

CHAPTER XXII FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

Editor's Note: This chapter was included in the 1974 Code as Chapter 8, Article 2 which codified Ord. No. 78-42.

22-1 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.

The Legislature of the State of New Jersey has in N.J.S.A. 40:48-1, et seq., delegated the responsibility to local government units to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry. Therefore, the Municipal Council of the Township of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey does ordain as follows. (Ord. #9234 § 8-5; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-2 FINDINGS OF FACT.

- a. The flood hazard areas of the Township of Woodbridge are subject to periodic inundation which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.
- b. These flood losses are caused by the cumulative effect of obstructions in areas of special flood hazard which increase flood heights and velocities, and when inadequately anchored, causes damage to uses in other areas. Uses that are inadequately floodproofed, elevated or otherwise protected from flood damage also contribute to the flood loss.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-6; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-3 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this chapter to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed:

- a. To protect human life and health;
- b. To minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- c. To minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- d. To minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- e. To minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets, bridges located in areas of special flood hazard.
- f. To help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the second use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- g. To ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and
- h. To ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-7; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-4 METHODS OF REDUCING FLOOD LOSSES.

In order to accomplish its purposes, this chapter includes methods and provisions for:

- a. Restricting or prohibiting uses which are dangerous to health, safety, and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- b. Requiring that uses vulnerable to floods including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- c. Controlling the alteration of natural flood plains, streams channels, and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or channel flood waters;
- d. Controlling filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage; and
- e. Preventing or regulating the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards in other areas.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-8; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-5 DEFINITIONS.

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this chapter shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this chapter its most reasonable application.

Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) shall mean the elevation shown on a community's Advisory Flood Hazard Area Map that indicates the advisory stillwater elevation plus wave effect (ABFE = SWEL + wave effect) resulting from a flood that has a one (1%) percent or greater chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Advisory Flood Hazard Area (AFHA) shall mean the land in the floodplain within a community subject to flooding from the one (1%) percent annual chance event depicted on the Advisory Flood Hazard Area Map.

Advisory Flood Hazard Area Map shall mean the official map on which the Federal Emergency Management Administration has delineated the areas of advisory flood hazards applicable to the community.

AH Zone shall mean areas subject to inundation by one (1%) percent-annual-chance shallow flooding (usually areas of ponding) where average depths are between one (1) and three (3) feet. Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown in this zone.

AO Zone shall mean areas subject to inundation by one (1%) percent-annual-chance shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depths are between one (1) and three (3) feet.

Appeal shall mean a request for a review of the Township Floodplain Manager's interpretation of any provision of this chapter or a request for a variance.

Area of shallow flooding shall mean a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) with a one (1%) percent annual or greater chance of flooding to an average depth of one (1) to three (3) feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

Area of special flood hazard shall mean the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one (1%) percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. It is shown on the FIRM as Zone V, VE, V1-30, A, AO, A1 A30, AE, A99, or AH.

Base flood shall mean a flood having a one (1%) percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Base Flood Elevation (BFE) shall mean the flood elevation shown on a published Flood Insurance Study (FIS) including the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). For Zones AE, AH, AO, and A1-30 the elevation represents the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a one (1%) percent or greater chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. For zones VE and V1-30 the elevation represents the stillwater elevation (SWEL) plus wave effect (BFE = SWEL + wave effect) resulting from a flood that has a one (1%) percent or greater chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Basement shall mean any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

Best Available Flood Hazard Data shall mean the most recent available flood risk guidance provided by FEMA. The Best Available Flood Hazard Data may be depicted on but not limited to Advisory Flood Hazard Area Maps, Work Maps or Preliminary FIS and FIRM.

Best Available Flood Hazard Data Elevation shall mean the most recent available flood elevation FEMA has provided. The Best Available Flood Hazard Data Elevation may be depicted on an Advisory Flood Hazard Area Map; Work Map; or Preliminary FIS and FIRM.

