

RESOURCE PROTECTION OVERLAY DISTRICT



PURPOSE & HIGHLIGHTS OF ORDINANCE

- ❑ Adoption of an overlay district ordinance is an effective method for communities to protect a specific natural feature of an area. The overlay district does not replace existing regulations, but rather supplements them with language designed to protect significant ecosystems.
- ❑ The purpose of the Resource Protection Overlay District is to ensure that the physical elements of property development are designed and arranged to protect the priority resource protection areas both on the site and in the vicinity of the site, as identified by a community in map(s) in their Master Plan. The procedures established in the Resource Protection Overlay District enable the applicant and the community to achieve the mutually compatible objectives of reasonable use of land and protection of vital resources.
- ❑ Overlay districts can be particularly effective when they include provisions that: 1) Protect trees and other vegetation; 2) Enforce setbacks from sensitive natural areas; 3) Require open space preservation; and 4) Protect identified mating, nesting, and other critical habitat areas.
- ❑ Maps that show areas intended for resource protection should be a component of this ordinance. Data from the Michigan Natural Features Inventory for Macomb County and data from Michigan land conservancies such as the Macomb Land Conservancy, Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, and the Nature Conservancy, may be helpful when creating map(s) for resource protection. The Macomb County Planning Department has much of this information on file and may be of assistance to communities in developing resource protection maps.



For additional information contact The Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development
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