

Section 20.11 Setback Exceptions for Residential Outdoor Living Areas (Patios, Decks, Porches, etc.)

A. Definition: For the purpose of this Section, “residential outdoor living area” shall be defined as an area designed or used for outdoor gathering, lounging, dining, and/or similar use, in association with a dwelling, constructed of wood, concrete, brick, stone, or similar surface. An outdoor living area may be commonly referred to as a patio, deck, or porch.

B. Standards: Outdoor living areas shall comply with the dwelling setback requirements of the District in which the dwelling is located, except that an outdoor living area may be set back a minimum distance of fifty percent (50%) of the normally required setback for the dwelling, but a minimum of fifteen (15) from the front lot line, when there is compliance with all of the following conditions:

1. Within the R-1 District, the outdoor living area shall have a walking surface no greater than six (6) inches above the ground elevation of the ground surface below. Within all other Districts, the outdoor living area shall have a walking surface no greater than eighteen (18) inches above the ground elevation of the ground surface below.
2. No fixed feature of an outdoor living area, including railings, shall exceed thirty-six inches (36”) in height above the surface of such outdoor living area.

C. Exception: The exceptions provided by this Section shall not apply to lakefront lots.