area is landscaped with grass and may contain benches.</p> 
Club, Private (without adult entertainment)	Sales and Services	For-profit establishments that (i) is organized and operated solely for social and recreational purposes; (ii) and which may include the sale of alcoholic beverages; (iii) and that is not open to the general public, but open only to the members of the organization and their bona fide guests. Excluded from this definition are facilities used by nonprofit fraternal and service organizations.

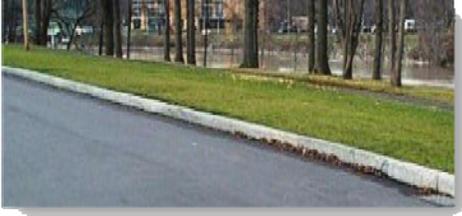


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
College/University	Education	A private or public educational institution where students attend to earn associates, baccalaureate, masters or doctoral degrees. A college/university shall not be considered a "vocational school" or a "school for the arts."
Commercial Message		Any sign, wording, logo or other representation, that, directly or indirectly, names, advertises, or calls attention to a business, product, service or other commercial activity.
Commercial Vehicle and Truck Storage	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A piece of property that is used primarily for the outdoor storage, on a regular basis, of trucks and other commercial vehicles, excluding septic tank and solid waste vehicles.
Common Open Space		Land and/or water areas within the site designated for a particular development, not individually owned, which are designed and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents of the development but not including any lands occupied by streets, street rights-of-way, or off-street parking.
Common Open Space, Improved		Common open space which has been improved with recreational areas and amenities such as, but not limited to, ball fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, nature trails, clubhouses, etc.
Community Center	Civic / Community Organizations	A building used for recreational, social, educational and cultural activities owned and operated by a public or nonprofit group or agency.
Comprehensive Plan		A plan, formally adopted by the local governing board, that includes policy statements, goals and objectives, maps and statistical data for the physical and economic development of the community. The may also be referred to as Land Use Plan.
Conditional Use Permit (CUP)		An authorization issued by the Board of Commissioners or Board of Adjustment for a Conditional Use Permit or for the rezoning of one or more properties to a Parallel Conditional Use district (PCUP) and which may be subject to any specific restrictions or conditions on its size, location, construction, hours of operation, character of use, and other fair and reasonable conditions as specified by such approval body that are mutually approved by said approval body and the applicant.
Conservation Organization		A nonprofit corporation or trust, or any private corporation or business entity authorized to do business in North Carolina, intended to exist indefinitely, an whose ongoing purpose includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. The permanent and perpetual preservation of land areas for outdoor recreation by, or for the education of, the general public; or II. The permanent and perpetual protection of the natural habitat for fish, wildlife, or plants or similar ecosystem; or III. The permanent and perpetual preservation of open space (including farmland and forest land) where such preservation is: (i) for the scenic enjoyment of the general public, (ii) pursuant to a clearly delineated Federal, State or local governmental conservation policy and will yield a significant public benefit.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Construction		The act of adding an addition to an existing building or structure, or the erection of a new principal or accessory building or structure on a lot; or the addition of walls, driveways, or parking lots, or the addition of appurtenances to a building or structure.
Construction Trailer (temporary use)		A structure standing on wheels towed or hauled by another vehicle and used for neither overnight nor year-round occupancy at a construction site on a temporary basis for office and/or storage purposes.
Continuing Care Facility	Civic / Community Organizations	A residential complex that contains a variety of living facilities that may include independent living units (i.e., apartments, condominiums, cottages), assisted living (domiciliary care) facilities and/or nursing home beds. Residents of such a facility may either pay rent or purchase their living quarters. If the unit is occupant-owned, the unit normally reverts to the development owner upon the death of the resident or to a surviving spouse.
Contractor Storage and Equipment Yard	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A place where construction equipment and material used by contractors are externally stored on a regular basis.
Contractor's Office and Operation Center	Commercial Services	Any establishment from which services are contracted for building construction, building repair or building equipment installation or repair, such as, but not limited to flooring, HVAC, plumbing, etc. Employee vehicles are not to exceed one (1) ton in weight.
Convenience Store	Sales and Services	A one (1) story, retail store containing less than three-thousand (3,000) square feet of gross floor area that is designed and stocked to sell primarily fuel, food (packaged and/or prepared), beverages, and other household supplies to customers who purchase relatively few items (in contrast to a "grocery store"). A "convenience store" is designed to attract and depends upon a large volume of stop-and-go traffic.
Correctional Facility	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility operated by a governmental entity (or a private contractor thereof) used primarily for the incarceration or housing of persons serving criminal sentences. State prisons, prison camps, and penitentiaries are examples of such a facility.
Country Club	Civic / Community Organizations	A land area and buildings containing recreational facilities, clubhouses and usual accessory uses, open to members and their guests that are privately operated. Uses at a country club frequently include golf courses, swimming pools (outdoors), and clubhouses. Meal service may be available, but is generally limited to members and their guests. A country club may be developed as a freestanding entity or as part of a residential community or planned residential development.
Crematorium	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A facility whose primary function is for the cremation of human bodies or animals.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Cul-de-sac		Any street having only one outlet for vehicular traffic.
Curb, Standard		Raised strip of concrete along the edges of streets or parking lots providing a barrier.  A photograph showing a standard raised concrete curb along the edge of a paved road, with a grassy area and trees in the background.
Curb, Valley		Also called a depressed curb which allow easy access to vehicles without damage.  A photograph showing a valley curb (depressed curb) in a residential street, with houses and parked cars visible in the background.
Day Care Center, Accessory	Civic / Community Organizations	A day care center facility located on the premises or adjacent to the premises of an office use, institutional use, commercial use, industrial use or group development for the primary purpose of care for the dependents of employees of such commercial, office, institutional or industrial use. At least sixty-six (66) percent of the clients enrolled shall be dependents of employees of the establishment or group development sponsoring such facility.
Day Care Center, Class A	Civic / Community Organizations	A place where daytime care is provided to not more than six (6) pre-school children, handicapped persons, or senior citizens, and not more than three (3) school aged children unrelated by blood or marriage to, and not the legal wards or foster children of the attendant adult, within an occupied residence. Persons who are related by blood or marriage to the attendant adult shall not be counted as patrons of the day care center.
Day Care Center, Class B	Civic / Community Organizations	A place where daytime care is provided to more than six (6) but less than fifty (50) pre-school children, after school care children, handicapped persons or senior citizens unrelated by blood or marriage, and not the legal wards or foster children of the attendant adult. Persons who are related by blood or marriage to the attendant adult shall not be counted as patrons of the day care center.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Day Care Center, Class C	Civic / Community Organizations	A place where daytime care is provided to fifty (50) or more pre-school children, after school care children, handicapped persons or senior citizens unrelated by blood or marriage, and not the legal wards or foster children of the attendant adult. Persons who are related by blood or marriage to the attendant adult shall not be counted as patrons of the day care center.
Deck		<p>A structure without a roof, either freestanding or attached to a building, which is supported by posts or pillars.</p>  <p>The illustration shows a brown house with a grey roof. A wooden deck is attached to the side of the house. A label "Deck" points to the deck structure. A smaller label "May or may not be attached to an existing structure" points to the deck's connection to the house.</p>
Density Credit		The potential for the improvement or subdivision of part or all of a parcel of real property, to an intensity or degree that otherwise is not allowed in the underlying zoning district. Such ability to improve or develop the property is based on the dedication of land for transportation improvement purposes in exchange for the ability to develop the property to this greater standard.
Density, Gross		A ratio expressed as the number of dwelling units per gross acre. The ratio is derived by dividing the total number of dwelling units by the total land area of the parcel(s) to be developed.
Developer		That person or entity improving or developing land that may or may not be the owner of the property.
Development, Multi-Family	Residential	A tract of land under individual, corporate, firm, partnership or association ownership, or under common control evidenced by duly recorded contracts or agreements that is planned and developed as an integral unit in a single development operation or in a definitely programmed series of development operations. Such development shall consist of two (2) or more duplex buildings, or three (3) or more dwelling units sharing one (1) or more common walls. The development shall have a unified or coordinated design of buildings and a coordinated organization of service areas and common open space area.

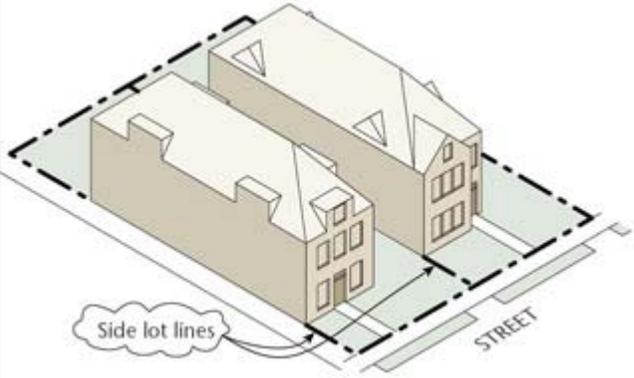


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Development, Planned Multi-tenant		A development containing more than one (1) principal nonresidential use that is planned as a single entity in one (1) or more phases. Such development may have an internal network of public or private streets linking the various uses. Such uses may be located on one (1) or more lots. Some lots (commonly referred to as "outparcels") need not have direct access onto a public street. Such developments shall also include any individual lots (including outparcels) located therein.
Diameter at Breast Height		The measurement of the diameter of a tree trunk over twelve (12) inches in diameter taken at a height of four and one-half (4.5) feet above the ground.
Display of Goods, Outdoors		The display and sale of products outside of a building or structure including garden supplies, clothing, toys, play equipment, agricultural products, building and landscape materials, food and beverages.
Distribution / Wholesale / Storage Operations	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A facility where goods are received and/or stored for delivery to wholesale customers in remote locations.
Ditch		<p>A small or moderate grass lined depression that is used to conduct surface water alongside and / or away from roadways at a non-erodible velocity, to a stable point of discharge.</p> <p>Ditches shall allow for the reasonable infiltration of stormwater runoff and shall be designed by a North Carolina Registered Professional Engineer, North Carolina Licensed Surveyor, Registered Professional Landscape Architect or other licensed professional practicing within their area of competence.</p> <p>Installation shall be inspected and certified by the design professional.</p>
Drive-in Window		<p>A window or other opening in the wall of a principal or accessory building through which goods or services are provided directly to customers in motor vehicles by means that eliminate the need for such customers to exit their motor vehicles.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>The diagram, titled "Drive-In Window", shows a floor plan of a building. On the right side, there is a "Drive-In Window" where a "Motor Vehicle" is parked. Inside the building, there is a "KITCHEN" and a dining area with several tables and chairs. At the bottom right, there is an "ENTRANCE" with another "Motor Vehicle" parked outside. The building is surrounded by some landscaping.</p> </div>
Drive-through Facility		A business or facility which is designed or intended to enable a customer to transact business without exiting a motor vehicle parked on or moving through the premises.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Driveway, Front-loaded		A driveway that begins at, or abuts, the front yard line of the lot. <p style="text-align: center;">Front-Loaded Driveway</p>  An architectural illustration of a house with a front-loaded driveway. The driveway is highlighted in red and labeled "Driveway". The house has a gabled roof and a front porch.
Dry Cleaning Service Outlet	Personal Services	Establishments engaged in providing laundry, dry cleaning and other related services on a pick up and drop off basis to individual customers.
Dry Cleaning / Laundry Plant	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A commercial facility at which clothes are brought to be dry cleaned and / or laundered from individual dry cleaning service outlets. Such a facility may be a freestanding use or may be combined with a Laundromat.
Duplex		See "Dwelling, Two-family"
Dwelling, Atrium House		An attached or semi-attached one-story house on a small lot, said lot having a small yard space that is surrounded by the house and its privacy walls. As distinguished from a "patio house," an atrium house usually has a smaller lot size and it is always attached (to another unit) in some fashion.  A photograph of a two-story atrium house. The house is white with a balcony on the second floor. A label "Atrium House" with an arrow points to the structure. The house is surrounded by a small yard with trees and a utility pole.

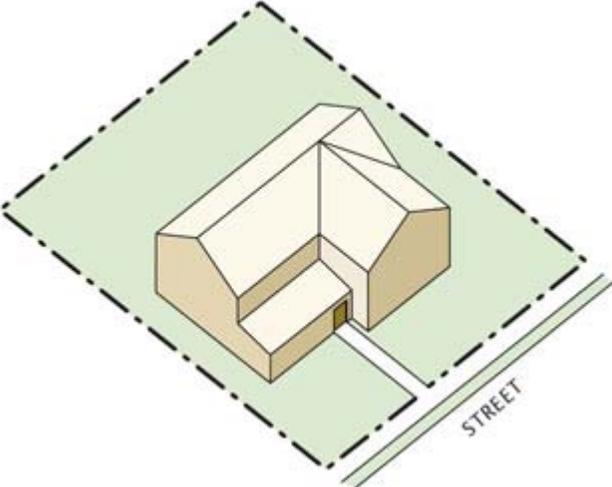


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Dwelling, Detached		A dwelling unit not attached to another dwelling unit.
Dwelling, Lot Line House		<p>A single-family detached dwelling unit that is placed against one (1) of the side lot lines. Such dwelling unit has a front and rear yard but only one side yard.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a 3D perspective of a house with a gabled roof and a chimney. The house is positioned against one of the dashed lines representing the side lot lines of a lot. A street is shown at the bottom right of the lot. A callout bubble with the text "Side lot lines" points to the dashed lines. The word "STREET" is written on the road surface.</p>
Dwelling, Manufactured Home	Residential	A residential dwelling unit that: 1.) Is constructed in accordance with the standards set forth in the Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Code; 2.) Is composed of one (1) or more components, each of which was substantially assembled in a manufacturing plant and designed to be transported to the home site on its own chassis, and 3.) Is at least forty (40) feet in length and eight (8) feet in width. A manufactured home may also be referred to as a "mobile home".
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Accessory		A manufactured home that was placed on a lot as a second dwelling as an accessory to an existing principal manufactured home or a site built / modular home prior to the adoption of this Ordinance.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class A	Residential	<p>A manufactured home constructed after July 1, 1976 that meets or exceeds the construction standards promulgated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that were in effect at the time of construction and that satisfies each of the following additional criteria:</p> <p>(a) The minimum width (the width being the narrower of the two overall dimensions) of the main body of the manufactured home as assembled on the site shall be at least twenty-two (22) feet for a distance extending along the length (the length being the longer of the two overall dimensions) of at least twenty (20) feet.</p> <p>(b) The pitch of the roof of the manufactured home has a minimum vertical rise of two and two-tenths feet for each twelve feet of horizontal run; the roof is finished with a type of shingle that is commonly used in standard residential construction and which does not exceed the reflectivity of gloss white paint; the roof has an overhang (eave) extending at least ten (10) inches from each vertical exterior wall. A site-installed gutter may be counted in the width of the eave.</p> <p>(c) The exterior siding consists of wood, hardboard, vinyl, brick or aluminum and shall be comparable in composition, appearance, and durability to the exterior siding commonly used in standard residential construction, and which does not exceed the reflectivity of gloss white paint.</p> <p>(d) A continuous, permanent masonry foundation or masonry curtain wall, un-pierced except for required ventilation and access, shall be installed upon a poured concrete footer after placement on the lot, and before occupancy.</p> <p>(e) The tongue, axles, transporting lights, and removable towing apparatus are removed after placement on the lot and before occupancy.</p> <p>(f) The manufactured home is set up on the site in accordance with the standards set by the N.C. Department of Insurance.</p> <p>(g) Stairs, porches, entrance platforms and other means of entrance and exit to the manufactured home shall be installed and constructed in accordance with the standards set by the N.C. Department of Insurance.</p> <p>(h) An uncovered front porch with continuous permanent masonry foundation with concrete decking, a minimum of eight (8) feet in width and eight (8) feet in depth.</p>
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class B	Residential	<p>A manufactured home that meets all of the criteria of a Class A Manufactured Home, except criteria (a), (b), and (c).</p>

