

**TOWN OF RINDGE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT  
ORDINANCE**

**ADOPTED      MARCH 14, 2006**

**TOWN OF RINDGE  
ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT ORDINANCE**

**Adopted at Town Meeting 2006**

**Purpose**

For the purpose of providing expanded housing opportunities and flexibility in household arrangements to accommodate family members or non-related people of a permitted, owner occupied, single family dwelling, while maintaining aesthetics and residential use compatible with homes in the neighborhood. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) shall be permitted by Special Exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment in the Residential, Residential/Agricultural, and Village Districts.

**Requirements/Limitations**

- ADUs shall be secondary and accessory to a single family dwelling unit.
- In granting a Special Exception, the Board of Adjustment must find that the ADU is developed in a manner which does not alter the character or appearance of the principal dwelling unit as a single family residence.
- Only one ADU shall be allowed per principal dwelling unit and/or lot.
- An ADU shall only be permitted in a principal dwelling unit in which the owner of record of the dwelling personally resides: except for bona fide temporary absences.
- Any necessary additional entrances or exits shall be located to the side or rear of the building whenever possible.
- An ADU shall not be considered to be an additional dwelling unit for the purpose of determining minimum lot size (i.e. not multi-family).
- Attached ADUs shall be designed to allow for possible reincorporating into the principal dwelling unit.
- At least one (1) common, interior access between the principal dwelling structure and the ADU shall be maintained. A second means of egress from the ADU shall be provided.
- The gross living area of an ADU shall not be less than 300 square feet or be greater than 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling and ADU.
- A building permit for an ADU must be approved and issued prior to its construction. An ADU shall have an interconnected fire alarm system and shall meet all life safety and building codes.
- Adequate off-street parking shall be provided to serve the combined needs of the principal dwelling unit and the ADU, minimum of one (1) parking space per unit.
- Adequate provision must exist or be made for motor vehicle ingress or egress and turning of vehicles within the site.
- The existing or proposed septic system must be certified by a licensed septic designer or engineer as adequate to support the ADU and principal dwelling unit in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 485A:38.

**Accessory Dwelling Unit Certificate of Occupancy**

If a property containing an approved ADU is conveyed and the new owner wishes to maintain the accessory unit, the new owner shall apply for a Certificate of Occupancy for the ADU. The purpose of this section is to ensure that one of the two dwelling units is owner-occupied.

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**Procedural Requirements**

An application for Special Exception approval under the auspices of this Section shall require that all plans submitted with any application for an ADU building permit denote, describe and/or identify the intended ADU area within the principal dwelling unit as such.

**Failure to Comply**

If the owner fails to comply with the requirements of this section, the use of the ADU shall be terminated within 6 months of the date of notice from the Board of Selectmen or designee. The owner shall be subject to penalty under RSA 676:17 for each day the ADU fails to comply with the requirement of this section after March \_\_\_\_, 2006.

**Enforcement Authority**

The Board of Selectmen or their designee shall be the final authority on compliance and enforcement issues of this article.