

The Henrietta Board, at their regular January 2018 meeting, voted in favor of adopting the following ordinance:

Board Approved 2018

ARTICLE XXIV SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

SECTION 2400 – Solar Energy Systems:

Purpose and Intent

Henrietta Township determines that it is in the public interest to encourage the use and development of renewable energy systems that enhance energy conservation efforts in a safe and efficient manner that is subject to reasonable conditions that will limit adverse impact on nearby properties, environment, and rural character of the region. The Township resolves that the following regulation and standards shall be adopted to ensure that solar energy systems can be constructed within Henrietta Township while protecting public health, safety, and natural resources.

SECTION 2401 - Definitions

Accessory Solar Energy System: A small solar energy system which is roof, or building mounted, or architecturally-integrated, or ground mounted panels which are located on a lot or parcel with a principal use such as residence or business designed to supply energy for onsite residential or business use; excess energy produced may be sold back to the grid through net metering or commercial use to generate energy to offset utility costs or as an additional revenue stream. A small solar energy system generates up to but not exceeding 20kW, and can occupy, in total, no more than five (5) acres.

SECTION 2402 - Permitted Use Standards

Accessory Solar Energy Systems are a small solar energy system designed and used as an accessory use to serve the needs of a home, farm, or small business. Accessory Solar Energy Systems are Permitted Uses in all zoning districts, reviewed by the Zoning Administrator.

SECTION 2403 - Conditional Use Standards

Community Solar Energy System, Solar Garden, or Solar Farms are large solar energy systems designed with the primary use of generating electricity to the electric transmission grid. Community Solar Energy System, Solar Garden, or Solar Farms are Conditional Uses in all agricultural, commercial, and industrial zoning districts, reviewed by the planning commission,

SECTION 2404 - Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect upon publication following its adoption.

A complete copy of the ordinance is available for inspection upon request in the Clerk's office during regular business hours.

Henrietta Township Planning Commission
11732 Bunkerhill Rd.
Pleasant Lake, MI 49272
517-769-6925

January 4, 2018

To: Henrietta Township Board,

The Henrietta Township Planning Commission has completed a public hearing and received review and approval recommendation from the Jackson County Planning Commission on the proposed Article XXIV Solar Energy System Ordinance. This amendment addition will permit accessory use of various small-scale solar panel systems and conditional use of large commercial solar panel array systems. These proactive regulations will protect residents from potential nuisance impacts, protect sensitive natural resource areas, and create a predictable environment for those that invest in renewable energy products. The amendment is patterned after the township's Article XXIII Wind Energy Systems Ordinance.

Future Master Plan updates will include reference to renewable energy.

The Henrietta Township Planning Commission recommends approval of Article XXIV Solar Energy System Ordinance.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Nancy Hawley, Chairperson

Attached finalized draft: Article XXIV Solar Energy System Ordinance