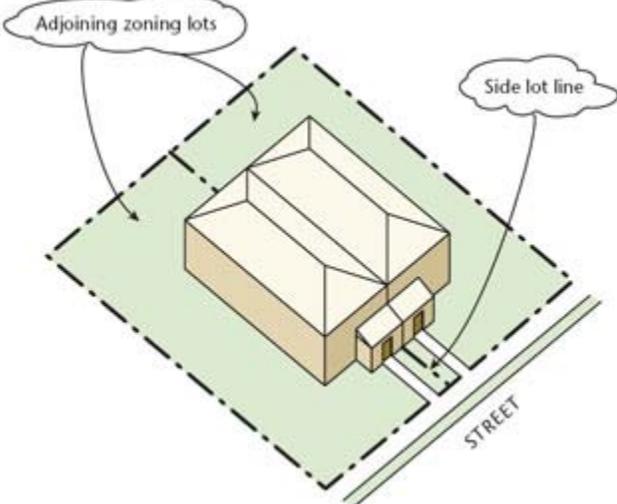
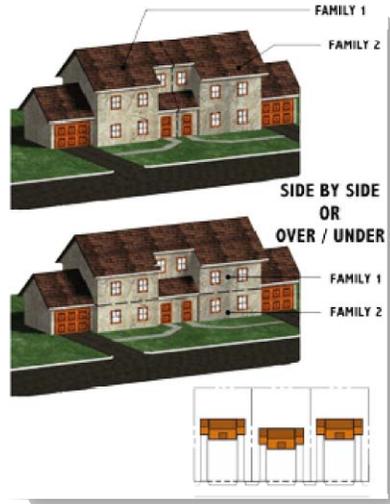


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class C	Residential	A manufactured home that meets all of the requirements of a Class A Manufactured Home, except criteria (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e); said manufactured home shall be installed with permanent type non-reflective skirting specifically manufactured for manufactured homes, pressure treated wood (except plain standard-surface, pressure treated plywood shall not be considered acceptable), or masonry underpinning. Such underpinning or skirting shall be installed under all elements of the manufactured home and be unpierced except for required ventilation and an access door.
Dwelling, Manufactured Home Class D	Residential	A manufactured home that does not meet the requirements of a Class A, Class B, or Class C Manufactured Home.
Dwelling, Mixed Use	Residential	A structure that contains both a principal residential and nonresidential (i.e., office or retail) use.
Dwelling, Multi-family	Residential	A building or portion thereof designed or occupied as three (3) or more dwelling units sharing common walls.
Dwelling, Patio House		<p>A single-family dwelling on a separate lot with open space on three (3) sides on that lot.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a 3D perspective view of a single-story house with a gabled roof and a small porch. The house is situated on a lot outlined by a dashed line. Three sides of the lot are open, with a street labeled "STREET" on the right side. The house is colored in shades of tan and brown.</p>
Dwelling, Row House		<p>A house that is one (1) of a row of identical or mirror-image houses situated side by side and sharing common walls.</p>  <p>Two photographs showing examples of row houses. The left photo shows a row of three-story houses with varied colors and architectural details. The right photo shows a row of two-story houses with similar architectural styles, situated on a street with trees and a sidewalk.</p>

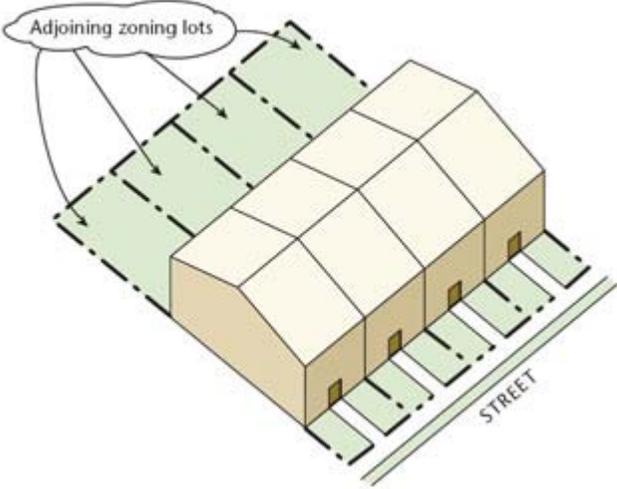


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
<p>Dwelling, Single-family Attached</p>		<p>A single-family dwelling that is connected by means of a common dividing structure or load-bearing wall, or by means of a floor-to-ceiling connection, of at least ten (10) linear feet, to one (1) or more other single-family dwellings.</p> 
<p>Dwelling, Single-family Detached</p>	<p>Residential</p>	<p>A detached building designed for or occupied exclusively by one (1) family, but not to include manufactured homes as defined by this Ordinance.</p> 
<p>Dwelling, Townhouse</p>		<p>A form of single-family attached dwelling where three (3) or more dwelling units located on separate lots are joined by a common building wall.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Dwelling, Twin Home		<p>Two (2) dwelling units on separate lots joined by a common building wall along the property line.</p> 
Dwelling, Two-family	Residential	<p>Two (2) dwelling units, including modular homes, attached along and sharing one (1) or more common walls.</p> 
Dwelling, Unit		<p>A room or combination of rooms designed for year-round habitation, containing self-sufficient bathroom and kitchen facilities, connected to all required utilities, and designed for or used as a residence by one (1) family. Units located within motels or hotels or travel trailers shall not be included as "dwelling units."</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Dwelling, Village House		<p>A single-family detached dwelling built on a small lot (typically smaller than the minimum lot size for the zoning district). Land saved by use of smaller lots is dedicated for common use. Houses may be placed close to the street to maximize rear yards. Shared driveways with separate parking areas may be utilized.</p>  <p>The diagram shows three small, single-story houses with gabled roofs arranged in a row along a street. Dashed lines indicate the boundaries of the lots. A callout bubble labeled "Adjoining zoning lots" points to the shared rear yard area between the houses. The street is labeled "STREET" at the bottom right.</p>
Easement		<p>A grant by a property owner to the public, a corporation, or other person or persons of the right to use an identifiable piece of land for specified purposes, such as for access or utilities, and which has been recorded in the Gaston County Register of Deeds Office.</p>
Electric, Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilating, Plumbing Supplies & Equipment Sales	Sales and Services	<p>The supply and sales of heating, air conditioning, ventilating, plumbing equipment and accessories. A small indoor area for a showroom shall be allowed.</p>
Encroachment		<p>The projection or intrusion of a building, structure, or other land-disturbing activity into an area where such projections are typically prohibited.</p>
Engineer		<p>A professional engineer licensed by the State of North Carolina.</p>
Entrance, Primary		<p>An entrance or entrances leading from collector streets, major thoroughfares, arterials, or highways to subdivisions, multi-family uses, planned developments, industrial, commercial, or office and institutional subdivisions and developments.</p>
Entrance, Secondary		<p>An entrance, or entrances, other than the primary entrance, leading from collector or local streets to subdivisions, multi-family uses, planned developments, industrial, commercial, or office and institutional subdivisions.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Essential Services		Publicly or privately owned facilities or systems for the distribution of gas, electricity, steam, or water, the collection and disposal of sewage or refuse; the transmission of communications; or similar functions necessary for the provision of public services. The provision of public safety services (i.e. law enforcement, emergency medical services, rescue services, fire protection), governmental uses, and related services shall be included as an essential service as described in Essential Service, Class 4. Essential Services are divided into the following four (4) classes as defined below.
Essential Services, Class 1	Civic / Community Organizations	Transmission lines (whether, subterranean or overhead) including electrical, natural gas, and water distribution lines; sewer gravity lines and pressure mains; underground septic tanks and drain fields, cable television and telephone transmission lines; or similar utility lines; pumping stations; lift stations; telephone switching facilities [up to one-hundred (100) square feet gross floor area].
Essential Services, Class 2	Civic / Community Organizations	Elevated water storage tanks; booster stations, package treatment plants, telephone switching facilities [over one-hundred (100) square feet gross floor area], substations, or other similarly required facilities in connection with telephone, electric, steam, water, sewer, or other similar utilities, and solid waste / recycling convenience center.
Essential Services, Class 3	Civic / Community Organizations	Generation facilities such as power plants; sanitary landfills; septic tank waste disposal facilities; water treatment plant; sewage treatment plans (excluding package treatment plants); microwave towers.
Essential Services, Class 4	Civic / Community Organizations	A use or facility owned or operated by the County or its designee, serving in one (1) of the following capacities, including, but not limited to: an agency office, rescue services (including volunteer rescue services), emergency medical services, public safety station, fire station (including volunteer fire station), public safety services and dispatch, or personnel training and development center. A public safety station may contain living quarters for on-duty personnel. Facilities for the maintenance of equipment housed at the operation site are also permitted. The following uses and/or activities shall not be classified as a Class 4 Essential Service: vehicle storage yard; outdoor/indoor firing range; jail; prison; sanitary landfill; solid waste transfer or disposal facility; wastewater treatment facility; educational or health institution; university; group home; half- way house or housing for persons who are participating in work release programs or who have previously served and completed terms of imprisonment for violations of criminal laws.

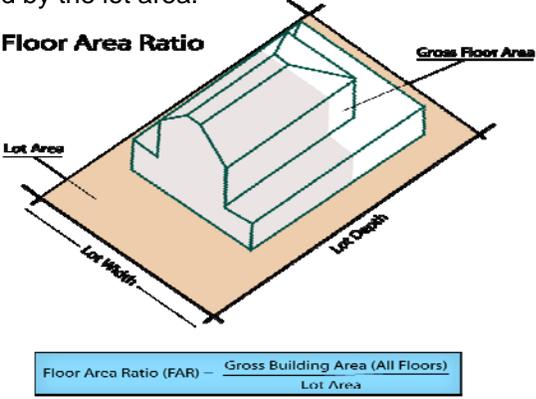


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Exterminator's Office	Sales and Services	A business designed to apply measures to either control or eliminate indoor or outdoor pests.
Extraterritorial Jurisdiction		The area adjacent to and beyond the municipal limits over which the municipality has been granted an exercise of municipal governmental powers, including but not limited to the power to regulate development, in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, Section 160A-360.
Façade		<p>The exterior wall of a building exposed to public view or that wall viewed by persons who are not in such building.</p> 
Family		An individual, or two (2) or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption living together as a single housekeeping unit, exclusive of household servants; or a group of not more than six (6) persons who need not be related by blood, marriage, or adoption living together as a single housekeeping unit.
Family Burial Ground		A privately owned, noncommercial graveyard created and maintained for the interment of family members of the property owner and restricted to such use.
Family Care Home	Residential	A home with support and supervisory personnel that provides room and board, personal care and habilitation services in a family environment for not more than six (6) resident handicapped persons.
Family Member		Direct lineal descendants (children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren) and direct lineal ascendants (father, mother, grandfather and grandmother); and brothers, sisters.
Farm Supply Store	Sales and Services	An establishment where feed, seed, animal and agricultural supplies are primarily sold in bulk quantities.
Farmers Market	Civic / Community Organizations	A market at which fruits and vegetables are regularly sold to the general public on a retail basis. Other food items, handmade crafts, and baked goods not native to this region may also be sold at such establishments, provided these items may not constitute a majority of total sales.
Fence		An exterior structure serving as an enclosure, barrier, or boundary constructed of materials commonly considered to be fence materials.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Fence, Deer		A fence specifically designed to thwart the movement of deer and similar animals. Such fences are typically eight (8) to ten (10) feet in height and have an electrically charged wire on top.
Fenestration		Architectural treatment over, around, or near a window, door, or other feature of relief on the elevation of a building. 
Financial Institution	Commercial Services	A commercial bank, a mortgage bank, a savings bank, a saving and loan association, or a credit union any of which are licensed, insured or chartered by the United States of America or the State of North Carolina. Manned drive-through services are provided on site. Outdoor automatic teller machines (ATMs) may or may not be provided.
Firing Range	Sales and Service	An enclosed or outdoor facility for firearms practice with targets. Detonation of explosives may be included in this definition.
Fish Hatcheries	Agricultural	A commercial facility consisting of tanks or ponds in which fish are raised for food.
Flag		A piece of durable fabric of distinctive design attached to a permanent pole that is used as a symbol or decorative feature.
Flea Market	Sales and Services	A market held in an open area or structure where goods are offered for sale to the general public by individual sellers from open or semi-open facilities, booths, or temporary structures.
Flex Space	All Other Uses	A building or portion thereof that can be used and/or easily converted to use for office, retail sales, wholesale sales, distribution or storage use.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Floor Area Ratio		<p>The gross floor area of all buildings and structures on a lot divided by the lot area.</p> 
Food Catering Facility	Commercial Services	A facility at which a prearranged amount and type of food is prepared for consumption off-premises or in a meeting room on premises. A food catering facility differs from a restaurant in that food is not offered for sale to the general public on a retail basis.
Food Pantry	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility operated by a public or non-profit entity that directly distributes unprepared packaged food items to the public on a charitable basis. Such facilities may also distribute clothing to the general public in such manner.
Fraternal and Service Organization Meeting Facility (Nonprofit and Not-For-Profit)	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility operated by an association of persons for activities which include, but are not limited to social, literary, political, educational, fraternal, charitable, or labor activities, with regular meetings and membership requirements. The facility is not operated for profit or to render a service that is customarily conducted as a business.
Freeway		A major thoroughfare providing for high-speed mobility and having no at-grade crossings.
Freight and Flying Services	Transportation	A facility operated for the transport of goods, merchandise, materials and commodities of any kind that may be transported from one place to another by air.
Fuel Nozzle		<p>The projecting part of a hose attached to a Fueling Pump through which fuel is discharged or dispensed.</p> 

