



7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Small Accessory Buildings Zoning Permit Requirements 120 Square feet or less

Community Development Department

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This pamphlet is a compilation of some of the standard requirements based on the State Building Code and City Zoning Code for projects of this type. This information packet does not contain all of the specific codes for construction and should only be used as a guide. The permittee is responsible to meet all code requirements applicable to each project.

Small accessory buildings are defined as buildings 120 square feet or smaller.

In the City of Ramsey, in all agricultural and residential zoning districts, small accessory buildings do not require a building permit; however, they will require a zoning permit. There are regulations for small accessory buildings which you must be aware of and incorporate into your design, construction and location.

Although a building permit may not be required, the following are some of the conditions that will need to be considered.

1. Rear yard setbacks are generally five (5) feet whereas Side Yard and Side Corner setbacks vary.
2. Minimum distance to the primary structure is five (5) feet measured from overhang to overhang. If circumstances require a lesser distance; it shall meet City Code requirements for fire resistive construction.
3. In no case shall the structure be placed in any type of easement.
4. The structure must be placed so as not to obstruct or change direction of storm water; activities such as grading/filling in relation to an accessory building shall not alter drainage patterns in a way that impacts the adjoining property.
5. The maximum, "mean", or average height of the building is 16 feet on parcels less than 2 acres and 22 feet on parcels 2 acres or larger. (Mean Height is measured from the adjoining grade to the midpoint between the peak and eave.)
6. The maximum sidewall height on parcels less than 2 acres is 10 feet.
7. Exterior treatments (siding and roofing) should be carefully considered. There are no specific treatment

requirements for small accessory buildings. However, unsightly or buildings in disrepair tend to generate ill feelings amongst neighbors and may devalue your own property.