Home Occupations

✓ Home occupations are permitted in all agricultural and residential zoning districts.
✓ Home occupations shall be secondary or incidental to the residential use of the property.
✓ Home occupations shall be registered with the Zoning Administrator prior to commencement of any related activity.

ZONING ORDINANCE EXCERPT
HOME OCCUPATIONS
(Permitted in all Agricultural and Residential Districts)

DEFINITION: HOME OCCUPATION
(Article 11)
A gainful occupation traditionally and historically carried on in the home, carried on by members of the Family only as a use clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the home as a Dwelling place, where no article is sold or personal services rendered except such as are produced or performed by the Home Occupation itself and where the Home Occupation is conducted entirely within the Dwelling.

SECTION 1102 - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
A. All Home Occupations shall, unless an exception is authorized by the Planning Commission as provided hereinafter, be subject to the following restrictions and regulations:
1. The Home Occupation shall be conducted in the home Building by members of the Family residing in such Building.
2. No Home Occupation shall occupy more than twenty (20%) percent of the usable Floor Area of the home Building; provided, however, that in no event shall the Home Occupation occupy more than three hundred (300) square feet.
3. For purposes of identification, one (1) non-illuminated Name Plate, not exceeding one (1) square foot in area, shall be permitted. Such identification Name Plate shall identify only the name and profession, vocation or trade of the person or persons operating the Home Occupation. No other sign shall be permitted in connection with the Home Occupation.
4. No motors other than electrically operated motors shall be used in conjunction with the Home Occupation. The total horsepower of all electrical motors utilized in the Home Occupation shall not exceed three (3) horsepower. No single electrical motor used in the Home Occupation shall exceed one (1) horsepower. All electrical motors and equipment used in the conduct of the Home Occupation shall be shielded so as not to cause radio or television interference for adjoining properties.
5. In no event shall the use of the home Building for a Home Occupation alter the residential character of the home Building.
6. No merchandise or articles for sale shall be displayed on the Lot utilized for the Home Occupation.
7. No article or material used in connection with the Home Occupation shall be stored other than in the home Building.
8. Home Occupation shall provide sufficient waste receptacles substantially screened from view; and the Lot shall be maintained free of debris.

B. All Home Occupations shall be registered with the Zoning Administrator. Registration shall be provided on forms developed by the Township and may require a fee as determined by the Township Board. The Applicant shall sign registration and shall document that the Home Occupation shall be conducted in accordance with the terms of this ordinance. If the Home Occupation fails to meet the provisions of this Ordinance, the registration shall become null and void until proof of compliance is provided.

C. Home Occupations must comply with the following performance standards:

1. Home Occupations must be conducted in such a manner so as not to create, constitute or increase a nuisance. All Home Occupations must not generate noise, vibrations, smoke, dust, odor, heat or glare that is detectable beyond the property lines;
2. Home Occupations shall not create an electrical interference with the transmission of television, cellular, wireless service, or radio in the area which exceeds that which is normally produced by a residential unit in the District; and
3. Home Occupations shall not generate more than ten (10) Vehicle trips per day; and Home Occupations shall not require more than two (2) parking spaces, located in the driveway or on the Street directly adjacent to the property.

SECTION 1103 – REVOCATION OF PERMIT
All permits issued to Home Occupations pursuant to this Ordinance, or which have been granted by the Township previously, shall be revocable by the Zoning Administrator if such Home Occupation fails to comply with any of the applicable standards as set forth in this Ordinance, any other applicable ordinance or code.

Questions? Contact the Building and Planning Department

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