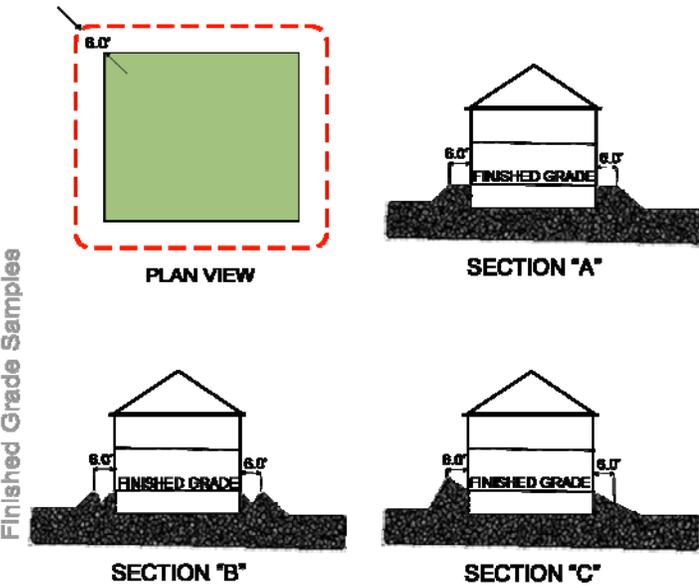


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Fueling Pump		<p>A fuel-dispensing pump, which may contain more than one (1) fuel nozzle, designed to accommodate one (1) or two (2) vehicles at a time. If two (2) vehicles are accommodated at the same time, fuel nozzles serving the two (2) vehicles shall be located on opposite sides of the fuel pump.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>
Funeral Home	Commercial Services	<p>A facility used for the preparation of the deceased for burial and the display of the deceased and ceremonies connected therewith. Such facility may also sell caskets and other items associated with a funeral service.</p>
Furniture Store	Sales and Services	<p>A retail establishment that is primarily engaged in the sale of home or office furniture and related goods.</p>
Furrier	Sales and Services	<p>An occupation or business that deals in furs or the dressing, designing, cleaning, or repairing of fur garments.</p>
Game Room	Recreation	<p>A building or a part of a building containing eight (8) or more video, pinball, or similar player operated amusement devices, in any combination, for commercial use. An establishment containing a game room may have more than one (1) principal use.</p>
Garage, Private		<p>A building or portion thereof that is accessory to a principal structure and providing for the storage of automobiles, and in which there is no occupation or business for profit carried on. Such garage shall be enclosed on all four (4) sides, and may be attached to or detached from the principal dwelling unit.</p>
Garage, Rear Load Detached		<p>A building, attached or detached, which is loaded and accessible only by an alley way or street along the rear of the lot. No vehicular access from the front street is allowed.</p>

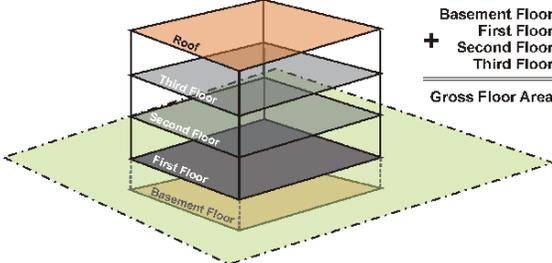


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Glass and Mirror Shop	Commercial Services	Glass and mirror is cut to size as per order, including edge finishing and / or tempering.
Golf, Course	Recreation	A tract of land for playing golf, improved with tees, fairways, hazards and which may include as accessory uses: clubhouses, shelters and golf driving range. Such definition shall not include "miniature golf" or "golf driving range" establishments.
Golf, Driving Range	Recreation	<p>A golf practice facility included at most golf courses or as a stand alone business. The driving range may consist of a large open field and a teeing ground. Golfers line up side by side to hit the balls into the open field. The landing area or open field may have target greens or yardage markers. Most driving ranges sell buckets of balls of varying sizes and prices. Many driving ranges also have practice putting greens, and may have areas for chipping, pitching and bunker practice. Lighting of the range may be an option for nighttime use.</p> 
Golf, Miniature	Recreation	<p>Golf played with golf balls and putters on a miniature course with obstacles at each hole. Lighting of the range may be an option for nighttime use.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Grade, Finished		<p>A reference plane representing the average of finished ground level adjoining the building at all exterior walls. When the finished ground level slopes away from the exterior walls, the reference plane shall be established by the lowest points within the area between the building and the lot line or between the building and a point six (6) feet from the building and the lot line or between the building and a point six (6) feet from the building, whichever is closer to the building.</p>  <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Finished Grade Samples</p>
Grade, Street		<p>The height of the top of the curb, or if no curb exists, the height of the edge of pavement in the lane of travel adjacent to the side of the street at which the grade is being measured.</p>
Greenhouse, Commercial		<p>See "Nursery (garden)"</p>
Greenway		<p>Linear open space that is generally established along a corridor that can be used for connectivity (trails) or water quality protection.</p>
Grocery Store (Food Store)	Sales and Services	<p>An establishment, over three thousand (3,000) square feet in area, which may sell a wide variety of fresh produce, canned and packaged food items, small household goods and similar items which are consumed and used off premises. In addition, the store may contain a delicatessen section in which prepared foods are sold and may be consumed on premises in a specially designed sit-down area. Such stores may also contain manned internal bank branches. Sales of grocery items are highly dependent on comparison shopping.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Grooming Services	Personal Services	Establishments engaged primarily in providing services to a person's grooming needs. Such services include, but are not limited to: barbershops, beauty shops, tanning salons and nail salons. Tattoo parlors shall not be included under this definition.
Gross Floor Area		<p>The sum of the gross horizontal areas of each floor of a principal building, and any accessory building or structures measured from outside of the exterior walls or from the centerline of party walls. The term does not include any area used exclusively for the surface parking of motor vehicles or for building or equipment access, such as stairs, elevator shafts, and maintenance crawlspace. This term also excludes pedestrian walkways and common areas within enclosed shopping facilities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEFINITION : GROSS FLOOR AREA</p> 
Ground Covers		Low growing plants such as grasses, ivies, creeping bushes and similar decorative plantings. Where required by this Ordinance, ground covers shall have the capability of soil stabilization and erosion control.
Group Home	Residential	A facility, other than a family care home, that is licensed by the State of North Carolina, that has support and supervisory personnel and provides room and board, personal care, or habilitation services in a family environment for more than six (6) but not more than thirty (30) handicapped persons, unwed mothers with their neonates, and battered spouses with their children.
Gunsmith, Gun and Ammunition Sales	Commercial Services	Gunsmiths repair and modify firearms to blueprint and customer specifications. In their work, gunsmiths use hand tool and machines such as grinders, planers, and millers. They may restore antique guns, convert old rifles to up-to-date firearms, or adapt factory-made rifles to the special needs of customers. Many gunsmiths work for gun manufacturers or sporting goods stores. Some are self-employed. Gunsmiths may participate in the reloading of ammunition and / or sale of arms and ammunition.

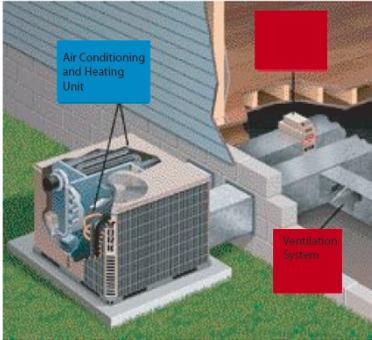


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Handicapped Person		A person with a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one (1) or more of such person's major life activities; a person with a record of having such an impairment; or a person who is regarded as having such an impairment. This term does not include current, illegal use of or addiction to a controlled substance as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 802.
Hardware Sales	Commercial Services	A hardware store sells items such as but not limited to fasteners, keys, locks, hinges, wire, chains, plumbing supplies, tools, utensils, cutlery and machine parts, etc.
Health and Behavioral Care Facility	Medical	A facility designed to offer two (2) or more health and behavioral services to clients. Such services may include limited medical care and health education, parenting program, adoption agency, and counseling center.
Health Club, Spa, Gymnasium (principal use)	Recreation	A place of business with equipment and facilities for exercising and improving physical fitness.
Heavy, Industrial, Farm Equipment Sales and Service	Sales and Services	A facility where vehicles or other apparatus commonly used in commercial, industrial or construction enterprises are sold and serviced. This includes, but is not be limited to: trucks, trailers, bulldozers, cranes, backhoes, rollers, loaders, and lifts, each having a gross weight of two and one-half (2.5) tons or more.
Heliport / Helistop	Transportation	An area designated to be used for the landing or takeoff of helicopters including operations facilities such as maintenance, loading, storage, fueling and terminal facilities.
Highway, Corridor		A highway, or portion thereof, which is designated by the Board of County Commissioners for the placement of a CH Corridor Highway Overlay District.
Highway, Special		A highway, or portion thereof, which is designated by the Board of County Commissioners for the placement of a SH Special Highway Overlay District.
Holiday Decorations		Displays erected on a seasonal basis in observance of religious, national, or state holidays which are not intended to be permanent in nature and which contain no advertising material.
Home Occupation, Customary	Sales and Services	Certain nonresidential uses conducted within a dwelling unit which is clearly incidental and subordinate to the residential use and, when observed from beyond the lot on which it is located, does not give visual, audible, sensory or physical evidence the property is used for any nonresidential purpose.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Home Occupation, Rural	Sales and Services	Certain nonresidential uses conducted in an accessory structure by the occupants of the lot upon which it is located. The use is clearly incidental and subordinate to the residential use and, when observed from beyond the lot on which it is located, does not give visual, audible, sensory or physical evidence the property is used for any nonresidential purpose.
Hospital	Medical	An institution providing physical and mental health services primarily for human inpatient medical or surgical care for the sick or injured, including related facilities such as laboratories, outpatient services, training facilities, central service facilities, emergency services, and staff offices. A hospital shall provide facilities for the overnight and extended stay of persons in need of medical treatment and may have accessory uses such as a prayer chapel, gift shop, cafeteria, etc. that serves the needs of staff, patients and visitors.
Hotel	Commercial Services	A facility containing six (6) or more rooms and offering transient lodging accommodations to the general public and which may provide additional services such as restaurants, lounges, meeting rooms and recreation facilities. Less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the rooms for rent shall have direct access to the outside. An "adult hotel or motel" shall not be considered a "hotel" and shall be governed as an "adult establishment."
Hotel, Full service	Commercial Services	An establishment providing a minimum of one-hundred (100) sleeping rooms (a suite shall be counted as two sleeping rooms) that have interior access. A "hotel" also has a restaurant with full table service, lounge, meeting facilities consisting of a minimum of five-thousand (5,000) square feet in one (1) room (said room may be divided by flexible partitions) and may include other hotel-related amenities and guest services.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
HVAC Equipment		<p>External heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and other mechanical and utility equipment, including but not limited to, hoses, pipes, vents, fans, compressors, pumps, and heating and cooling units associated with buildings and accessory structures.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HVAC Equipment</p>  <p>The diagram shows an outdoor air conditioning and heating unit on a concrete pad next to a building. A blue callout box points to the unit with the text "Air Conditioning and Heating Unit". A red callout box points to a duct system on the roof with the text "Ventilation System".</p>
Impervious Surface		<p>Any material that reduces and prevents absorption of storm water into previously undeveloped land. This includes but is not limited to, buildings, roads, pavement, gravel surfaces, etc. Items not considered to be "impervious" include the water area of a swimming pool and wooden slatted decks.</p>
Impervious Surface Ratio		<p>The gross area of all impervious surfaces on a lot divided by the lot area.</p>
Industrial Heavy Equipment Bulk Storage Yard	Industrial / General Manufacturing	<p>Storage area, either open or enclosed for heavy equipment, new or used, including refrigeration equipment, chillers, boilers, motorized heavy equipment, bulk production equipment, and other miscellaneous equipment not covered under Junk Yard definition or other sections of this Ordinance.</p>
Junkyard and Salvage Yard	Industrial / General Manufacturing	<p>The use of more than five hundred (500) square feet of the area of any lot for the outdoor storage, keeping or abandonment of junk, including scrap metals or other scrap materials, or for the dismantling, demolition or abandonment of two (2) or more automobiles, vehicles or machinery or parts thereof.</p>
Laboratories – Dental, Medical	Medical	<p>Dental Laboratories are considered light manufacturing for products of dental restoration based on the order of a dentist; whereas a Medical Laboratory is any institution, building, or place which provides the examination of blood, tissues, secretions, and excretions of the human body or any function of the human body.</p>
Land-disturbing Activity		<p>Any use of the land by any person for residential, industrial, educational, institutional, or commercial development, or for highway and road construction and maintenance, that results in a change in the natural cover or topography and that may cause or contribute to sedimentation. Within watershed management areas, land-disturbing activity shall include the clear cutting of trees unless specifically exempted by this Ordinance.</p>