Breakaway wall shall mean a wall that is not part of the structural support of the building and is intended through its design and construction to collapse under specific lateral loading forces without causing damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

Coastal A Zone shall mean the portion of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) starting from a Velocity (V) Zone and extending up to the landward Limit of the Moderate Wave Action delineation. Where no V Zone is mapped the Coastal A Zone is the portion between the open coast and the landward Limit of the Moderate Wave Action delineation. Coastal A Zones may be subject to wave effects, velocity flows, erosion, scour, or a combination of these forces. Construction and development in Coastal A Zones is to be regulated the same as V Zones/Coastal High Hazard Areas.

Coastal high hazard area shall mean an area of special flood hazard extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources.

Development shall mean any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including, but not limited to, buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, or storage of equipment or materials located within the area of special flood hazard.

Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) shall mean the official map on which the Federal Insurance Administration has delineated both the areas of special flood hazards and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

Elevated building shall mean a nonbasement building (i) built in the case of a building in an area of special flood hazard to have the top of the elevated floor or in the case of a building in a coastal high hazard area or Coastal A Zone to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the elevated floor elevated above the base flood elevation plus free board by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water, and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood up to the magnitude of the base flood. In an area of special flood hazard "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of floodwaters. In areas of coastal high hazard or Coastal A Zone "elevated buildings" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building" even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls.

Erosion shall mean the process of the gradual wearing away of land masses.

Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision shall mean manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

Flood or flooding shall mean a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:

- a. The overflow of inland or tidal waters and/or
- b. The unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) shall mean the official report provided in which the Federal Insurance Administration has provided flood profiles, as well as the Flood Insurance Rate Map(s) and the water surface elevation of the base flood.

Floodplain management regulations shall mean zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, building codes, health regulations, special purpose ordinances (such as a floodplain ordinance, grading ordinance and erosion control ordinance) and other applications of police power. The term describes such State or local regulations, in any combination thereof, which provide standards for the purpose of flood damage prevention and reduction.

Floodproofing shall mean any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

Floodway shall mean the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than two tenths (0.2) foot.

Freeboard shall mean factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of flood plain management. "Freeboard" tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.

Highest adjacent grade shall mean the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed or existing walls of a structure.

Historic structure shall mean any structure that is:

- a. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- b. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
- c. Individually listed in a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- d. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
 1. By an approved State program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior; or
 2. Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA) shall mean the inland limit of the area affected by waves greater than 1.5 feet during the Base Flood. Base Flood conditions between the V Zone and the LiMWA will be similar to, but less severe than those in the V Zone.

Lowest floor shall mean the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for the parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement is not considered a building's lowest floor provided that such enclosure is not built so to render the structure in violation of other applicable nonelevation design requirements of 44 CFR Section 60.3.

Manufactured home shall mean a structure, transportable in one (1) or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a "recreation vehicle."

Manufactured home park or manufactured home subdivision shall mean a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two (2) or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

New construction shall mean structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain regulation adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

New manufactured home park or subdivision shall mean a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the municipality.

Primary frontal dune shall mean a continuous or nearly continuous mound or ridge of sand with relatively steep seaward and landward slopes immediately landward and adjacent to the beach and subject to erosion and overtopping from high tides and waves from coastal storms. The inland limit of the primary frontal dune occurs at the point where there is a distinct change from the relatively steep slope to a relatively mild slope.

Recreational vehicle shall mean a vehicle which is (i) built on a single chassis; (ii) four hundred (400) square feet or less when measured at the longest horizontal projections; (iii) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and (iv) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

Sand dunes shall mean naturally occurring or man-made accumulations of sand in ridges or mounds landward of the beach.

Start of construction (for other than new construction or substantial improvements under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (P.L. No. 97-348) includes substantial improvements and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of the construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement,

or other improvement within one hundred eighty (180) days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site such as the pouring of a slab of footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation, or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways, nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings or piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms, nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

Structure shall mean a walled and roofed building, a manufactured home, or a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground.

