

Section 20.29 Lake Access and Frontage

A. Restrictions: The following restrictions are intended to limit the number of users of lake or stream frontage in order to preserve the quality of the waters, to promote safety, and to preserve the quality of recreational use of all waters within the Township.

1. In all zoning districts, there shall be at least one hundred (100) feet of lake or stream frontage as measured along the normal high water mark of the lake or stream for each single family home, dwelling unit, cottage, condominium unit, site condominium unit, or apartment unit utilizing or accessing the lake or stream frontage.
2. Any multiple-unit residential development in any zoning district that shares a common lake or stream front area or frontage may not permit lake or stream use or access to more than one single family home, dwelling unit, cottage, condominium unit, site condominium unit, or apartment unit for each 80 feet of lake or stream frontage in such common lake or stream front area, as measured along the normal high water make line of the lake or stream.
3. Any multiple-unit residential development shall have not more than one dock for each one hundred (100) feet of lake or stream frontage, as measured along the normal high water mark of the lake or stream, in any zoning district in the Township. All such docks and docking or mooring shall also comply with all other applicable Township ordinances.
4. The above restrictions shall apply to all lots on or abutting any lake or stream in all zoning districts, regardless of whether access to the lake or stream waters shall be by easement, park, common-fee ownership, single-fee ownership, condominium arrangement, license, or lease.
5. In all zoning districts, no lake access, boat ramp, shore station, dock, boat launch, or shoreline abutting a lake shall be utilized for commercial, business, outdoor recreational (or entertainment) facilities, institutional or nonresidential or nonagricultural uses or purposes unless such use is authorized pursuant to a special use approval (and meets the requirements of the zoning district involved) or a planned unit development (PUD) approval.
6. The lake access and use regulations contained in this section shall be fully applicable to all planned unit development (PUD) and special use projects or developments.
7. Refer to other applicable Township ordinances for other keyhole development regulations.
8. In addition to the above limitations, no easement, private park, common area, lot or access property abutting or adjoining a lake or stream shall be used to permit access to the lake or stream for more than one single family home, dwelling unit, condominium unit, site condominium unit, apartment unit or any other use unless such additional access use is approved as a special use (and meets the requirements of the zoning district involved) or as a planned unit development (PUD).
9. The minimum water frontage requirements of this section shall be doubled if more than fifty percent (50%) of the water frontage of the property involved is comprised of or adjoins a wetland as defined by Michigan law.
10. If a property is located within a zoning district where the minimum lot width requirement is greater than one hundred (100) feet, the minimum water frontage requirements of subsections (1), (2) and (3) hereof shall be increased so as to equal the minimum lot width requirement of the zoning district in which the property is located.

(Section amended 10-21-24, Ord. #2024-4)