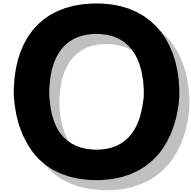




# Zoning Reviews

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## What is zoning?

Zoning is a land classification system that designates appropriate land use activities. Zoning in Whatcom County was established to further the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan and to carry out the provisions of the Whatcom County Code. Whatcom County is divided into the following zones:

### Chapter Abbreviation District

			20.60	NC	Neighborhood Commercial
			20.61	STC	Small Town Commercial
			20.62	GC	General Commercial
			20.63	TC	Tourist Commercial
			20.64	RC	Resort Commercial
			20.65	GI	Gateway Industrial
			20.66	LII	Light Impact Industrial
			20.67	GM	General Manufacturing
			20.68	HII	Heavy Impact Industrial
20.20	UR	Urban Residential			
20.22	URM	Urban Residential Medium Density District	20.70	AO	Airport Operations
			20.71		Water Resource Protection Overlay District
20.24	UR-MX	Urban Residential Mixed District	20.72		Point Roberts Special District
20.32	RR	Residential Rural	20.73	MRL	Mineral Resource Lands Special District
20.34	RR-I	Rural Residential-Island	20.74	CP	Cherry Point Industrial District
20.35	EI	Eliza Island District	20.85	PUD	Planned Unit Development
20.36	R	Rural			
20.37	TZ	Point Roberts Transitional Zone			
20.38	APO	Agriculture Protection Overlay			
20.40	AG	Agricultural			
20.42	RF	Rural Forestry			
20.43	CF	Commercial Forestry			
20.44	ROS	Recreation and Open Space			

Each zone has its own regulations concerning land use activities that are permitted, administratively permitted, and conditionally permitted. In addition, the zoning designation will determine development constraints including density, minimum lot size, maximum height, and building setbacks.

THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES HANDOUT SERIES

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## How do I determine my zone?

With your 12-digit Tax Identification/Parcel number, locate the subject parcel on a current Whatcom County Assessor's Section Map. Once you have located the subject parcel on that map, refer to a current Whatcom County Zoning Map to locate your parcel and determine your zone. All maps are available at the Whatcom County Planning and Development Services office. Knowing the zoning designation for the subject parcel, you can reference Whatcom County Code (Title 20) to see what is permitted and what is prohibited in your zone.

## Information

Due to the administrative complexity of these regulations, it is usually best to visit with a Land Use Permit Clerk to answer any additional questions.

Planning and Development Services  
5280 Northwest Drive  
Bellingham, Washington 98226 USA  
E-mail: [pds@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:pds@co.whatcom.wa.us)

Staff Contact: Land Use Permit Clerk  
Phone: (360) 676-6907