Substantial damage shall mean damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its condition before damage would equal or exceed fifty (50%) percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Substantial improvement shall mean any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty (50%) percent of the market value of the structure before the "start of construction" of the improvement. This term includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage," regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either:

- a. Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of State or local health, sanitary and safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement officer and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions; or
- b. Any alteration of a "historic structure," provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "historic structure."

Variance shall mean a grant of relief from the requirements of this section which permits construction in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this chapter.

Violation shall mean the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with this ordinance. A new or substantially improved structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in 44 CFR §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

(Ord. No. 92-34 § 8-9; Ord. No. 10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-6 - 22-9 RESERVED.

22-10 LANDS TO WHICH THIS CHAPTER APPLIES.

This chapter shall apply to all areas of special flood hazards within the jurisdiction of the Township of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey. (Ord. #92-34 § 8-10; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-11 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD.

The areas of special flood hazard for the Township of Woodbridge, Community Number 345331, are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- a. A scientific and engineering report "Flood Insurance Study, Middlesex County, New Jersey (All Jurisdictions" dated July 6, 2010.
- b. Flood Insurance Rate Map for Middlesex County, New Jersey (All Jurisdictions) as shown on Index and panels 34023C0052F, 34023C0054F, 34023C0056F, 34023C0057F, 34023C0058F, 34023C0059F, 34023C0062F, 34023C0064F, 34023C0066F, 34023C0067F, 34023C0068F, 34023C0076F, 34023C0078F, 34023C0086F, 34023C0152F, whose effective date is July 6, 2010. The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this ordinance. The Flood Insurance Study and maps are on file at 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, New Jersey.
- c. Best Available Flood Hazard Data. These documents shall take precedence over effective panels and FIS in construction and development regulations only. Where the effective mapping or Base Flood Elevation conflict or overlap with the Best Available Flood Hazard Data, whichever imposes the more protective design shall prevail.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-11; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-12 PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.

No structure or land shall hereafter be constructed, relocated to, located, extended, converted, or altered without full compliance with the terms of this chapter and other applicable regulations. Violation of the provisions of this chapter by failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions) shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person who violates this chapter or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than five hundred (\$500.00) dollars or imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days, or both, for each violation, and in addition shall pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Township of Woodbridge from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation. (Ord. #92-34 § 8-12; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-13 ABROGATION AND GREATER RESTRICTIONS.

This chapter is not intended to repeal, abrogate, or impair any existing easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this chapter and other ordinance, easement, covenant, or deed restriction conflict or overlap, whichever imposes the more stringent restrictions shall prevail. (Ord. #92-34 § 8-13; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-14 INTERPRETATION.

In the interpretation and application of this chapter, all provisions shall be:

- a. Considered as minimum requirements;
- b. Liberally construed in favor of the governing body; and
- c. Deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted under State statutes.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-14; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-15 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.

The degree of flood protection required by this chapter is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This chapter does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages.

This chapter shall not create liability on the part of the Township of Woodbridge, any officer or employee thereof or the Federal Insurance Administration, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this chapter or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder. (Ord. #92-34 § 8-15; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-16 ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PERMIT.

A Development Permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins within any area of special flood hazard established in Section 22-11. Application for a

Development permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Code Enforcement Officer and may include, but not be limited to, plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities; and the location of the foregoing.

Specifically, the following information is required:

- a. Elevation in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement) of all structures;
- b. Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any structure has been floodproofed;
- c. Certification by a registered professional engineer or architect that the floodproofing methods for any nonresidential structure meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 22-21b.; and
- d. Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-16; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-17 DESIGNATION OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGER.

The Municipal Floodplain Manager is hereby appointed to administer and implement this chapter by granting or denying development permit applications in accordance with its provisions. (Ord. #92-34 § 8-17; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-18 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGER.