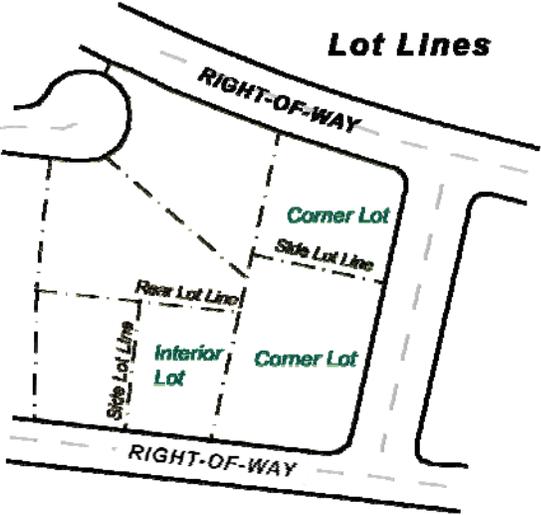
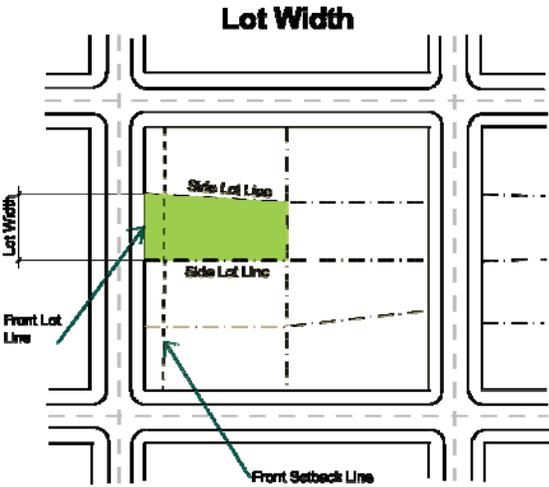


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Landfill, Beneficial Fill	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A fill activity that involves no excavation and the fill material is limited to concrete, brick, concrete block, uncontaminated soil, rock, gravel, used asphalt and used asphalt mixed with dirt, sand, gravel, rock, concrete or similar non-hazardous material. The purpose of the fill is to improve the land use potential.
Landfill, Land Clearing and Inert Debris (major)	Industrial / General Manufacturing	An off-premise commercial disposal site other than a Minor Land Clearing and Inert Debris Landfill (as herein defined) for stumps, limbs, leaves, concrete, brick, wood, uncontaminated earth, gravel, used asphalt and used asphalt mixed with dirt, sand, gravel, rock, concrete or similar non-hazardous material.. The North Carolina Division of Solid Waste Management must approve the disposal of any other types of wastes.
Landfill, Land Clearing and Inert Debris (minor)	Industrial / General Manufacturing	An off-premise commercial disposal site that meets each of the following conditions: (i) The fill material shall consist of debris strictly limited to concrete, brick, concrete block, uncontaminated soil, rock, gravel, limbs, leaves, stumps, used asphalt and used asphalt mixed with dirt, sand, gravel, rock, concrete or similar non-hazardous material. (ii) The North Carolina Division of Solid Waste Management must approve disposal of any other types of wastes. (iii) The fill activity will cover two (2) acres or less, and be in operation for three (3) years or less.
Landfill, Onsite		A landfill which is located within the confines of property being developed or in use, and used only for the disposal of acceptable on-site natural materials (e.g., stumps, tree limbs, etc.) which are generated on the property being developed. This area must be shown on a recorded plat / map.
Landowner		Any owner of a legal or equitable interest in real property, including the heirs, devisees, successors, assigns, and agent or personal representative of the owner. The person shown on the records of the Gaston County Register of Deeds shall be presumed to be the person in control of the property.
Laundromat	Personal Services	A commercial facility open to the general public where coin-operated washing and drying machines are available for use.
Lawn and Garden Center	Commercial Services	A retail sales and service establishment with retail sales of nursery stock and accessory supplies, fresh produce, landscaping supplies, lawn furniture, playground equipment, topsoil, mulching materials, garden tractors, utility vehicles, and lawn mowers and similar powered lawn and garden equipment and other similar supplies and equipment used for lawn and garden purposes and retail repair and service for such equipment.
Leasable Area, Gross		The total floor area for which a tenant pays rent and which is designed for the tenant's occupancy and exclusive use.
Library	Civic / Community Organizations	A public facility for the shared use, but not sale, of literary, musical, artistic, or reference materials.

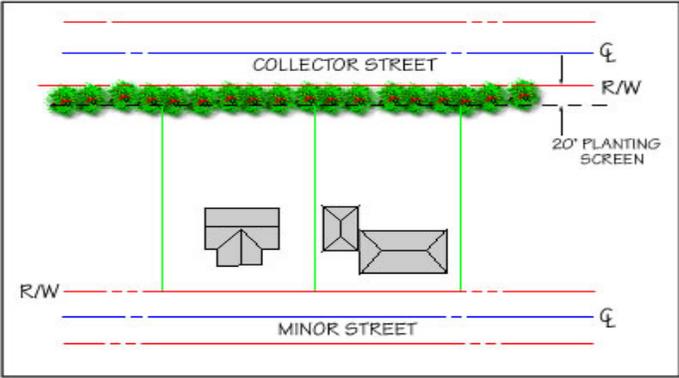


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Loading Space, Off-street		An off-street space or berth on the same lot with a building or contiguous to a group of buildings for the temporary parking of commercial vehicles while loading or unloading merchandise or materials.
Logo		<p>The graphic or pictorial presentation of a message, including, but not limited to, the use of shapes, designs, decorations, emblems, trademarks, symbols, or illustrations, or the superimposition of letters or numbers or any other use of graphics or images other than the sequential use of letters and numbers.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>
Lot		<p>A parcel of land whose boundaries have been established by some legal instrument such as a recorded deed or a recorded map and which is recognized as a separate legal entity for purposes of transfer of title.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lot Types</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>
Lot Area		The total area circumscribed by the boundaries of a lot, except that: (i) when the legal instrument creating a lot shows the boundary of the lot extending into a public street right-of-way, then the lot boundary for purposes of computing the lot area shall be the street right-of-way line, or (ii) if the right-of-way line cannot be determined, a line running parallel to and thirty (30) feet from the center of the traveled portion of the street shall be used to calculate the area.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Lot Line		<p>A line of record bounding a lot that separates one lot from another lot or separates that lot from a public or private street or any other public space.</p>  <p>The diagram, titled "Lot Lines", shows a street with a "RIGHT-OF-WAY" line. It depicts several lots: a "Corner Lot" at the top right, an "Interior Lot" in the center, and another "Corner Lot" at the bottom right. Dashed lines represent different lot boundaries: "Side Lot Line", "Rear Lot Line", and "Front Lot Line".</p>
Lot Line, Front		The lot line that separates a lot from a street right-of-way.
Lot Line, Interior		A lot line that does not have street frontage.
Lot Line, Rear		The lot line(s) opposite and most distant from the front lot line.
Lot Line, Side		Any lot line abutting another lot and which is not a front or rear lot line.
Lot of Record		A lot described pursuant to the most current plat or metes and bounds recorded in the office of the Gaston County Register of Deeds, which was in compliance at the time of recording.
Lot Width		<p>The horizontal distance between side lot lines at the front building line measured parallel with the front lot line.</p>  <p>The diagram, titled "Lot Width", shows a lot within a street grid. A green shaded rectangle represents the front building line. A horizontal double-headed arrow labeled "Lot Width" spans the distance between the two vertical "Side Lot Lines" at the front of the lot. Other labels include "Front Lot Line" and "Front Setback Line".</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Lot, Corner		A lot which occupies the interior angle at the intersection of two (2) street lines which make an angle of more than forty-five (45) degrees and less than one-hundred thirty-five (135) degrees with each other. The street line forming the least frontage shall be deemed the front of the lot.
Lot, Interior		A lot other than a corner lot.
Lot, Nonconforming		Any Lot of Record which does not meet the minimum yard or area requirements established in these regulations at the time of this Ordinance's adoption or any amendment thereto.
Lot, Reverse Frontage		<p>A continuous lot which is accessible from only the minor of two (2) roads upon which it fronts.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">REVERSE FRONTAGE LOT</p>
Lot, Through		A lot that fronts upon two (2) parallel streets, or that fronts upon two (2) streets that do not intersect at the boundaries of the street.
Lounge / Nightclub	All Other Uses	An establishment that stays open late at night and provides food, drink, entertainment, music and dancing.
Machine, Metal and Woodworking Shop	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A workshop, in which work, including but not limited to metal and woodwork, is machined, assembled or finished.
Manufactured Goods		<p>Manufacturing, refining, processing, or assembly of goods or products subject to the following limitations:</p> <p>The term "NAICS" shall refer to the North American Industry Classification System as set forth in the NAICS Manual published by the United States of America, Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget and unless a use is defined in this Ordinance, the NAICS Manual shall be used to define, clarify or more specifically identify the uses and groups of uses listed. While the NAICS Manual uses the term "establishments primarily engaged in" in defining types of manufacturing operations, this Ordinance shall be construed to mean that if the activity is conducted at all within the use and that activity is listed as being a "conditional use", then the entire use shall be deemed a "conditional use" as opposed to being a "permitted use".</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Manufactured Goods, Class 1	Industrial / General Manufacturing	All manufacturing industries except those listed as "Manufacturing Goods, Class 2".
Manufactured Goods, Class 2	Industrial / General Manufacturing	<p>The following manufacturing industries as identified by their NAICS Category and Code Number(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickled fruits and vegetables (NAICS 311421, 311941) • Flour and other grain mill products, sugar refining (NAICS 311211, 311311, 311313) • Animal feeds and pet foods (NAICS 311111, 311119, 311611) • Fats and oils (NAICS 31122) • Beer/malt beverages, wines, brandy, distilled and blended liquor; roasted coffee (NAICS 311920, 311942, 312120, 312130, 312140) • The following manufacturing listed under NAICS 311212, 311340: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Non-chocolate Confectionery Manufacturing (2) Rice Milling • Tobacco products (NAICS 3122) • Dying and finishing textiles, except wool fabrics and knot goods (NAICS 313210, 3133, 315192, 315191, 315111, 315119) • Coated fabrics, rubberized and not rubberized; canvas and related products (NAICS 313320, 314912, 315299, 315999, 326192, 326299, 339113, 339932) • Sawmills and planing mills, general (NAICS 321113, 321912, 321918, 321999) • Wood building and mobile (manufactured) homes (NAICS 321991, 321992) • Wood preserving; reconstituted wood products; pulp mills; paper mills; paperboard mills (NAICS 321114, 321219, 322110, 322121, 322122, 322130) • Industrial inorganic chemicals; Plastic materials, synthetic resins and rubber; cellulosic and other man-made fibers, except glass (NAICS 3252, 32518, 325120, 325131) • Soaps, detergents and cleaning preparations; perfumes, cosmetics, and other toilet preparations (NAICS 3256) • Paints, varnishes, lacquers, enamels and allied products (NAICS 32551) • Industrial organic chemicals; agricultural chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, etc.) (NAICS 32531, 32532) • Miscellaneous chemical products (all products listed under NAICS 32552, 32592, 32591, 325182, 325199, 311942, 325998, 325510) (e.g., adhesives, sealants, explosives, printing ink, carbon black, and other chemical and chemical preparations) • Lubricating oils and greases (NAICS 324191) • Products of petroleum and coal classified under NAICS 324199 • Tires and inner tubes (NAICS 326211) • Plastic products found under NAICS 325 991, 326113, 326121, 326122, 326130, 326140, 326160, 326191, 326199, 337215, 326122, when resins are made at the same facility • Leather tanning and finishing (NAICS 316110) • Flat glass; glass and glassware; (NAICS 327211, 327212) • Cement, hydraulic (NAICS 327310) • Structural clay products (NAICS 32712, 327331) • Pottery and related products (NAICS 32711) except handmade pottery and arts and crafts operations involving no more than one-thousand (1,000) cubic feet of kiln space • Concrete gypsum and plastic products; cut stone and stone products (NAICS 32733, 32739, 32732, 327410, 327420, 327991) • Abrasive products; asbestos products; mineral wool; (NAICS 327910, 327993, 327999, 332999, 336340)



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Manufactured Goods, Class 2 (cont'd)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and earth, ground or otherwise treated (NAICS 212324, 212325, 212393, 212399, 327992) • Non-clay refractories (NAICS 327125) • Miscellaneous nonmetallic mineral products listed under NAICS 327112, 327999, 327420 • Steel works, blast furnaces, and rolling and finishing mills; iron and steel foundries; primary and secondary smelting and refining of nonferrous metals; rolling, drawing and extruding of nonferrous metals; nonferrous foundries; (NAICS 324199, 331111, 331112, 331221, 332618, 3312, 3315, 3314, 3313) • Metal heat treating; metal forging-iron, steel and nonferrous; coating and engraving of metals and allied services (NAICS 3321, 33281, 339911, 339912, 339914) • Manufacture of other primary metal products listed under NAICS 331314, 331423, 331492, 332813, 331221, 332618 • Manufacture of ordnance (arms, ammunition, etc.) and accessories except vehicles and guided missiles (NAICS 33299) • Power, distribution and specialty transformers (NAICS 335311) • Electrical industrial carbon and graphic products (NAICS 335991) • Storage batteries; primary batteries, dry and wet (NAICS 335911, 335912) • Motor vehicles; truck, bus and passenger car bodies; truck trailers; motor homes; (NAICS 3361, 3362, 336510, 333911, 336991) • Aircraft; guided missiles and space vehicles and parts (NAICS 33641, 54171) • Under NAICS 336214 - camping trailers • (Military) tanks (and related armored vehicles) (NAICS 336992) but not tank components • Under NAICS 325992, 333315 - all photographic supplies but not photographic equipment • Under NAICS 325998, 339942 all inks, paints, oils, enamels, and crayons • Carbon paper and inked ribbons (NAICS 339944) • Linoleum, asphalt - felt-base, and other hard surface floor covering listed under NAICS 326192 • Meat packing plants and poultry dressing plants (NAICS 311611, 311615, 311999) • Processing and packing of canned, cured, fresh, or frozen fish and seafood (NAICS 311711, 311712) • Petroleum refining (NAICS 32411) • Asphalt paving and roofing materials (NAICS 32412) • Mining (NAICS 221, 212, 213)
Manufactured Home Park	Residential	Any premises where two (2) or more manufactured homes are parked for living and sleeping purposes, or any premises used for or set apart for the purpose of supplying to the public, parking space for manufactured homes for living and sleeping purposes.

