



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Basic Zone Districts – Summary of Uses

The following list is provided to give a general idea of the uses allowed in each zone district. Most non-residential uses are allowed only with a development permit (use approval), approved by the County. A building permit is also required for a use involving new construction or structural additions and remodels. For a complete list of uses allowed in any given zone district and the level of review required, contact the Zoning Counter at (831) 454-2130, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.daily.

Zone District	Allowed Uses
"CA" Commercial Agriculture	Commercial agriculture, farm buildings, livestock raising, greenhouses, farm worker camps. One single-family dwelling.
"A" Agriculture	Agriculture, farm buildings, livestock raising, lumber mills, visitor accommodations, zoos & natural science museums. One single-family dwelling.
"AP" Agricultural Preserve	Similar to "CA" zone; applies to parcels under agricultural preserve contracts with the County.
"RA" Residential Agricultural	One single-family dwelling, one second dwelling unit, home occupations, small-scale agriculture, greenhouses, wineries, private stables and paddocks, schools, community facilities, open space and recreational uses.
"RR" Rural Residential	One single-family dwelling, one second dwelling unit, home occupations, and horses with a use approval.
"R-1" Single-Family Residential	One single-family dwelling, one second dwelling unit, home occupations, not more than 2 cats and 2 dogs, community facilities.
"RB" Single-Family Ocean Beach Residential	One single-family dwelling, one second dwelling unit, home occupations, not more than 2 cats and 2 dogs.
"RM" Multi-Family Residential	Single- and multi-family dwellings and dwelling groups, mobile home parks, home occupations, 2 cats and 1 dog per dwelling.

"PA" Professional-Administrative Office	Banks, community facilities, travel agencies, medical, insurance, real estate and executive offices, nursing homes, and conference facilities.
"VA" Visitor Accommodations	Hotels, motels, inns, conference centers, organized camps, vehicle and tent camping parks.
"CT" Tourist Commercial	Gas stations, restaurants, and visitor accommodations.
"C-1" Neighborhood Commercial	Animal grooming, banks, barber & beauty shops, small repair shops, print shops, shoe repair, offices (not exceeding 50% of the building area), fitness centers, restaurants, bookshops, bicycle shops, hardware stores, jewelry stores, pet shops, clothing stores, and stationary stores. Multi-family residential as a mixed use up to 50% of floor area.
"C-2" Community Commercial	All uses permitted in the "C-1" zone plus veterinary clinics (without overnight boarding), offices, indoor theaters, and retail sales involving large areas such as appliance showrooms, automobile supply stores, department stores, and garden supply stores. Plus hotels, motels, and inns. Multi-family residential as a mixed use up to 50% of floor area.
"C-4" Commercial Services	Boat building, sales, and storage, nightclubs, bowling alleys, indoor theaters, flea markets, skating rinks, sports arenas, contractor's shops, mini-storage buildings, automobile repair shops, contractors' storage yards, shipping terminals, automobile sales, building materials yards, nurseries, feed and farm supply stores, and all allowed uses in the "M-1" zone with certain restrictions.
"M-1" Light Industrial	Agricultural service establishments, poultry hatcheries, light manufacturing, assembly, or processing.
"M-2" Heavy Industrial	Large factories involving hazardous chemicals such as manufacture of construction materials or household goods, glass, carpets, pharmaceuticals, petroleum processing, and wood processing.
"M-3" Mineral Extraction Industrial	Quarries and mining.
"PR" Parks, Recreation and Open Space	Community centers, open space uses, recreational facilities, visitor accommodations, and timber harvesting.
"PF" Public and Community Facilities	Administrative offices, cemeteries, churches, community centers, fire stations, hospitals, libraries, nursing homes, parks, and schools and colleges.
"TP" Timber Production	Growing and harvesting of timber and other forest products, agriculture. One single-family dwelling.
"SU" Special Use	All uses allowed in the "RA" or "R-1" zone district provided the use is consistent with the General Plan. All other permitted or conditionally permitted uses provided they are consistent with the General Plan and a Level 5 use approval is obtained.

Combining Zone Districts

The following combining districts have been applied to the basic zone districts in order to impose specific limitations or exercise some form of land use regulation.

Overlay Zone	Summary of Limitations Imposed
“AS” Aptos Seascape	Designates and regulates those lands which are in Aptos Seascape Subdivision Tracts 483, 511, and 574 to which special site standards apply.
“D” Designated Park Site	Designates land as a potential County park site.
“GH” Geologic Hazards	Denotes the presence of physical hazard to development and that any use is subject to the Geologic Hazards Ordinance.
“H” Assisted Housing	Denotes where affordable housing priority site regulations apply.
“I” Statement of Intention	Board of Supervisors has agreed not to rezone the property in the foreseeable future.
“L” Historic Landmark	The property or structure has been designated a historic landmark and is subject to the Historic Resources Ordinance.
“MH” Mobile Home Park	Denotes the location of a legal mobile home park.
“O” Open Space Easement	Owner has executed an open space easement contract with the County to maintain the land in its natural state for 10-years.
“P” Agricultural Preserve and Farmland Security	Owner has executed an Agricultural Preserve or Farmland Security contract with the County to maintain the land in its natural state for 10-years.
“PP” Pleasure Point Community Design	Denotes parcels subject to special residential design standards and guidelines specific to the Pleasure Point Neighborhood.
“R” Regional Housing Need	Designated sites for development at 20 units per acres in order to meet the requirements of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation as required by State Government Code Section 65584.
“SP” Salamander Protection	Denotes areas where special site standards apply to protect endangered species and that uses are subject to the Sensitive Habitat Protection Ordinance.
“W” Watsonville Utility Prohibition	Designated to prevent the provision of urban services to undeveloped/rural areas west of the City of Watsonville, so as to discourage urban development in the farmlands, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas in the Coastal Zone west of Watsonville.