

ARTICLE 6
SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

SECTION 601 PURPOSE

The purpose of a use classified as a "special exception" is to provide expressed standards for regulating unique or special characteristics of certain uses which may otherwise allow such uses to be permitted by right within their respective zoning district, as provided in Article 5, Zoning District Regulations.

SECTION 602 GENERAL PROVISIONS

The authority for approving or denying applications for uses permitted by special exception shall be vested in the Zoning Hearing Board in accordance with the provisions contained in Article 15. Decisions by the Zoning Hearing Board shall be made pursuant to the standards and criteria set forth in Section 1510.2, the respective zoning district in which the use is located, all other applicable regulations of this Ordinance, other ordinances of the Township and any applicable State and/or Federal regulations.

SECTION 603 SITE PLAN

Uses classified as a special exception shall file, in addition to a zoning permit application and an application for hearing before the Zoning Hearing Board, a site plan at a scale of:

One (1) inch equals fifty (50) feet for uses/developments located upon properties in excess of two (2) acres.

OR

One (1) inch equals twenty (20) feet for uses/developments located upon properties being two (2) acres or less.

Please note that the subject applications must be signed by both the applicant and the landowner, regardless of any equitable interest or other documentation held by the applicant. Failure to provide an application bearing both signatures will be deemed to be an incomplete submission and shall represent a basis for denying the application.

Such site plan shall provide all applicable information required for the Zoning Hearing Board to render a decision, including but not limited to the following:

1. The location and size of all buildings and structures, both principal and accessory, both existing and proposed.
2. The location of all off-street parking areas and/or loading and unloading areas.
3. The location of all open space areas, including buffer areas and fencing, as applicable.
4. Traffic access to the site and internal traffic circulation including the width and pavement of traffic lanes, and aisle widths.

5. All streets, both public and private within two-hundred (200) feet of the site, including right-of-way and cartway widths.
6. Streams, ponds, watercourses, wetlands, or any other types of bodies of water, including natural or man-made drainage swales, located on the site or within two hundred (200) feet of the site.
7. The location, nature and terms of any existing or proposed easements on the site, and any easements both on-site and off-site which are used or intended to be used for access to the site, including the name and address of the owner or owners granting such easement.
8. The location of any residential structures which border the site on an adjoining lot and/or those within two hundred (200) feet of any property boundary line of the subject site.
9. The Map, Block and Lot Number of the subject parcel, as contained in the records of the Office of the Luzerne County Recorder of Deeds.
10. A location map at a scale of not greater than one (1) inch equals two thousand (2,000) feet, indicating the relation of the site to its geographic proximity within the Township.
11. In cases when a proposed use includes new construction and/or grading of the site, applicant shall provide upon the site plan the contours of the site at vertical intervals of:
 - not more than five (5) feet for land with an average natural slope of five (5%) percent or less.
 - not more than ten (10) feet for land with an average natural slope exceeding five (5%) percent.
 - not more than twenty (20) feet for land with an average natural slope exceeding fifteen (15%) percent.

Topography data shall be prepared by a professional land surveyor or professional engineer from an actual field survey of the site or from stereoscopic aerial photography and shall be coordinated with official U.S.G.S. benchmarks.
12. If applicable, the applicant shall submit a Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Plan and/or NPDES Permit for review and approval by the Luzerne County Conservation District.
13. The applicant shall submit with the site plan, a narrative that outlines and fully describes all proposed uses or development of the site, along with all pertinent operational aspects, features and/or activities related to the proposed uses or development of the site.
14. The applicant shall supply any other information required by the Bear Creek Township Zoning Hearing Board for determining the conformance of the

special exception use with the applicable regulations for that particular use.

SECTION 604 IMPACT ANALYSIS

In considering an application for a special exception, the Zoning Hearing Board shall have the authority to require the applicant to prepare an "Impact Analysis" on a particular aspect of the subject application and/or potential effect of the subject application in relationship to surrounding properties in accordance with the definition of said term as provided within Article 2 of this Ordinance.