Duties of the Floodplain Manager shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Permit Review.
 1. Review all development permits to determine that the permit requirements of this chapter have been satisfied.
 2. Review all development permits to determine that all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, State or local government agencies from which prior approval is required.
 3. Review all development permits to determine if the proposed development is located in the floodway, assure that the encroachment provisions of Section 22-22a. are met.
 4. Review all development permits in the coastal high hazard area (Coastal A Zones) of the area of special flood hazard to determine if the proposed development alters sand dunes so as to increase potential flood damage.
 5. Review plans for walls to be used to enclose space below the base flood level in accordance with Section 22-23b., 4.
- b. Use of Other Base Flood and Floodway Data. When base flood elevation and floodway data has not been provided in accordance with Section 22-11, Basis for Establishing the Areas of Special Flood Hazard, the Floodplain Manager shall obtain, review, and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, in order to administer subsections 22-21a., Specific Standards, Residential Construction, and 22-21b., Specific Standards, Nonresidential Construction.
- c. Information to Be Obtained and Maintained.
 1. Obtain and record the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new or substantially improved structures, and whether or not the structure contains a basement.
 2. For all new or substantially improved floodproofed structures:
 - (a) Verify and record the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level); and
 - (b) Maintain the floodproofing certifications required in Section 22-16c.
 3. In coastal high hazard areas and Coastal A Zones, certification shall be obtained from a registered professional engineer or architect that the provisions of subsections 22-23b., 1. and 22-23b., 2(a) and (b) are met.
 4. Maintain for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this chapter.
- d. Alteration of Watercourses.
 1. Notify adjacent communities and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Dam Safety and Flood Control Section and the Land Use Regulation Program prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Federal Insurance Administration.
 2. Require that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of the watercourse so the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.
- e. Interpretation of FIRM Boundaries. Make interpretations where needed as to the exact location of the boundaries of the areas of special flood hazards (for example, where there appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions). The person contesting the location of the boundary shall be given a reasonable opportunity to appeal the interpretation as provided in Section 22-19.
- f. Substantial Damage Review.
 1. After an event resulting in building damages, assess the damage to structures due to flood and non-flood causes.
 2. Record and maintain the flood and non-flood damage of substantial damage structures and provide a letter of Substantial Damage Determination to the owner and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Dam Safety and Flood Control Section.
 3. Ensure substantial improvements meet the requirements of subsections 22-21a., Specific Standards, Residential Construction, 22-21b., Specific Standards, Nonresidential Construction, and 22-21c., Specific Standards, Manufactured Homes.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-18; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-19 VARIANCE PROCEDURE.

22-19.1 Appeal Board.

- a. The Board of Appeal as established by the Superior Court of New Jersey shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this chapter.
- b. The Board of Appeal shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Floodplain Manager in the enforcement or administration of this chapter.
- c. Those aggrieved by the decision of the Board of Appeals, or any taxpayer, may appeal such a decision to a higher court. (Ord. No. 2018-21)
- d. In passing upon such applications, the Board of Appeal shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this chapter, and:
 1. The danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
 2. The danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
 3. The susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
 4. The importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
 5. The necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
 6. The availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;

7. The compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
 8. The relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and flood plain management program of that area;
 9. The safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
 10. The expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise, and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and,
 11. The costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems, and streets and bridges.
- e. Upon consideration of the factors of subsection 22-19.1d. and the purposes of this chapter, the Board of Appeal may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this chapter.
 - f. The Floodplain Manager shall maintain the records of all appeal actions, including technical information, and report any variances to the Federal Insurance Administration upon request.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-19[a]; Ord. No. 2017-107; Ord. No. 2018-21)

22-19.2 Conditions for Variances.