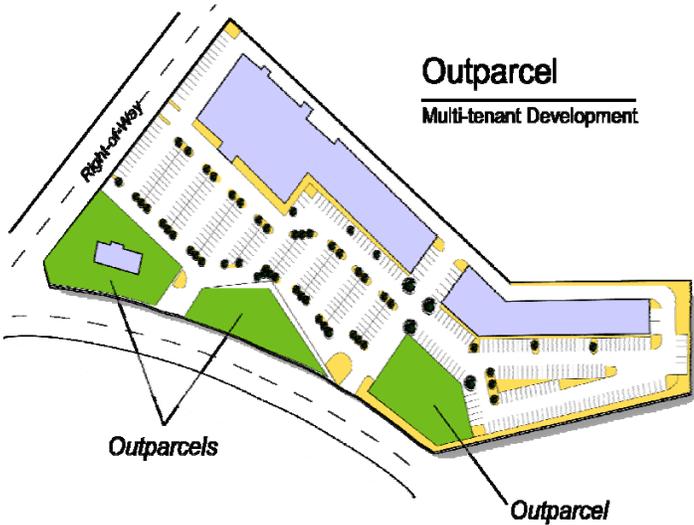


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Manufactured Home Space		A plot of land within a manufactured home park designed for the accommodation of a single manufactured home in accordance with the requirements contained in this Ordinance.
Marina, Accessory	Commercial Services	A facility which is accessory to a residential development and which provides boat slips for use by the residents of such development and their guests.
Marina, Commercial	Commercial Services	A commercial facility containing moorings and boat slips available for use by the general public and which may also offer supply and repair services.
Maternity Home	Residential	A home licensed to provide care for pregnant females as well as provide space for live-in house parents.
Military Reserve Center	Civic / Community Organizations	A place used for training reserve military personnel and where military arms and military equipment may be stored.
Mini-Warehouse	Commercial Services	A structure containing separate storage spaces of varying sizes leased or rented on an individual basis. No outdoor storage shall be allowed in conjunction with the facility with the following exceptions: boats, cars; motorcycles; trailers; motor homes, pickup trucks and similar-type and size vehicles. All such areas devoted for outdoor storage shall be in areas so designated for such storage. Use of the leased storage spaces shall be for storage purposes only.
Mobile Home		See " Dwelling, Manufactured Home "
Mobile Home Park		See "Manufactured Home Park"
Model Sales Home		A permanent building intended for ultimate use as a residential dwelling unit that is typical of the dwellings in the residential development where it is located and which is temporarily used by the builder for the purpose of display and sales associated with residential property where the builder has other homes for sale in the same development or subdivision.
Modular Home		A dwelling unit constructed in accordance with the standards set forth in the North Carolina Building Code (Uniform Residential Code for One and Two-Family Dwellings) and composed of components substantially assembled in a manufacturing plant and transported to the building site for final assembly on a permanent foundation. A "modular home", as herein defined, shall be deemed to be a single-family dwelling for purposes of this Ordinance.
Monument Sales	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A dealer who sells a cemetery type monument, marker or plaque to the general public.
Motel	Commercial Services	An establishment providing transient accommodations containing six (6) or more rooms with at least twenty-five (25) percent of all rooms having direct access to the outside without the necessity of passing through the main lobby of the building.

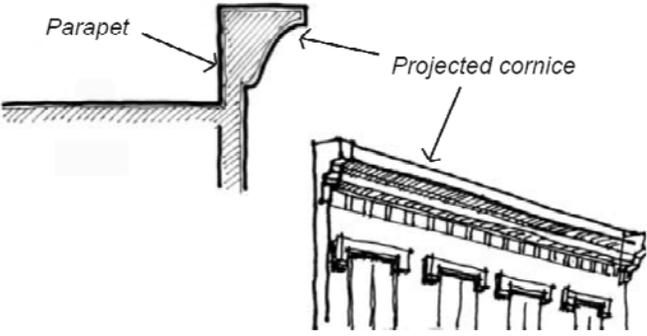
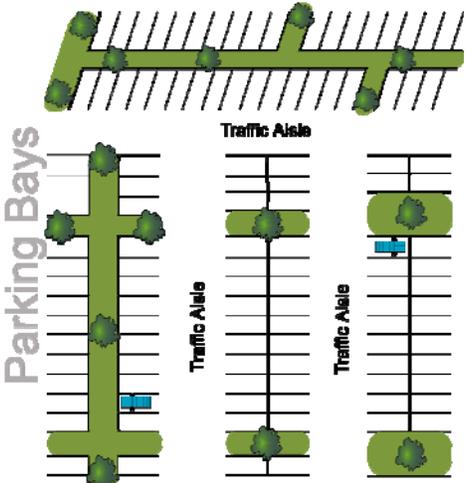


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Motor Home		See "Vehicle, Recreational"
Moving and Storage Facilities	Commercial Services	A facility that provides pickup and hauling of items and temporary on-site storage sometimes referred to as "mini-storage". Moving vehicles for rent or hire and associated supplies may be purchased or rented.
Multi-family Development	Residential	A tract of land under individual, corporate, firm, partnership or association ownership, or under common control evidenced by duly recorded contracts or agreements; planned and developed as an integral unit in a single development operation or in a definitely programmed series of development operations. Such development shall consist of two (2) or more duplex buildings, or three (3) or more dwelling units sharing one or more common walls. The development shall have a unified or coordinated design of buildings and a coordinated organization of service areas and common open space area.
Museum	Civic / Community Organizations	A structure that serves as a repository for a collection of curiosities or objects of interest or works of art intended to be viewed by members of the public with or without admission costs. It may include an accessory use with the sale of goods/gifts to the public and/or an eating establishment for visitors and employees.
Nonconformity		Any use, building, structure, lot, or sign that was lawful at the time it was constructed or established but which fails to comply with one or more of the applicable regulations or standards of this Ordinance.
Noncommercial Copy		A sign message through pictures, illustrations, symbols and/or words, or any combination thereof, which does not contain any reference to a business or product but displays a substantive message, statement or expression that is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
Nursery (garden)	Commercial Services	A commercial enterprise conducted on land where flowers, shrubs and similar horticultural products are raised and sold to general public. Nurseries may include the use of greenhouses for growing purposes. Goods may also be grown and displayed outdoors.
Nursing Home	Civic / Community Organizations	A licensed facility that provides supportive service to six (6) or more elderly or disabled in-house residents who need a wide range of health and support services located on the site, such as medical and nursing care, central dining, and transportation services.
Office	Office General	A room or group of rooms used for the conduct of a business, profession, service, industry or government where retail trade is not conducted.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Office, Medical Services	Medical	An office (as herein defined) facility containing space for patient waiting rooms, treatment areas and laboratory space for medical doctors (MDs), osteopaths, chiropractors, dentists, podiatrists, acupuncturists, psychologists, licensed nurse/midwives, licensed physical therapists, licensed nurse practitioners, licensed respiratory therapists or optometrists.
Open Space		Areas of publicly or privately owned natural area that is protected for natural and cultural resources.
Organic Waste		Materials that are primarily composed of yard trimmings, wood waste, dead trees and other dead vegetation, Christmas trees, wood pallets, land clearing debris and other similar materials.
Outdoor Event (temporary use)		Circuses, fairs, carnivals, festivals and other types of outdoor events that run on a temporary basis and are intended to or are likely to attract substantial crowds.
Outdoor Resale Business		A business that sells used merchandise (other than automobiles, trucks, boats, motorcycles, manufactured homes or recreational vehicles) and stores or displays this merchandise outdoors on a regular basis.
Outparcel		<p>A lot located within a planned multi-tenant development that does not have direct access from a public road abutting the development. Said lot may contain no more than one (1) principal use.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Package Treatment Plant		A small self-contained sewage treatment facility built to serve developed areas that lie beyond the service area of sanitary sewers.
Paintball Game		A game in which players on one team seek to eliminate those on an opposing team by marking them with a water-soluble dye shot in capsules from air guns.
Paintball Facility	Recreation	A commercial facility providing either an indoor or outdoor enclosed area for customers to participate in paintball games and related activities.
Parapet		<p>That portion of a building wall or false front that extends above the roofline.</p> 
Park	Recreation	A facility operated by a public entity that is open to the public for outdoor active recreational uses, including, but not limited to: ball fields, swimming facilities, camping facilities, and which contains improvements designed specifically for such active recreational uses. Such facilities may also contain improvements designed for passive recreational uses.
Parking Bay		<p>A parking module consisting of one (1) or more sets of one (1) or two (2) rows of parking spaces and the aisle from which motor vehicles enter and leave.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Parking Deck		A building designed and used for the storage of motor vehicles and which may contain retail or office uses on its ground floor.
Parking Facility, Overflow		An off-street parking area intended for the storage of vehicles for special, athletic or other occasional events. Such a facility is not typically used more than ten (10) times a year.
Parking Lot (principal use)	Transportation	An open, hard-surfaced area, other than a street or public way, that is used for the storage, for limited periods of time, of passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles, and is available to the public, whether for compensation or free. Off-street parking areas that are provided in association with a particular use shall not be considered as being a "parking lot" as herein defined.
Parking Space, Off-street		An area located outside of any street right-of-way that is designed to accommodate the parking of vehicles.
Pennant		<p>Any lightweight plastic, fabric, or other material, whether or not containing a message of any kind, which is suspended from a rope, wire, string, or pole, usually in series, and which is designed to move in the wind.</p> <p>Pennants</p>  
Permit, Zoning		A document issued by the Administrator that is required before commencing any construction, reconstruction, alteration, conversion or installation of a building or structure or before establishing, extending or changing any use on any lot.
Personal Business Service	Personal Services	The provision of services for personal needs and transactions such as, but not limited to, tailoring, alterations, dry cleaning outlet / drop-off, shoe repair, clock / watch repair, appliance repair.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Petroleum Distribution Facility		A business involved in the bulk sale of gasoline, methanol, liquid propane, kerosene, aviation fuels, fuel oil, diesel oils, and similar petroleum products. Such products are purchased from petroleum terminals and are sold to customers or consumers at either the wholesale or retail level. In no instance shall an "automobile service station," or "convenience store," or "mini-mart" be considered a "petroleum distribution facility."
Photo Finish Laboratory	Commercial Services	A business establishment primarily engaged in developing film, making photographic prints and enlargements, or retouching photographs for businesses or for the general public.
Planned Residential Development (PRD)	Residential	A development planned and developed as an integral unit consisting of one or more residential-unit types (as permitted in the underlying general zoning district) and conforming to all applicable lot and bulk regulations.
Planned Unit Development (PUD)	Residential	A development containing a minimum of ten (10) acres that is planned and developed as an integral unit containing one (1) or more commercial, institutional or manufacturing uses. A planned unit development (PUD) differs from a planned residential development (PRD) in that whereas a PRD always contains residential dwelling units, a PUD may or may not contain dwelling units.
Plat		A map or plan of a parcel of land that is to be or has been subdivided showing such subdivision. A plat for a subdivision occurring after the effective date of this Ordinance shall be recorded with the Gaston County Register of Deeds office and shall contain all information herein required.
Plaza		<p>A paved area surrounded by buildings or streets and located in such manner so as to be accessible by pedestrians. Such area is improved with benches, ornamental and/or drinking fountains, works of art, etc. Part of the plaza may contain a grassed area.</p> 
Playground		A smaller-sized area developed with facilities primarily for children that may include benches, slides, play equipment, walk trails, etc. As opposed to a "park", a playground is usually smaller and does not contain athletic fields.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Porch		A projection from an outside wall of a dwelling which is covered by a roof and/or sidewalls (other than the sides of the building to which the porch is attached) for the purpose of providing shade or shelter from the elements.
Portable Toilet Services	Commercial Services	A commercial establishment that leases delivers and services portable chemical toilets and which has a valid permit to discharge effluent into a public sanitary sewer system.
Post Office	Civic / Community Organizations	A facility operated by the United States Postal Service for the delivery of both domestic and international mail.
Postal & Parcel Processing & Bulk Handling Facility	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A central mail facility that processes and dispatches incoming and outgoing mail to and from a designated service area.
Premises		A parcel of real property with a separate and distinct number or designation shown on a recorded plat, record of survey, parcel map or subdivision map. When a lot is used together with one (1) or more contiguous lots for a single use or planned development, all of the lots so used, including any lots used for off-street parking shall be considered single premises for purposes of these regulations.
Private Residential Quarters	Residential	An accessory dwelling either attached or part of the principal residential use or separate from the principal use in the form of a guest house or garage apartment provided that such dwelling is not rented or occupied for gain and provided that no accessory building containing such use is constructed on a lot until the construction of the principal dwelling has commenced. The principal dwelling on the lot containing the private residential quarters shall be owner-occupied.
Produce Stand	Sales and Services	The seasonal sale of any form of agricultural or horticultural products at a retail stand.
Property Owner		See "Landowner"
Public Information Meetings (PIM)		Meetings to provide an opportunity for area residents and developers to meet, review and discuss proposed develop plans. These meetings are required to be held at a minimum of two (2) locations (on-site and off-site at a local meeting facility)
Public Safety Station		A facility operated by a public agency, a private contractor thereof, or by a private nonprofit volunteer organization and used for the base of operations and/or housing of equipment or personnel for the provision of dispatched public safety services including law enforcement, fire protection, rescue services, and/or emergency medical services. Such a facility may contain living quarters for on-duty personnel. Facilities for the maintenance of equipment housed at the operation site are also permitted.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Quarry		A tract of land used primarily for the extraction of minerals (e.g., rock, stone, ores) from the earth.
Racetrack, Large	Recreation	A facility where full size vehicles and/or animals are raced for speed and/or endurance.
Racetrack, Small	Recreation	A facility where model cars, model aircraft, go-karts and similar reduced-scale objects are raced for speed and/or endurance.
Railroad Terminal and Yard	Transportation	An area of land covered with tracks for switching, storing, moving, repairing, and weighing of railroad cars, trains, or engines.
Recreation, Active		Recreation requiring some constructed facilities and organized activities.
Recreation Center and Sports Center	Recreation	<p>Public or non-profit health or exercise clubs, tennis or other racquetball courts, swimming pools, YMCA's, YWCA's or similar uses which constitute principal uses and are operated on a fee or membership basis. Accessory uses to such facilities may include: snack bars, pro shops, and locker rooms, each of which is designed and intended primarily for the use of patrons of the recreation and sports center.</p> <p>It may be designed to accommodate multiple sporting events simultaneously; the facility may have a performance court gymnasium with bleacher seating for up to 1,500 spectators and a field house with track. The inside track area may have infield courts, facilitating basketball, volleyball, tennis or badminton.</p>
Recreational Vehicle		See "Vehicle, Recreational"
Recycling Deposit Station, Accessory	Industrial / General Manufacturing	<p>A recycling station facility which does not constitute the principal use on the lot upon which it is located and at which household goods are deposited for recycling purposes and which are later transferred to a recycling processing facility or deposit station. Such facilities may or may not be manned and may be located either outdoors or within a principal building. If accessory to a principal residential use, it shall be available for use only by the residents thereof.</p> 

