

Building & Codes Department

Memo

Date: 04/08/2014
To: All Interested Parties
From: Steve Mills, Director
RE: Post & Frame (Pole-Barns) and Agricultural Use Buildings

This memo is intended to clarify how post and frame (pole barns) and other similar agricultural buildings would be addressed in light of applicable TCA provisions. While there may be many other issues that come up from time to time, this memo will simply focus on the requirement for permits and code compliance.

Due to overriding State Law, building permits will not be required for the construction of any structure which is truly intended to be used for agricultural purposes (i.e. barns, pole barns and etc.) and located on property devoted to “...*agricultural uses or which may hereafter be used for agricultural purposes, except on agricultural lands adjacent or in proximity to state federal-aid highways, public airports or public parks; provided, that such building or structure is incidental to the agricultural enterprise.*” Structures meeting this condition are not required to comply with locally adopted building codes.

However, all accessory structures, including pole barns and agricultural use buildings, must first obtain a Zoning Permit from the Planning Department at (615) 264-5316. The Zoning Permit must clearly document and/or otherwise verify minimum compliance with the TCA requirements for the building permit and code compliance.

All barns, pole-barns and other similar agricultural use structures that are determined to not qualify for the TCA exemption will otherwise be required to obtain all necessary permits and fully comply with all locally adopted codes and policies. You can check with the Building & Codes Department regarding helpful handouts that may assist you with your project.