- a. Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half (1/2) acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (1-11) in subsection 22-19.1d have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half (1/2) acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- b. Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon a determination that the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure and the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- c. Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base discharge would result.
- d. Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- e. Variances shall only be issued upon:
 1. A showing of good and sufficient cause;
 2. A determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant; and
 3. A determination that the granting of a variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public as identified in subsection 22-19.1d., or conflict with existing local laws or ordinances.
- f. Any applicant to whom a variance is granted shall be given written notice that the structure will be permitted to be built with a lowest floor elevation below the base flood elevation and that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from the reduced lowest floor elevation.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-19[b]; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20 PROVISIONS FOR FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION.

22-20.1 General Standards.

In all areas of special flood hazards compliance with the applicable requirements of the Uniform Construction Code (N.J.A.C. 5:23) and the following standards, whichever is more restrictive, is required: (Ord. #92-34 § 8-20; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20.2 Anchoring.

- a. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure.
- b. All manufactured homes shall be anchored to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not to be limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-20 [a]; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20.3 Construction Materials and Methods.

- a. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- b. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-20[b]; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20.4 Utilities.

- a. All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- b. New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharge from the systems into flood waters;
- c. On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding; and
- d. For all new construction and substantial improvements of electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing and air-conditioning equipment and other service facilities shall be designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.
- e. All newly installed generators, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, of which are not an in-kind replacement, must be elevated at or above the base flood elevation (published FIS/FIRM) or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, plus one foot; and contingent upon the Flood Design Class of the structure, as defined by ASCE/SEI 24-14, a greater level of protection (elevated more than one (1) foot above the most protective base flood elevation) shall be required. (Ord. No. 2018-21)

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-20[c]; Ord. No. 2017-107; Ord. No. 2018-21)

22-20.5 Subdivision Proposals.

- a. All subdivision proposals and other proposed new development shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- b. All subdivision proposals and other proposed new development shall have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems located and constructed to minimize flood damage;
- c. All subdivision proposals and other proposed new development shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage; and
- d. Base flood elevation data shall be provided for subdivision proposals and other proposed new development which contain at least fifty (50) lots or five (5) acres (whichever is less).

(Ord. #92-34 § 20[d]; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20.6 Enclosure Openings.

For all new construction and substantial improvements having fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or

storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or must meet or exceed the following minimum criteria: A minimum of two (2) openings in at least two (2) exterior walls of each enclosed area, having a total net area of not less than one (1) square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one (1) foot above grade. **Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, or other covering devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.** (Ord. #82-34 § 8-20[e]; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-20.7 Enclosure Limits.

a. Crawlspace (Under-Floor-Spaces).

In A, AO, AH or AE Zones, crawlspace heights will be measured from the interior grade (top of footing) of the enclosure (crawlspace) to the bottom of the first floor joist. Crawlspace heights in these zones should not exceed four (4) feet at any point, and the enclosed area should not be improved or modified into livable space. Newly constructed below-grade crawlspaces are prohibited. In V zones or coastal A zones, crawlspace heights will be measured from the interior grade of the enclosure to the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member. (Ord. No. 2018-21)

b. Full-Height Crawlspaces.

If the crawlspace height in any zone exceeds four (4) feet at any point, then the property owner must sign a non-conversion agreement not to improve the enclosed area in any way that would make it more susceptible to flood damage. Under this agreement, the Township will have the right to inspect periodically the interior of the enclosure. The non-conversion agreement will be filed with the property deed.

(Ord. No. 2017-107; Ord. No. 2018-21)

22-21 SPECIFIC STANDARDS.

In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data have been provided, as set forth in Section 22-11, Basis for Establishing the Areas of Special Flood Hazard, or in Section 22-18b, Use of Other Base Flood Data, the following standards are required:

a. Residential Construction for Coastal A Zone and V Zone Construction (see Section 22-23 Coastal High Hazard Area and Coastal A Zone).

