

NOTE 17 - SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to establish guidelines governing the placement of satellite dish antennas as an accessory use in all zoning districts of Gloucester City. These regulations are intended to promote the general welfare through placement of satellite dish antennas in a manner that minimizes the visual impact on the aesthetic character of the community in general and particularly the character of the Gloucester City Historic District.

2. DEFINITIONS

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

SATELLITE DISH ANTENNA- An apparatus capable of receiving communications or other signals from a transmitter or transmitter relay located in planetary orbit.

USABLE SATELLITE SIGNAL- A satellite signal that, when viewed on a conventional television set, is at least equal in picture quality to that received from local commercial television stations or cable television.

3. REGULATIONS

a. Permits.

The installation of a satellite dish antenna shall require a permit from the Gloucester City Zoning Officer, verifying compliance with the standards of this section, in addition to construction and electrical permits required under the local construction code. Where a satellite dish antenna is proposed to be installed in the Gloucester City Historic District, a Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Planning Board pursuant to §VIII.6. of this Ordinance.

b. Location.

- (1) Satellite dish antennas shall not be installed as a sole structure on a lot.

NOTE 17 - SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS (Cont'd)

3. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

b. Location. (Cont'd)

- (2) Small satellite dish antennas, with a diameter of one meter or less, may be installed in any residential, commercial or industrial zoning district. Satellite dishes with a diameter larger than one meter may be installed only in a commercial or industrial district.
- (3) In all zoning districts, satellite dish antennas shall be located in rear yard areas.
- (4) If a usable satellite signal cannot be received in a rear yard area, the satellite dish antenna shall be mounted on the roof or otherwise attached to an existing principal or accessory structure on site in a manner that minimizes visibility of the satellite dish antenna from the adjacent street, or in a side yard area with screening, as required in subsection 2.d.(1) below, installed in the line of sight between the antenna and the front yard area.
- (5) A waiver shall be required to install a satellite dish antenna in any front yard area. The application for a front yard waiver shall be accompanied by an affidavit from a qualified installer of satellite dish antennas stating the reasons why installation in a rear or side yard area or on a rooftop is not feasible.

c. Setbacks for ground installation shall be:

- (1) Five (5) feet from any side or rear lot line in a residential district.
- (2) Twenty (20) feet from any side or rear lot line in a commercial or industrial district, except that a satellite dish antenna may not be located in a buffer area required pursuant to Note 1.

NOTE 17 - SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS (Cont'd)

d. Screening.

- (1) In industrial and commercial districts, satellite dish antennas placed at ground level shall be screened from adjacent roads by either an evergreen buffer, six (6) feet in height at time of planting, or a solid wood fence, six (6) feet in height, landscaped at its base with ground cover plantings.
- (2) In all districts, roof mounted satellite dish antennas shall be placed, where possible without interfering with the usable signal, in an unobtrusive location.

e. Other regulations.

- (1) Satellite dish antennas shall be installed in compliance with the manufacturer's installation standards and local Building and Electrical Codes.
- (2) Satellite dish antennas shall be erected in a secure, wind resistant manner, to the satisfaction of the appropriate municipal officials.
- (3) Satellite dish antennas may not be installed on the roof or in the front yard of any building located in the Historic District without the express endorsement of the Historic Preservation Commission.