

**DRAFT – TOWN OF JEFFERSON LAND USE ORDINANCE REVISIONS FOR TOWN MEETING 2021**

**ADD to Definitions Article III, Section 4:**

Recreational vehicle: A vehicle which is (a) built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable; and (d) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel or seasonal use.

Campground: A parcel of land on which two or more campsites are occupied or are intended for temporary occupancy for recreational dwelling purposes only, and not for permanent year-round residency.

Short-Term Rental: A type of tourist accommodation or lodging unit where transient lodging is provided for compensation for stays between one and 30 consecutive nights, and where the dwelling unit would normally be considered a residential living unit.

**ADD to Article III, Section 2A. PERMITTED USES BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION**

- A. Motels, hotels, tourist accommodations and lodging units (**including short-term rentals**), **campgrounds**, nursery schools, clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, rest homes, public utility buildings, retail and wholesale stores, parks and recreation areas, cemeteries, greenhouses, private clubs, golf courses, riding stables, restaurants, sawmills, camps, home-based businesses, small businesses, telecommunications equipment and facilities, accessory dwelling unit. (Hotel, motel, tourist accommodations and lodging units shall be defined in the strictest sense and shall not be considered in the context of condominium conversion). (amended 3/1999)

**ADD to Article III a new SECTION 5 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

This section applies to recreational vehicle occupancy outside of approved or existing campgrounds.

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- RV Occupancy Permits** No recreational vehicle (*RV*) may be used as a primary dwelling, domicile, or residence for any length of time. An RV occupancy permit must be obtained by the landowner from the town for any recreational vehicle placed on a lot and used for living quarters only on a temporary, *limited stay* basis and not on a lot which already contains another dwelling. No recreational vehicle may be occupied with an RV occupancy permit for more than *a total of 180 days* in any calendar year. *At the Town's discretion, a recreational vehicle may be occupied for additional continuous time if the owner is using it as a temporary residence at the same time a permanent dwelling is being constructed on the same lot. However, the occupancy time allowed will not be unlimited.* RV occupancy permits shall be valid

for one year and may be renewed prior to the expiration date. Each original or renewed application must be signed by the landowner and the owner of the recreational vehicle and shall demonstrate that adequate provisions have been made for sanitary disposal of sewage, waste and refuse. Such use shall conform with the requirements of the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services related to sanitation facilities. Setback requirements as found in ARTICLE IV shall apply. No more than one recreational vehicle shall be permitted per lot. The RV occupancy permit must be prominently displayed on each recreational vehicle.

2. **Special Event RV Permit** A special event RV permit is required for the placement of two or more recreational vehicles on a lot for a one time, up to ten day stay. Upon application, special event RV permits may be issued by the Town. The landowner shall demonstrate that adequate provisions have been made for sanitary disposal of sewage, waste and refuse, either in an existing residence or through a self-contained unit. Setback requirements as found in ARTICLE IV shall apply.
3. **Short Term Notification Permit** A single visit to an improved residential property by a single RV utilizing sanitary facilities of the residence is allowed a stay of up to fifteen days. The property owner must file a notification with the town with no fee required.
4. **Registration of Recreational Vehicles** All recreational vehicles must be registered in accordance with the motor vehicle laws of the State of New Hampshire. Any recreational vehicle which does not have a valid motor vehicle registration and current number plate shall be assessed by the Town as taxable real estate pursuant to *NH RSA 72:7-d*.

#### **ADD TO ARTICLE V, Section 8 – Paragraphs B and C:**

##### **SECTION 8 BUILDING CODES:**

- A. The Town adopts the provisions of the New Hampshire Energy Code (RSA 155-D) mandating that when building new homes with any provision at all for fossil or electric heat, planning to spend more than 50% of the current value of a structure altering that structure, construct a commercial structure under 4000 square feet, winterizing a seasonal home or part of an existing structure, **OR** constructing an addition with more than 150 square feet of floor space must meet the 7 International Energy Code (IECC 2000). Certificate of Compliance from NH Public Utilities Commission must accompany a building permit. Web site: [www.puc.state.nh.us](http://www.puc.state.nh.us)
- B. ***The State of New Hampshire Building Code, Fire Code, and local codes apply to every property and structure, whether or not the Town chooses to enforce the codes directly or to require permits. It is the property owners' responsibility to educate themselves regarding applicable statutory code requirements. Notification and involvement of applicable local, state, and federal boards and authorities is required, including but not***

*limited to, the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Fire Department.*

- C. *Property owners are obligated to follow the New Hampshire Building Code and must "notify the state fire marshal concerning the type of construction before construction begins, excluding one- and two-family dwellings," under RSA 155-A:2, VI.*

**EDIT ARTICLE VI, Section 1:**

**ARTICLE VI**  
**ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

**SECTION 1. APPROVALS.**

A. New construction: To assure compliance with the regulations of ~~Article IV of~~ this ordinance, it is required that a ***building/construction/change of use permit and*** site plan with contours and elevations be submitted and an approval in writing be secured from the ~~Board of Selectmen Town~~ before any construction is commenced. An approval review fee based on administrative cost shall accompany said permit.

B. Existing construction: Because it was sited prior to the date of this Ordinance, a building may already exceed the limitations of ~~Article IV this Ordinance~~. To assure that these limitations are not further infringed, it is required that any proposed change which would affect setbacks, height limitations, ***expansion of*** or change in usage, ***or any other item in conflict with the regulations of this ordinance*** be approved as in A. above before construction is begun.

~~C. No approval shall be required for any refurbishing, repairing, renovation or rebuilding of any existing structure which does not, and will not, infringe on the limitations of setback or height as noted in this Ordinance.~~

D. Any application for a building permit, not meeting the provisions of ~~Article IV this ordinance~~ must, apply for a variance ***or special exception*** from the Board of Adjustment before submitting the application to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

***E. Approval or waiver of a construction permit under this Ordinance does not constitute approval or waiver under the New Hampshire Building Code or Fire Code. Additional approvals, permits, or inspections that may be required under the Fire Code are outside the scope of this Ordinance. The Town may request assistance from the State Fire Marshal, or others, to perform the duties of building code enforcement. (RSA 155-A:2, IV) The Fire Chief has primary jurisdiction for local application of the NH Fire Code. (RSA 154:2, II)***

**SECTION 2. ENFORCEMENT:**

This Ordinance shall be administered and enforced by the Board of Selectmen or their designee.

A. The Board of Selectmen or their designee shall administer this Ordinance literally and shall not have the power to permit any use of land or buildings which is not in conformance with this ordinance. The Board of Adjustment as noted in ARTICLE VII must approve special exceptions and any variances from the terms of this Land Use Ordinance.