1. New construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure located within an A or AE zone shall have the lowest floor (including the basement, together with the attendant utilities and sanitary facilities) elevated at or above the base flood elevation (published FIS/FIRM) or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, plus one foot and contingent upon the Flood Design Class of the structure, as defined by ASCE/SEI 24-14, a greater level of protection (elevated more than one (1) foot above the most protective base flood elevation) shall be required. (Ord. No. 2018-21)
2. Within any AO Zone or AH Zone of the published FIS/FIRM or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, all new construction or substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor (including the basement, together with the attendant utilities and sanitary facilities) elevated at or above the highest of the following levels: (a) the depth number plus one (1) foot above the highest adjacent grade, if a depth number is specified; (b) the grade plus three (3) feet, if no depth number is specified; or (c) the published FIS/FIRM or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, plus one foot. Also, adequate drainage paths must be provided, around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures. (Ord. No. 2018-21)

b. Nonresidential Construction for Coastal A Zone and V Zone Construction (see Section 22-23 Coastal High Hazard Area and Coastal A Zone).

1. Either:
 - (a) In an area of special flood hazard, all new construction, or substantial improvement of any commercial, industrial or other nonresidential structure located in an A or AE Zone (for Coastal A Zone and V Zone construction see Section 20-23 (Coastal High Hazard Area and Coastal A Zone), shall have the lowest floor (including the basement, together with the attendant utilities and sanitary facilities) elevated at or above the base flood elevation (published FIS/FIRM) or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, plus one foot and contingent upon the Flood Design Class of the structure, as defined by ASCE/SEI 24-14, a greater level of protection (elevated more than one (1) foot above the most protective base flood elevation) shall be required; and (Ord. No. 2018-21)
 - (b) In addition, within any AO or AH Zone of the published FIS/FIRM or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, all new construction, or substantial improvement of any commercial, industrial or other nonresidential structure, shall have the lowest floor (including the basement) elevated at or above the highest of the following levels: (a) the depth number plus one (1) foot above the highest adjacent grade, if a depth number is specified; (b) the grade plus three (3) feet, if no depth number is specified; or (c) at or above the best available flood hazard data elevation plus one foot, whichever is more restrictive. Also, adequate drainage paths must be provided around structures on slopes to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures; (Ord. No. 2018-21)
2. Or:
 - (a) Be flood proofed so that below the base flood level plus one foot, or the best available flood hazard data elevation plus one foot, (whichever is more restrictive), the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water; and contingent upon the Flood Design Class of the structure, as defined by ASCE/SEI 24-14, a greater level of protection (elevated more than one (1) foot above the most protective base flood elevation) shall be required. (Ord. No. 2018-21)
 - (b) Have structural components capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydro-dynamic loads and effects of buoyancy; and
 - (c) Be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect that the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the applicable provisions of this subsection. Such certification shall be provided to the official as set forth in Section 22-16. (Ord. No. 2018-21)

c. Manufactured Homes.

1. Manufactured homes shall be anchored in accordance with Section 22-20a., 2.
2. All manufactured homes to be placed or substantially improved within an area of special flood hazard shall:
 - (a) Be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage,
 - (b) Be constructed to minimize flood damage,
 - (c) Have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage; and,
 - (d) Be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the top of the lowest floor is at or above the base flood elevation (published FIS/FIRM) plus three (3) feet or the best available flood hazard data elevation, plus three (3) feet or as required by ASCE/SEI 24-14, Table 2-1, whichever is more restrictive.
 - (e) The manufactured home chassis is supported by reinforced piers or other foundation elements of at least equivalent strength that are no less than thirty-six (36) inches in height above grade and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist floatation, collapse, and lateral movement.
3. In A1-30, AH, and AE Zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must:
 - (a) Be elevated and anchored; or
 - (b) Be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days; or
 - (c) Be fully licensed and highway ready.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-21; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107; Ord. No. 2018-21)

22-22 FLOODWAYS.