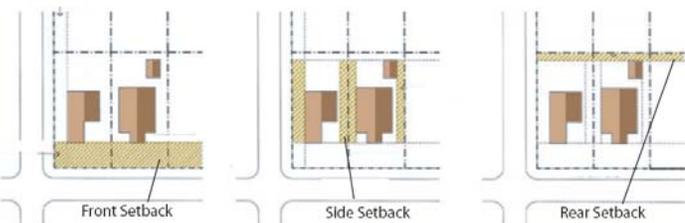


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Recycling Deposit Station, Principal Use	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A structure or closable bin at which newspapers, aluminum cans, plastics products, glass, corrugated paper or backyard waste (i.e., grass cuttings, tree limbs, etc.) are deposited for the purpose of being recycled. All such goods shall be housed at all times within the structure. The outdoor storage of all goods to be recycled shall be prohibited.
Recycling Processing Facility	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A building or enclosed space used for the collection and processing of recyclable materials that have been deposited on-site by the public or collected from various recycling deposit station sites.
Residential Development, Infill	Residential	A residential development on a lot of one to five (1-5) acres that allows for detached and attached single-family dwellings to be developed in a manner more dense than would otherwise be allowed by the underlying zoning district.
Restaurant	Sales and Services	A commercial establishment where food and drink are prepared, and purchased on premises (either outdoors or indoors). The establishment may provide indoor or outdoor eating facilities or may be geared partially or primarily for take out food. If food consumption facilities are provided, they shall largely be within the building. Such establishment shall not have manned drive-through facilities. Restaurants, if properly licensed, may also serve alcoholic beverages. Also known as a "dine-in" restaurant with a "to go" or "curb-side" service.
Restaurant with Drive Through	Sales and Services	A commercial establishment where food is prepared, and purchased within the principal building or through a drive-through window. The establishment may provide indoor eating facility or may be geared partially or primarily for take out food. Also known as a "fast food" restaurant.
Restaurant within Other Facilities	Sales and Services	A restaurant located within another principal business and is incidental to that business. Food and drink are prepared primarily for sale and consumption by the customers of the principal business. The restaurant use is not a principal use within the building and may not be accessed from the outside. Examples of such restaurant are: canteen within a business, grill within a convenience store or bowling alley, etc.
Retail	Sales and Services	A building, property, or activity the principal use or purpose of which is the retail sale of goods, products, or merchandise directly to the consumer. Such a retail establishment shall not be classified as a "Retail" use, if listed elsewhere in the Table of Uses of this Ordinance. Examples of excluded uses include: restaurants and convenience stores, etc.
Riding Stable	Recreation	A commercial facility where horses are sheltered, boarded, bred, trained and which may also contain grounds for the riding of horses. Horse racing shall not be allowed to take place on the grounds.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Right-of-Way		An area owned or maintained by a city or town, the State of North Carolina, a public utility, a railroad, or a private citizen for the placement of such utilities and/or facilities for the passage of vehicles or pedestrians, including roads, pedestrian walkways, utilities, or railroads.
Road, Frontage		A road that is in close proximity to and parallels a limited access road and is designed to provide access to roads that abut said limited access road.
Road, Private		Any right-of-way used for purposes of motor vehicle travel that has not been accepted for maintenance or ownership purposes by a public entity.
Road, Public		Any right-of-way not less than thirty (30) feet in width set aside for public travel and either which has been accepted for maintenance by the State of North Carolina, has been established as a public road prior to the date of adoption of this Ordinance, or which has been dedicated to the State of North Carolina for public travel by the recordation of a plat of a subdivision with the Gaston County Register of Deeds Office.
Rodeo	Recreation	A public performance featuring bronco riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, bull riding and other similar activities.
Rodeo, Accessory	Recreation	A public performance featuring bronco riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, horse show, bull riding and other similar activities on a tract or parcel of land where a bona fide farm or ranch is the principal use.
Rooming House		A single-family dwelling, a portion of which is provided by the resident owner to no more than three (3) lodgers and where separate bathroom and kitchen facilities are not provided for any lodger.
Satellite Dish		An apparatus capable of receiving a communication signal from a transmitter relay located in planetary orbit.
School, Elementary and Middle (Public and Private)	Education	Any public, private or parochial institution offering instruction at the elementary or junior high school levels in the branches of learning and study required to be taught in the public schools of North Carolina.
School, Senior High (Public and Private)	Education	Any public, private or parochial institution offering instruction at the high school level in the branches of learning and study required to be taught in the public schools of North Carolina.
School, Vocational	Education	A secondary or higher education facility primarily teaching usable skills that prepares students, who may be of all age groups, for jobs in a specific trade or vocation upon graduation. Examples of vocational schools include schools that teach: auto mechanics, secretarial studies, machine repair, computer technology, etc.

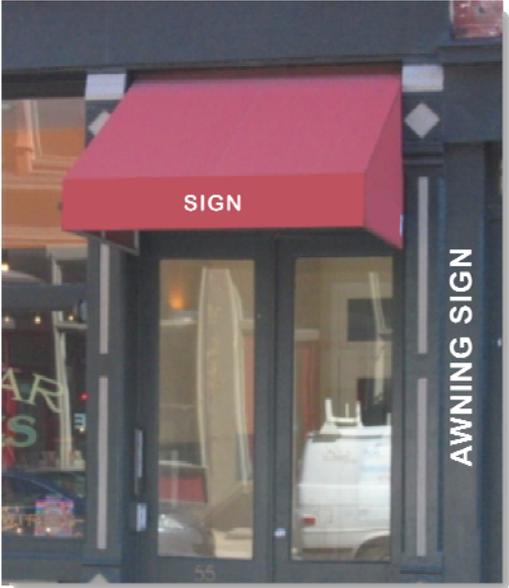


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Schools for the Arts, Etc.	Education	A school where classes in the various arts (e.g., dance, painting, sculpting, singing) are taught. As differentiated from a "vocational school", such schools are usually attended by persons of all ages where professional placement after graduation is not of significant importance. Such classes shall not be given by or to persons who are nude, or who otherwise are clothed in such manner so as to classify the use as an "adult establishment" as defined in NCGS 14-202.10.
Septic Tank Cleaning Service	Commercial Services	A business establishment for the purpose of repair, and removal, and proper disposal of waste water for residential and commercial customers.
Setback		<p>A minimum distance specified for the various zoning districts measured inward from a property line or a road right-of-way, whichever is closer to the proposed structure, that shall remain unoccupied and unobstructed upward except as may be permitted elsewhere in this Ordinance.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Types of Setbacks</p>
Setback, Front		That portion of the front yard that shall remain unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as may be permitted elsewhere in this Ordinance.
Setback, Rear		That portion of the rear yard that shall remain unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as may be permitted elsewhere in this Ordinance.
Setback, Side		That portion of the side yard that shall remain unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as may be permitted elsewhere in this Ordinance.
Sewer, Community		Any package treatment plant or other sewage treatment facility serving two (2) or more sources not connected to individual or public systems and having a design capacity or greater than three-thousand (3,000) gallons daily and/or a discharge to surface water, as permitted by the State of North Carolina. In addition, this definition shall include all connections to such a system.

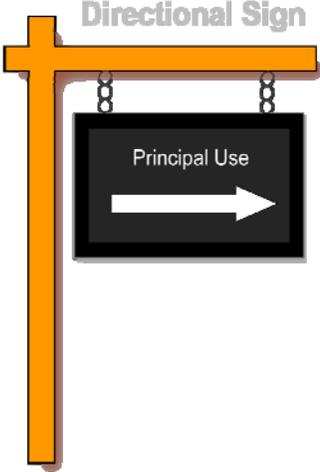


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Shopping Center	Sales and Services	A group of two (2) or more retail establishments constructed and developed in one (1) or more phases with customer and employee parking and merchandise and other loading facilities provided on-site. A shopping center may be located and developed on one (1) or more lots, may contain one (1) or more outparcels, and may include one (1) or more principal buildings.
Shrub		<p>An ornamental plant that is at least two (2) feet tall above the highest root at the time of planting which can be expected to grow to a height of five to six (5-6) feet within a three (3) year period after planting. If large shrubs are to be planted as part of a required Type D, Option 3 Screen, such shrubs will be limited to the following varieties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nelly R. Stevens Holly 2. Burford Holly 3. Wax Myrtle 4. East Palatka Holly 5. Savannah Holly 6. Tea Olives 7. Eleagnus 8. Ligustrums 9. Japanese Black Pines 10. Junipers 11. Any other variety of shrub, approved by the administrator, which has the capacity to provide an equivalent amount of growth and opacity. <p>Appendix B has a complete list of all shrubs.</p>
Sight Triangle		The horizontal and vertical areas at the intersections of streets and/or driveways which must remain unobstructed, in order to ensure that drivers can see traffic and pedestrians around the corner of the intersection, entrance or driveway.
Sign		Any object, display, or structure, or part thereof, situated outdoors, which is used to advertise, identify, display, direct, or attract attention to an object, person, institution, organization, business, product, service, event or location by any means, including words, letters, figures, design, symbols, fixtures, colors, illumination, or projected images.
Sign Face		The portion of the sign used for display of sign copy including all background area, pictures, and any other advertising devices shown in the sign. Excluded from this definition are the sign frame and supports.
Sign Shop	Commercial Services	A place of business which constructs and / or erects signs for public display / uses.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
<p>Sign, Awning</p>		<p>A sign located on an awning.</p> 
<p>Sign, Building Marker</p>		<p>Any sign indicating the name of a building and date and incidental information about its construction. Such sign is typically cut into a masonry surface or made of bronze or other permanent material.</p>
<p>Sign, Canopy</p>		<p>A sign located on a canopy.</p> 

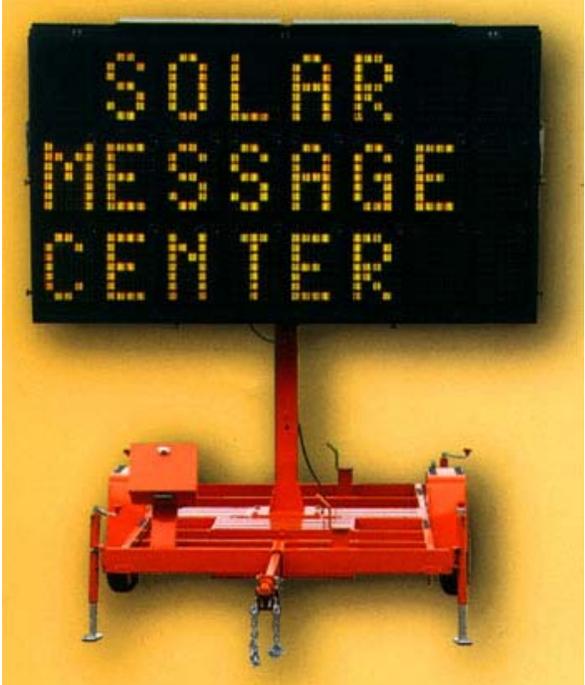


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Changeable Copy		<p>Any sign designed so that letters or numbers attached to the sign can be periodically changed to indicate a different message.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a rectangular sign with a dark red border and a matching base. On the left side, there is a green square containing the word "LOGO" in white. On the right side, there are four horizontal white lines, each containing a line of black text: "4 LINES", "OF", "4\" CHANGEABLE", and "LETTERS".</p>
Sign, Copy		<p>Any combination of letters, numbers or other graphical representation that is intended to inform, direct or otherwise transmit information.</p>
Sign, Directional		<p>A sign fronting on a road containing only the name of the principal use, insignia, trademark, directional arrow and/or distance to the principal use. Such use shall not be visible to the motorist at the location at which the sign is placed.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a wooden post with a horizontal crossbar. A sign is suspended from the crossbar by two chains. The sign is rectangular with a black background and a white border. It contains the text "Principal Use" above a white arrow pointing to the right. The text "Directional Sign" is written above the sign in a light blue font.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Directory		<p>A ground or building sign that lists tenants or occupants of a building or project, with unit numbers, arrows or other directional information.</p> 
Sign, Flashing		<p>A sign, the illumination of which is not constant in intensity when in use, and that exhibits sudden or marked changes in lighting effects.</p>
Sign, Government		<p>A sign usually erected and maintained by a public agency that provides the public with information and in no way relates to a business, commercial activity or specific use. Examples include, but are not limited to: speed limit signs, city limits signs, stop signs and street name signs.</p>
Sign, Ground		<p>Any sign which extends from the ground or which has supports which places the bottom thereof less than two (2) feet from the ground directly beneath the sign. A "monument" sign shall be considered to be a "ground sign."</p> 
Sign, Identification		<p>A sign bearing the address of the premises or name of occupant, but containing no logo or commercial message.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
<p>Sign, Incidental</p>		<p>A sign, generally informational, that has a purpose secondary to the use of the site on which it is located, such as “no parking,” “entrance,” “loading only,” “telephone,” and other similar information and directives. No sign with a commercial message legible from a position off the site on which the sign is located shall be considered an “incidental sign.”</p> 
<p>Sign, Light Emitting Diode (LED)</p>		<p>A sign using light emitting diode technology that is designed to project an advertising display that is controlled via the use of a computer or similar type equipment. Such sign may emit messages that are either scrolled or static.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
<p>Sign, Mailbox</p>		<p>The writing, text, representation, graphic, emblem or other display, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display that is placed on or is in any way affixed to a mailbox used for the purposes of official mail delivery to a lot.</p>  A photograph of a white mailbox mounted on a wooden post. Above the mailbox is a dark sign with white text that reads "YOUR NAME NUMBER & ADDRESS".
<p>Sign, Marquee</p>		<p>The variable message portion of a canopy, free standing or other sign type.</p>  A photograph of a dark brown marquee sign on two posts. The top section contains the text "Business Name" and "LOGO" in a white box. The main body of the sign is a large, blank white rectangular area.
<p>Sign, Menu Board</p>		<p>An accessory sign providing items and prices associated with a drive-through window.</p>  A photograph of a drive-through menu board for "Coblewey". The board is divided into three columns: "HILL STEAKS", "CHIPS & BEERS", and "SANDWICHES". Each column lists various food items and their prices. The board has a green and white striped awning on top.

