Sec. 10-6.612 Rural

1. District Intent

The intent of the Rural zoning district is to maintain and promote agriculture, silviculture, and natural resource-based activities, preserve natural systems and ecosystem functions, and protect the scenic vistas and pastoral development patterns that typify Leon County’s rural areas. Allowable land uses within this district include agriculture, silviculture, ecotourism based activities, very low density residential, and community and passive recreational facilities. Non-residential uses, with the exception of community and passive recreational facilities, that are not functionally related to and supportive of agriculture, silviculture and other natural resource-based activities shall be prohibited within the Rural zoning district. This district is not intended to accommodate commercial activities designed to service basic household needs of area residents. Rural commercial uses, as well as restricted uses, may be allowed in this district but shall be limited to the locational and design standards as noted herein. Due to the need to protect and preserve existing Rural lands from fragmentation and to promote infill and redevelopment within the Urban Services Area and Rural Communities, urban services are not planned or programmed for this area. Design standards and development standards for non-residential development and restricted uses, as noted herein, shall be required to prevent encroachment and fragmentation of agricultural uses as well as to ensure compatibility with adjacent uses.

2. Allowable District Location

The district may only be located within areas designated Rural on the Future Land Use Map.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMITTED, PROHIBITED, AND RESTRICTED USES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Principal Uses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) Agricultural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Silviculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Wholesale Trade: Farm-product raw materials</td>
</tr>
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<td>(4) Wholesale Nursery Products</td>
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<td>(5) Rural commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6) Community services</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) Low-density residential (single, two-family, or manufactured home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) Passive recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9) Light infrastructure</td>
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<td>(10) Cemeteries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**6. Rural Accessory Uses Functionally Related to Bona-Fide Agriculture, Silviculture or Natural Resource-Based Activities**

Pursuant to Section 823.14, F.S., a bona-fide farm operation shall be exempt from local regulation, ordinance, rule or policy that prohibits, restricts, regulates or otherwise limits activities of a bona-fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461 FS.

Pursuant to Section 823.14(3)(b), F.S., “farm operation” shall mean all conditions or activities which occur on a farm in connection with that farm’s products.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7. Development Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use Category</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Density Residential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Commercial</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Note: *acres maximum* refers to the maximum allowable area for a given use category. This value is subject to change based on local regulations and development standards.
7. Development Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Category</th>
<th>a. Lot area (acres)</th>
<th>b. Minimum lot frontage</th>
<th>c. Front yard setback</th>
<th>d. Corner yard setback</th>
<th>e. Side yard setback</th>
<th>f. Rear Yard Setback</th>
<th>g. Maximum percent impervious surface area</th>
<th>h. Maximum height at building envelope perimeter</th>
<th>i. Maximum height per additional setback</th>
<th>j. Total maximum height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>3.0 acres minimum; 5.0 acres maximum</td>
<td>40 feet</td>
<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking</td>
<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking</td>
<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking</td>
<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>1'/1'</td>
<td>45 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Uses; Passive Recreation Facilities</td>
<td>3.0 acres minimum</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking; unless otherwise specified in subsection 10</td>
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<td>50 feet building, 50 feet parking; unless otherwise specified in subsection 10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>1'/1'</td>
<td>45 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comp. Plan Policy 2.1.9 Subdivision</td>
<td>0.5 acres minimum</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
<td>25 feet</td>
<td>25 feet</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
<td>50 feet</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>1'/1'</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Development Standards for Community Service uses:

Community Service uses shall also be subject to the buffer zone standards (section 10-7.522), the parking and loading requirements (Subdivision 3 of Division 5 of Article VII) and applicable design standards outlined in subsection 11 of this section.

(1) Single structure: 5,000 gross square feet maximum.

(2) Site area: 3 acres minimum; Maximum of 5 acres.

9. Rural Commercial Intersection Location Standards:

The intersection location standard is intended to group rural commercial activities toward intersections to provide access and to prevent fragmentation of agricultural uses.

(1) Major Function:

Provide sales and services functionally related to and supportive of agriculture, silviculture and natural resource-based activities.

(2) Location:

On or near the intersection (access within 330 feet of the centerline of the intersection) of an arterial/arterial or arterial/major collector roadway.

(3) Site area:

3.0 acres minimum with a maximum of 5.0 acres per quadrant.

(4) Allowable building square footage:

Maximum of 10,000 gross square feet per intersection (only 2 quadrants per intersection may be developed for rural commercial). Single structure limited to a maximum of 5,000 gross square feet.


All proposed restricted uses shall meet the applicable provisions of Section 10-6.611 (Special Exception uses and Restricted uses); the applicable design standards noted in subsection 11 of this section; the buffer zone standards (section 10-7.522); and, the parking and loading requirements (Subdivision 3 of Division 5 of Article VII). All restricted uses shall be limited to a maximum building area of 2,000 gross square feet per acre with no more than 5,000 gross square feet of retail commercial or office space. The following restricted uses require satisfaction of additional criteria:

(1) Mining activities.

a. All mining activities as defined on the schedule of permitted uses must meet the specific development standards, as follows upon review and approval by the Board of County Commissioners following a duly noticed public hearing. This includes NAICS items 212321 and 212324.

b. A plan must be submitted demonstrating protection of adjacent properties and public interest which shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. The mining activity, all accessory uses and structures, internal roadways, and driveways onto the adjacent streets shall be set back a minimum of 100 feet from the perimeter property boundaries or 200 feet from the nearest off-site residence, residential zoning district, or subdivision intended primarily for residential land use, whichever distance is greater. This setback standard may be reduced if less of a setback is approved in writing by the adjacent property...

owner or owners prior to site plan approval or if the adjacent property is also used as a mining activity.