Located within areas of special flood hazard established in Section 22-11 are areas designated as floodways. Since the floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to

the velocity of flood waters which carry debris, potential projectiles, and erosion potential, the following provisions apply:

- a. Prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development unless a technical evaluation demonstrates that encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.
- b. If Section 22-22a. is satisfied, all new construction and substantial improvements shall comply with all applicable flood hazard reduction provisions of Section 22-20, Provisions for Flood Hazard Reduction.
- c. In all areas of special flood hazard in which base flood elevation data has been provided and no floodway has been designated, the cumulative effect of any proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, shall not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than two-tenths (0.2) of a foot at any given point.

(Ord. #92-34 § 8-22; Ord. No. 2017-107)

22-23 COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREA and COASTAL A ZONES.

Coastal high hazard areas (V or VE Zones) and Coastal A Zones are located within the areas of special flood hazard established in Section 22-11. These areas have special flood hazards associated with high velocity waters from tidal surges and hurricane wave wash; therefore, the following provisions shall apply:

- a. Location of Structures.
 1. All buildings or structures shall be located landward of the reach of the mean high tide.
 2. The placement of manufactured homes shall be prohibited, except in an existing manufactured home park or manufactured home subdivision.
- b. Construction Methods.
 1. Elevation. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be elevated on piling or columns so that the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor (excluding the piling or columns) is elevated at or above the base flood elevation (published FIS/FIRM) or the best available flood hazard data elevation, whichever is more restrictive, plus one foot and contingent upon the Flood Design Class of the structure, as defined by ASCE/SEI 24-14, a greater level of protection (elevated more than one (1) foot above the most protective base flood elevation) shall be required. And with all space below the lowest floor's supporting member open so as not to impede the flow of water, except for breakaway walls as provided for in Section 22-23b. (Ord. No. 2018-21)
 2. Structural Support:
 - (a) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be securely anchored on piling or columns.
 - (b) The pile or column foundation and structure attached thereto shall be anchored to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water loading values each of which shall have a one (1%) percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (one hundred (100) year mean recurrence interval).
 - (c) There shall be no fill used for structural support.
 3. Certification. A registered professional engineer or architect shall develop or review the structural design specifications and plans for the construction and shall certify that the design and methods of construction to be used are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for compliance with the provisions of Section 22-23b., 1 and 22-23b., 2(a) and (b).
 4. Space Below Lowest Floor.
 - (a) Any alteration, repair, reconstruction or improvement to a structure started after the enactment of this chapter shall not enclose the space below the lowest floor unless breakaway walls, open wood lattice-work or insect screening are used as provided for in this section.
 - (b) Breakaway walls, open wood lattice-work or insect screening shall be allowed below the base flood elevation provided that they are intended to collapse under wind and water loads without causing collapse, displacement or other structural damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system. Breakaway walls shall be designed for a safe loading resistance of not less than ten (10) and no more than twenty (20) pounds per square foot. Use of breakaway walls which exceed a design safe loading of twenty (20) pounds per square foot (either by design or when so required by local or State codes) may be permitted only if a registered professional engineer or architect certifies that the designs proposed meet the following conditions.
 - (1) Breakaway wall collapse shall result from a water load less than that which would occur during the base flood and,
 - (2) The elevated portion of the building and supporting foundation system shall not be subject to collapse, displacement or other structural damage due to the effects of wind and water load acting simultaneously on all building components (structural and nonstructural). Water loading values used shall be those associated with the base flood. Wind loading values used shall be those required by applicable State or local building standards.
 - (c) If breakaway walls are utilized, such enclosed space shall be used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage and not for human habitation.
 - (d) Prior to construction, plans for any breakaway wall must be submitted to the Construction Code Official or Building Subcode Official for approval.
- c. Sand Dunes. Prohibit manmade alteration of sand dunes within Coastal A Zones, VE and V ZONES on the community's DFIRM which would increase potential flood damage.

(Ord. #92-34 § 2-23; Ord. #10-27; Ord. No. 2017-107; Ord. No. 2018-21)