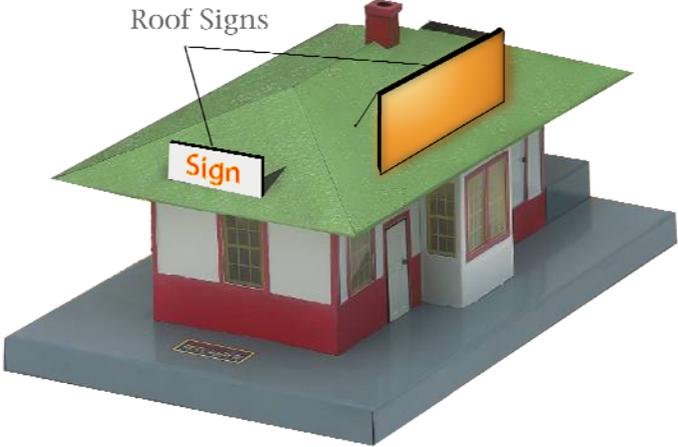
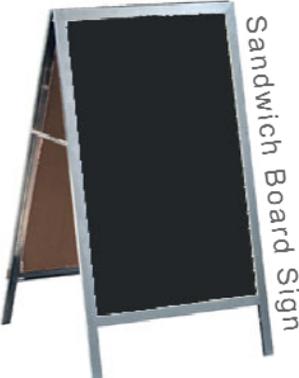


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Monument		See "Sign, Ground"
Sign, Non-commercial Copy		A sign, other than a "political sign" that contains a message through pictures, illustrations, symbols and/or words, or any combination thereof, which does not contain any reference to a business or product but displays a substantive message, statement or expression that is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
Sign, Nonconforming		A sign that, on the effective date of this Ordinance or the date of any subsequent amendment thereto, does not conform to one (1) or more of the regulations set forth in this Ordinance.
Sign, Off-premise Advertising		<p>A sign, other than a "directional sign", "real estate sign", "political sign", "non-commercial copy sign" or other sign specially allowed by this Ordinance to be placed off-premises, that draws attention to or communicates information about a business, service, or commodity that exists or is conducted, sold, offered, maintained, or provided at a location other than the premises where the sign is located. An "off-premise advertising sign" may also be referred to as a "billboard."</p> 
Sign, Pole		<p>A detached sign erected and maintained on a freestanding frame, mast, or pole and not attached to any building but not including ground-mounted or monument signs. The bottom of such signs shall be equal or greater than two (2) feet from the ground directly beneath the sign.</p> 

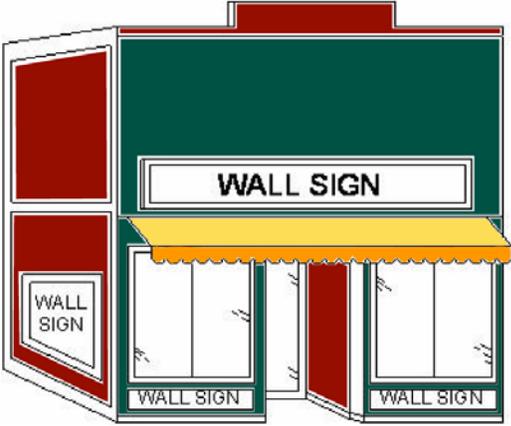
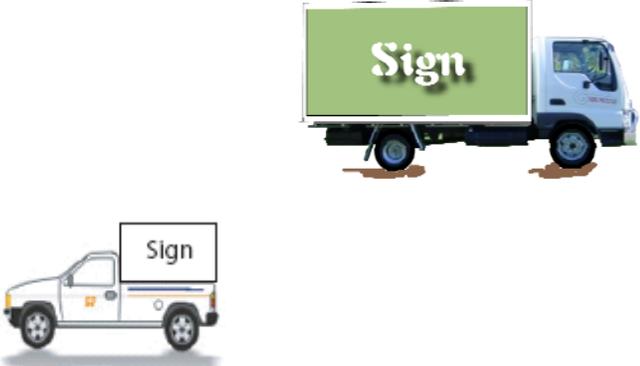


Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Political		A temporary sign that consists of a poster, placard, board, banner or other similar medium that contains a message related to a candidate running for office or a ballot issue, and which contains no commercial message.
Sign, Portable		<p>Any sign not permanently attached to the ground or other permanent structure, nor specifically constructed for such attachment; or a sign designed to be transported, including but not limited to the following: signs designed to be transported by means of wheels; signs converted to A- or T-frames; gas or hot air filled balloons.</p> 
Sign, Projecting		<p>Any sign other than a wall, awning, canopy, or marquee sign, which is affixed to a building and is supported only by the wall on which the sign is mounted.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Real Estate		A sign which is used to offer for sale, lease, or rent the premises upon which such sign is placed.
Sign, Roof		A sign erected or maintained in whole or in part upon or over the roof or parapet of a building.  An illustration of a small house with a green roof and red and white walls. Two signs are shown on the roof: a small white sign with the word "Sign" in orange, and a larger orange rectangular sign. A label "Roof Signs" with a line points to the signs on the roof.
Sign, Rotating		A sign that revolves or turns or has external sign elements that revolves or turns. Such signs may be power-driven or be propelled by the force of wind or air.
Sign, Sandwich Board		A temporary A-frame sign not secured or attached to the ground or any building or structure, composed of a sign panel and supporting structure or one (1) or more panels that form both the structure and sign face, and that is intended to be placed in a sidewalk or pedestrian way.  An illustration of a sandwich board sign, which is an A-frame structure with a black sign panel. The text "Sandwich Board Sign" is written vertically on the right side of the frame.
Sign, Subdivision Identification		A sign that gives the name of a residential or non-residential subdivision or multi-family development.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Sign, Suspended		<p>A sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal plane surface and supported by such surface.</p> 
Sign, Wall		<p>Any sign directly attached to an exterior wall of a building or dependent upon a building for its support with its exposed face parallel or approximately parallel to the plane of the building or structure on which the sign is affixed. Signs directly painted on walls shall be considered wall signs.</p> 
Signs, Vehicular		<p>Signs on parked vehicles visible from the public right-of-way where the primary purpose of the vehicle as parked is to advertise a product or to direct people to a business or activity located on the same or nearby property. Vehicular signs shall not include business logos, identification or advertising on vehicles primarily used for other transportation purposes.</p> 
Site Plan		<p>A plan depicting the proposed development of a property, in terms of the location, scale and configuration of buildings and other features.</p>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Site Specific Development Plan		A dimensioned presentation of the proposed development of a specified parcel of land that reflects thereon the location of buildings, easements, parking arrangements, public access, street pattern and other similar features.
Skating Rink		A building or temporary outdoor space that contains a surface for ice skating or roller skating.
Sketch Plan		A Sketch Plan is the initial plan type required for subdivision / other residential projects. Sketch plans do not require engineering detail and are 'early first drafts of proposed developments' that, by their review, enable the applicant to save time and expense in reaching general agreement and consensus with the county as to the design, size, access, layout, extent, location and degree of the necessary and/or proposed improvements in conjunction with a proposed development.
Slope		Degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal that is measured as a numerical ratio or percent. Expressed as a ratio, the first number is the horizontal distance (run) and the second is the vertical distance (rise), e.g., 2:1. Slope can also be expressed as the rise over the run when used in building applications when referencing roof pitches, e.g., 6:12.
Solid Waste and Septic Tank Contractor's Office and Operation Center	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A facility where trucks are dispatched from and parked; containers are stored; truck / container maintenance is performed.
Solid Waste Transfer Station	Industrial / General Manufacturing	<p>A fixed facility where non-hazardous solid waste materials are taken from a collection vehicle, temporarily stored or stockpiled, and ultimately placed in a transportation unit for movement to another facility.</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Special Outdoor Event		Any organized event, specifically including, but not limited to, a circus, carnival, cultural event, fair, communal camping, or celebration, which may reasonably be expected to increase the risk of: (i) Damage to public or private property, beyond normal wear and tear; (ii) Injury to persons; (iii) Public or private disturbances or nuisances;(iv) Unsafe impediments or distractions to, or congestion of, vehicular or pedestrian travel; (v) Significant additional police, fire, trash removal, maintenance, or other public services demands; or (vi) Other significant adverse effects upon the public health, safety, or welfare. The term “special event” shall not include any organized activities conducted at sites and facilities that are legal uses and structures under this Ordinance and that are typically intended and used for such activities. Examples of such activities include, but are not necessarily limited to, sporting events such as 10K runs not held on public rights-of way, golf, soccer, softball, and baseball tournaments conducted on courses or fields intended and used for such activities; wedding services conducted at reception halls; funeral services; religious services; or noncommercial
Special Event (cont’d)		Activities occurring within, or upon the grounds of, a private residence or upon the common areas of a multi-family residential development.
Special Exception		A permit, issued by the Board of Adjustment that would allow the property owner to develop or make use of his/her property with prescribed minor deviations to the terms of this Ordinance.
Square		<p>An open space area that is surrounded by streets and/or buildings, that is accessible by the pedestrian, and that includes walks, lawns and trees. As opposed to a “plaza”, a “square” consists primarily of landscaped and natural areas.</p> <p>Square</p> 