2. A plan of vehicular access to and from the site demonstrating that heavy trucks and equipment will not travel on that portion of a local or minor collector street with frontage containing residential land use, zoned for residential land use, or containing subdivision lots intended primarily for residential land use. For purposes of this requirement, local and minor collector streets shall be those identified in the local government Comprehensive Plan and the Tallahassee-Leon County Long Range Transportation Plan.

3. A land reclamation plan shall be submitted demonstrating that upon termination of the activity the land shall be returned to a condition that will allow an effective reuse comparable to surrounding properties.

4. Fencing requirement: All areas proposed for use in open-pit mining operations and/or construction and demolition debris disposal must be secured by a fence, unless the area is determined by the county administrator or designee to be a reclaimed open-pit mine. The fence must be at least four feet in height with openings that will reject the passage of a seven-inch diameter sphere. The fence must be equipped with a gate which shall remain locked when workers or employees of the land owner or mining company are not present at the site. At every gate or access point, at least one sign must be posted which states, in at least four-inch tall letters, "Danger," "Keep Out," "No Trespassing," or similar language indicate that there may be hazardous conditions on the premises.

(2) Camps and recreational vehicle parks (NAICS 721211 and 721214).

a. All camps and recreational vehicle parks must meet the specific development standards, as follows upon review and approval by the Board of County Commissioners following a duly noticed public hearing. A plan must be submitted demonstrating protection of adjacent properties and public interest which shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Sanitary facilities shall be provided.

2. Not more than five campsites per gross acre shall be provided.

3. Individual camp sites, roads, and accessory structures shall be located to meet the minimum building setback standards from the exterior property lines of the campground.

(3) Airports, flying fields and services

a. All airports, flying fields and services must meet the specific development standards as noted in this section and as required by state or federal law, and shall require review and approval by the Board of County Commissioners following a duly noticed public hearing.

11. Site Design Criteria.

Rural commercial uses, as well as restricted uses, may be allowed in this district but shall be limited to the locational and design standards as noted herein.

(1) A plan and supporting narrative must be submitted pursuant to the applicable site and development plan process outlined in Article VII that demonstrates compliance, as applicable, with the following:

a. Freestanding onsite signs shall be limited to monument-style signs and the sign base shall be consistent with the materials and design context of the primary onsite building. Signs shall be illuminated with externally mounted lighting focused on the sign in a manner that limits off-site illumination. Internally illuminated signs and pole signs are prohibited. For sites not located at intersections, onsite ground signs shall be limited to no more than 32 square feet in area and limited to no more than 10 feet in height.

b. Building design standards including any proposed accessory buildings and structures shall reflect or compliment the local vernacular architectural style. Building facade treatments and materials shall provide architectural interest through, but not limited to: the utilization of fenestration that allows for natural surveillance and gabled or parapet roof treatments.

c. On-site lighting including 24-hour security lighting shall be wall mounted with illumination focused on the building in a manner that limits off-site illumination, consistent with the "Dark Sky Friendly" guidelines.

d. All exterior lighting shall have recessed bulbs and filters which conceal the source of illumination. No wall or roof mounted flood or spot lights used as general grounds lighting are permitted. Security lighting is permitted.

e. Lighting at the property line (six feet above ground) adjacent to residential uses shall not exceed 0.1 foot candles.

f. Lighting for parking areas shall not exceed 15 feet in height as measured from average grade to the light fixture.

g. Perimeter buffering and/or fencing requirements shall be based on the density of the adjacent residential uses. If the adjacent residential density is 0.5 dwelling units per acre or greater, a Type C buffer shall be required. A wooden buffer fence may be utilized on sites where the required vegetative buffer cannot be established based on site limitations or constraints.

h. The trash collection dumpster shall be accessible to waste collection vehicles, and shall be located in the side or rear setback area of the onsite principle building. The dumpster shall be screened with a material and design treatment consistent with the building façade of the principle building.

i. All appurtenant mechanical and electrical equipment, outside collection/drop-off/storage areas, and other accessory or ancillary structures shall be screened from public view. The screening material shall be consistent with the materials and design context of the primary onsite building.

j. The site design shall integrate internal and where appropriate external pedestrian circulation and interconnection including the accommodation of bike circulation were applicable.

k. The hours of operation shall be limited to 6:00 am to 10:00 pm.

l. To ensure compatibility, other site design treatments and considerations may be applicable to the proposed use and shall be identified during the proposed project's application review meeting.
GENERAL NOTES:

1. If central sanitary sewer is not available, residential development shall provide no less than 0.50 acre of buildable area. Nonresidential development and community service facilities are limited to a maximum of 900 gallons of wastewater flow per day. Refer to sanitary Sewer Policy 2.1.12 of the Comprehensive Plan for additional requirements.

2. Refer to the Environmental Management Act (EMA) for information pertaining to the regulation of environmental features (preservation/conservation features), stormwater management requirements, etc.

3. Refer to the Concurrency Management Ordinance for information pertaining to the availability of capacity for certain public facilities (roads, schools, parks, etc.).

Footnotes:
* If subdivision is proposed to create the rural commercial parcel, then the remaining portion of the property shall meet the minimum lot size standards noted herein.