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Stadium	Civic / Community Organizations	A structure or facility designed, intended, or used primarily for outdoor athletic events and containing seating for more than one-hundred (100) spectators of those events, but not including a racetrack. The sale of beverages, snack foods, and sundries geared to on-premise consumption or usage by spectators shall be permitted.
Staging Space		An area of temporary standing storage for one (1) automobile awaiting drive-in service or commodity pickup.
Stay		To stop or to put on hold an action temporarily.
Story, Building		The vertical distance of a building included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the next floor above it, or, if there be no floor above, then the space between such floor and ceiling next above it; provided that a cellar will not be considered a story.
Street, Center-line		The line surveyed and monumented as the center line of the street; or, if such center line has not been surveyed, it shall be the line running midway between the curbs or ditches of such street.
Street, Collector		A roadway that, while providing access to abutting land parcels, enables moderate volumes of traffic to move efficiently between local streets and the major street network.
Street, Marginal Access		A street which is parallel to and adjacent to a principal or minor arterial and which provides access to abutting properties and protection from through traffic.
Street, Residential		A street predominantly used to provide access to abutting residential properties.
Street, Right-of-Way		An area of land occupied or intended to be occupied by a public or private street; areas claimed by a municipality, the State of North Carolina or other organization such as a Home Owners Association for such purposes, or actually used for such purposes.
Structure		A combination of materials to form a construction for use, occupancy, or ornamentation whether installed on, above, or below the surface of land or water.
Structure, Accessory		A structure separate and subordinate to the principal structure located on the same lot as the principal structure used for purposes customarily incidental to the principal structure. An accessory structure may also be referred to as an "accessory building."
Structure, Detached		A structure having no party wall or common wall or other physical attachment or connection with another structure.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Structure, Nonconforming		Any structure lawfully existing on the effective date of these regulations, or any amendment to it rendering such structure nonconforming, which does not comply with all of the standards and regulations of these regulations or any amendment thereto.
Structure, Permanent		A structure constructed for permanent occupancy that is in compliance with all applicable North Carolina building codes and all applicable local and State standards.
Structure, Principal		A structure containing the principal use which takes place on the lot. A principal structure may also be referred to as a "principal building."
Structure, Temporary		A structure not intended for permanent occupancy and designed for easy removal off premises. Examples include, but are not limited to: produce stands, revival tents, mobile classrooms, etc.
Subdivision		All divisions of a tract or parcel of land.
Subdivision, Major		A subdivision where (i) new streets (public or private) are proposed, or (ii) where more than five (5) lots will result after the subdivision is completed, or (iii) where extension of any sewer or water system is required.
Subdivision, Major1		A Major Subdivision consisting up to two hundred fifty (250) lots.
Subdivision, Major2		A Major Subdivision consisting of more than two hundred fifty (250) lots.
Subdivision, Minor		A subdivision where (i) no new streets (public or private) are proposed; and (ii) where no more than five (5) will result after the subdivision is completed and (iii) where no extension of any sewer or water system is required.
Swimming Pool Sales, Service and Supplies	Sales and Services	A facility where swimming pools and swimming pool-related products are displayed and sold. Such facility may have the outdoor display of products for sale.
Tattoo Parlor / Body Piercing Establishment	Personal Services	An establishment whose principal business activity is (i) placing ink under the skin using needles that result in the coloration of the skin or (ii) for piercing of the body.
Taxidermy	Commercial Services	The art or operation of preparing or stuffing the dead skins of animals, fish or birds in a life-like state.
Technical Review Committee		A committee appointed by the governing board to review and recommend plats in a manner as specified in this Ordinance.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Terminal Vista		A mechanism for creating a visual ending point for a road or street. Such mechanisms may include, but are not limited to: public buildings (church, school, community center, city hall), common amenities or open space area (park, playground, gazebo, etc.).
Theater, Indoor Movie	Recreation	A building used for the purpose of showing movies created for theater audiences. A concession stand may be established as an accessory use for the purpose of selling food and beverage to the theater patrons.
Theater, Outdoor Movie	Recreation	Developed open space for the purpose of showing movies created for theater audiences in an outdoor setting. A concession stand may be established as an accessory use for the purpose of selling food and beverage to the theater patrons. Also referred to as a "Drive-In Theater".
Thoroughfare		A road so designated on the most recently adopted version of the thoroughfare plan of the Gaston Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or other officially adopted plan.
Thoroughfare, Major		See "Principal Arterial"
Thoroughfare, Minor		See "Minor Arterial"
Thoroughfare Plan		The most recently adopted version of the thoroughfare plan of the metropolitan planning organization of the Gaston Urban Area and / or Lake Norman Rural Planning Organization.
Tire Recap Facility	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A facility engaged in the business of recapping or bonding tires.
Tire Sales, New and / or Used	Sales and Services	A place where the principal use is the sale or installation of new, used or retread tires and tubes to the general public. Tires may be stored, maintained, altered, repaired, changed, prefabricated or disposed on the premises. Other ancillary indoor car repair services (other than services associated with a "body shop") may be provided on premises.
Tower, Co-location on		The location of antennae and equipment on an existing telecommunications tower by more than one (1) provider.
Tower, Ham Radio		See term "Antenna, Amateur Radio"
Tower, Height		The height of telecommunication towers shall be calculated from the ground at the bottom of the tower to the top of the tower.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Tower, Lattice		<p>A freestanding and self-supporting structure consisting of connected sections of metal supports used to support telecommunication equipment. These towers can be either three- or four-legged steel girdered structures designed typically to support multiple telecommunications users.</p>  <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); position: absolute; left: 545px; top: 300px;">Lattice Tower</p>
Tower, Monopole		<p>A freestanding and self-supporting single pole structure that supports telecommunication equipment.</p>
Tower and/or Station, Radio and Television Broadcast	Civic / Community Organizations	<p>A tower and/or associated station which receives and/or sends radio and/or television waves such as radio towers. This definition does not include amateur radio antennae.</p>
Tower, Stealth		<p>Man-made trees, clock towers, bell steeples, light poles and similar alternative-design mounting structures that camouflage or conceal the presence of antennae or towers. Typically, such a telecommunication tower and/or its equipment are incorporated into the supporting structure and assume the color, texture, and appearance of the supporting structure.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Examples of Concealed (Stealth) Antennae and Towers</p> </div>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Tower, Telecommunication	Civic / Community Organizations	A telecommunications facility that consists of the equipment and structure(s) (including any accessory structures required to house transmitting or maintenance equipment) designed to support antennae used for transmitting or receiving communications, including wireless communications, and data transmissions. Towers or similar structures installed on or attached to tops of buildings, water tanks, or similar facilities, shall be included in this definition. This definition also includes accessory buildings and related equipment required for the telecommunication facility. This definition does not include ham radio operations, radio broadcast towers, or television broadcast towers, or personal satellite dishes. Examples of telecommunications towers and facilities include monopoles and lattice construction steel structures.
Tower, Telecommunication Equipment Buildings	Civic / Community Organizations	The buildings in which the electronic receiving and relay equipment for a telecommunication facility are housed.
Tract, Parent		A parcel or tract respectively, lawfully in existence on the effective date of January 9, 1992, from which lots are subdivided from and created.
Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND)	Residential	A development that exhibits several of the following characteristics: alleys, streets laid out in a grid system, buildings oriented to the street, front porches on houses, pedestrian-orientation, compatible, mixed land uses, village centers and open space.
Traffic Impact Analysis		A report produced by a qualified professional (i.e. Transportation Engineer, Transportation Planner, Traffic Engineer, etc.), in association with subdivision plat approval that, at a minimum, addresses the following items in relationship to the proposed subdivision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An estimation of traffic generated; b. An estimation of trip distribution to and from the development; c. An analysis of the existing road system serving the development (to the nearest major intersections) and the effect of the development on that system; d. A listing of proposed improvements, both on and off-site, and their effect on the existing system.
Transit Station	Transportation	Any premises designed for the loading and unloading of rail and/or bus passengers from a public transit system. Facilities commonly referred to as "bus stops" and which are designed to accommodate a handful of passengers (at most) at one time, shall not be considered as being "transit stations."
Tree, Canopy		A tree, either single or multi-stemmed (i.e., in clump form) that has a height of at least ten (10) feet and is of a species which, at maturity, can be expected to reach a height in excess of forty (40) feet under normal growing conditions in the local climate. If the tree is single-stemmed, it shall have a caliper of at least one (1) inch at the time of planting.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Tree, Understory		A tree, either single or multi-stemmed (i.e., in clump form) which has a height of at least five (5) feet and is of a species which at maturity, can be expected to reach a height of ten (10) to forty (40) feet under normal growing conditions in the local climate. If the tree is single-stemmed, it shall have a caliper at the time of planting of at least three-quarters (3/4) of an inch.
Truck Stop	Sales and Services	A facility typically offering multiple services to the traveling public that is particularly designed to serve the need of freight trucks and their drivers. Such facilities typically include fuel stations (dispensing fuel for trucks, and perhaps, for automobiles), one (1) or more eating establishments and/or sale of prepared food, sales of convenience and sundry items, shower facilities, and overnight lodging facilities. Not all such facilities are provided at all truck stops. The foregoing definition distinguishes a "truck stop" from: (i) a convenience store, (ii) mini-mart, express fuel, (iii) shopping center, and (iv) planned multi-tenant development.
Truck Terminal	Transportation	A facility where cargo is stored and where trucks load and unload cargo on a regular basis for delivery.
Truck Washing Facility	Commercial Services	A commercial establishment primarily engaged in the washing of tractor-trailer trucks. Such washing shall be done using self-service facilities or by fully automated machines.
Upholstery Shop	Commercial Services	A place of business which repairs, rebuilds, and re-covers upholstered furniture such as a sofa or chair.
Use, Accessory		A use that is customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure and located on the same lot with such principal use or structure.
Use, By Right		See "Use, Permitted"
Use, Conditional		A use category, indicated by a "C" in Table 7.1-1, that is allowed only if it is reviewed and approved in accordance with the conditional use procedures.
Use, Incidental		A use located on the same lot as a primary use, but is subordinate and minor in significance to the principal use, and bears a reasonable relationship with the principal use.
Use, Nonconforming		A use or activity which does not conform to the use regulations of this Ordinance for the district in which it is located either at the effective date of this Ordinance or as a result of subsequent amendments which are incorporated into this Ordinance at some future date.
Use, Permitted		A use category, indicated by an "X" in Table 7.1-1 that is allowed by right in a certain zoning district. These uses are subject to all other applicable regulations of this Ordinance.
Use, Principal		The primary or predominant use of any lot.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Use, Temporary		A land use or structure this is needed or in place only for short periods.
Variance		A relaxation of the strict terms of a specific provision of this Ordinance as approved by the Board of Adjustment.
Vehicle, Commercial		A truck of any type used or maintained primarily to transport material or to operate a power attachment or tool. Any vehicle with advertising or business designation affixed to it shall be considered a commercial vehicle, except for passenger vehicles having such affixations.
Vehicle, Emergency		A vehicle of a police or fire department, rescue squad, or similar public service agency that is used in response to an emergency call.
Vehicle, Inoperable		A vehicle that for a continuous period of more than seventy-two (72) hours has been in a state of disrepair and is incapable of being moved under its own power.
Vehicle, Junked		Per NCGS 160A-303, a motor vehicle that does not display a lawful and valid license plate and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) is partially dismantled or wrecked; or, (ii) cannot be self-propelled or moved in the manner in which it was originally intended to move; or, (iii) is more than five (5) years old and appears to be worth less than one hundred (100) dollars.
Vehicle, Passenger		An automobile, van, or pickup truck used exclusively as a passenger vehicle and/or for hauling property of the owner. Pickup trucks may qualify as passenger vehicles only when used exclusively as passenger vehicles or for hauling property of the owner and not equipped as a camper or a commercial vehicle.
Vehicle, Recreational		A vehicle that is designed as a temporary (as opposed to permanent) dwelling for travel, recreational or vacation uses. This term shall include "camping trailer", "motor home", "travel trailer", "truck camper" and "R.V." This term shall not include "manufactured homes" or "modular homes."
Vehicle, Septic Tank		A vehicle used primarily for the purpose of cleaning, maintaining and repairing septic tank systems.
Vehicle, Solid Waste		A vehicle used primarily for the transport of solid waste.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Vested Right		The right to undertake and complete the development and use of property under the terms and conditions of an approved site-specific site and/or subdivision plan or through a “common law” vested right.
Wall, Building		The entire surface area, including windows and doors, of an exterior wall of a building. As used in this Ordinance, the area of a wall will be calculated for a maximum of fifty (50) feet in height of a building. The term may also be referred to simply as a “wall” or “exterior wall.”
Wall, Shared		A common or shared wall between two (2) separate structures, buildings, or dwelling units.
Warehouse	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A building or group of buildings for the storage of goods or wares belonging either to the owner of the facility or to one or more lessees of space in the facility of both, with access to contents only through management personnel.
Water, Public		Any water system defined as such by the North Carolina Division of Health Services that complies with the regulations of the North Carolina Division of Health Services and the community water system standard ordinance adopted by Gaston County.
Wireless Communications		Any personal wireless service, including but not limited to: cellular; personal communication services (PCS); specialized mobile radio (SMR); enhanced specialized mobile radio (ESMR); and, unlicensed spectrum services utilizing devices described in Part 15 of the FCC rules and regulations (e.g., wireless internet services and paging).
Wood Waste Grinding Operation	Industrial / General Manufacturing	A facility where organic wastes are treated or processed for recycling or reuse in soil-plant related industries, including activities such as grinding or chipping land clearing debris, high carbon wood waste, nitrogen yard waste, and untreated and unpainted pallets or construction wood waste into mulch or fuel.
Working Days		Days exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays observed by the County.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Yard, Front		<p>An area measured between the edge of the public street right-of-way line, and the front of a building, projected to the side lot lines. On corner lots, the property owner shall determine the location of the front yard where no principal structure is located. If a principal structure is located on such a lot, the front yard shall be based on the architectural orientation of the house. On a water front lot, where an accessory structure is to be located on the same lot with a principal structure in which the architectural front faces the water, and the rear yard has been determined to abut the street or road right-of-way, then the required rear yard setback for an accessory structure shall be greater or equal to the required front yard setback for principal structures in the underlying zoning district. In addition, the side yard setbacks for accessory structures shall comply with the required side yard setbacks for principal structures. On lots where it is determined the front yard abuts the street or highway right-of-way, section 9.9 for accessory structures shall apply.</p> <p>On through lots, the required rear yard setback for accessory structures shall equal or exceed the required front yard setback for principal structures which would normally be applied in that zoning district. For example, if a through lot were located in a zoning district which normally required a thirty (30) foot front yard setback, then required rear yard setback for the accessory structure shall be thirty (30) feet. The front yard shall be based on the front architectural orientation of the principal building. In addition, side yard setbacks for accessory structures locating in the rear yard on through lots shall be allowed within five (5) feet of any side lot line.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Yard Types</p> <p>The diagram, titled "Yard Types", illustrates a rectangular lot bounded by "Property Lines" on the top and left, and a "STREET" on the bottom and right. A house is shown in the center with a "Front Door" and a "Garage" attached to its right side. The lot is divided into three zones: the "Rear Yard" is the area behind the house; the "Front Yard" is the area in front of the house, extending to the street; and "Side Yard" areas are the spaces between the house and the side property lines. Three trees are depicted in the rear yard.</p> </div>



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Yard, Rear		A yard extending the full width of the lot on which a principal building is located and situated between the rear lot line and a line parallel thereto and passing through the point of the principal building nearest the rear lot line.
Yard, Sale		The sale or offering for sale to the general public of over five (5) items of personal property on any portion of a lot in a residential zoning district, whether within or outside any building. This may also be referred to as a "garage sale", "carport sale", or "rummage sale."
Yard, Side		A space extending from the front yard to the rear yard between the principal building and the side lot line as measured perpendicular from the side lot line to the closest point of the principal building.
Zoning District, Commercial		Commercial zoning districts which include the Central Business District (CBD), Urban Mixed Use (UMU), Light Commercial (C-1), Highway Commercial (C-2), and General Commercial (C-3) districts, Neighborhood Business Service (NBS), Garden Parkway Interchange (GPX).
Zoning District, Conditional		A zoning district that is enacted at the request of the property owner and what is approved in a legislative manner by the governing board. Fair and reasonable conditions not otherwise spelled out in the Ordinance may be attached to such approval. Both the applicant and the governing board shall mutually agree upon such conditions prior to the adoption of such a zoning district.
Zoning District, Parallel Conditional Use		A zoning district that bears the same designation as a general zoning district but is subject to additional conditions that are contained in a conditional use permit. This type of rezoning is appropriate where the regulations of the general zoning district are not adequate to mitigate the potential adverse impacts of a proposed development. The approval of such zoning and issuance of a conditional use permit may only be made after the governing board holds a quasi-judicial public hearing. Only the property owner shall initiate any such zoning district. This zoning district may also be referred to as a "CUD Zoning District."
Zoning District, Industrial		Industrial zoning districts which include Light Industrial (I-1), General Industrial (I-2), Exclusive Industrial (I-3), and Urban Industrial (IU) districts.
Zoning District, Office		Office zoning districts which include Transitional Mixed Use (TMU), Office/Light Commercial (OLC), Office (O-1) and the Medical Office (OM) districts.
Zoning District, Overlay		A zoning district established under this Ordinance that prescribes special regulations to be applied to a site in combination with the underlying or base district.



Term	Use Table Subcategory*	Definition
Zoning District, Residential		Residential zoning districts which include, Single Family Limited (R-1), Single Family Moderate (R-2), Single Family General (R-3), Single Family 20,000sqft (RS-20), Single Family 12,000sqft (RS-12), Single Family 8,000sqft (RS-8), Low Density (RLD) and Multi-Family (RMF).
Zoning District, Urban Standards Overlay (USO)		An overlay district that prescribes certain design and performance standards on new developments, other than single- and two-family dwellings, in designated urban and urbanizing areas of the planning jurisdiction.
Zoo	Civic / Community Organizations	An area, building or structure that contains animals on exhibition for viewing by the public. A petting zoo located on the premises of a “botanical garden”, as herein defined, shall not be classified as a “zoo.” Rather, this shall be considered as an accessory use to the “botanical garden.”