

## **Chapter 501      Introductory Provisions**

### **501.01            Title**

This Ordinance shall be known, cited and referred to as the Rice County Zoning Ordinance. When referred to in this document, it shall be known as “this Ordinance.”

### **501.02            Purpose**

This Ordinance is adopted for the purposes of:

- A. Implementing the Rice County Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- B. Protecting the public health, safety, comfort, convenience and general welfare
- C. Protecting and preserving agricultural land
- D. Promoting orderly development of residential, commercial, industrial, recreational and public areas
- E. Conserving the natural and scenic beauty and attractiveness of the County
- F. Conserving the natural resources in the County including wetlands and woodlands
- G. Providing for the compatibility of different land uses and the most appropriate use of land throughout the County
- H. Minimizing environmental pollution

### **501.03            Statutory Authorization**

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authorization contained in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 394, Chapter 103B, Chapter 103F, Chapter 116, or successor statutes; and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7020, or successor rules.

### **501.04            Jurisdiction**

This Ordinance shall apply to all areas in Rice County, Minnesota, except areas within the incorporated limits of any municipality.

### **501.05            Compliance Required**

No structure shall be erected, converted, enlarged, reconstructed or altered, and no structure or land shall be used or subdivided, for any purpose or in any manner, which is not in conformity with this Ordinance. Owners and applicants are jointly and severally required to ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of this Ordinance.

### **501.06            Severability and Validity**

It is hereby declared to be the intention that the several provisions of this Ordinance are severable in accordance with the following:

- A. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provisions of this Ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this Ordinance.
- B. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge invalid the application of any provision of this Ordinance to a particular property, building, or structure, such judgment shall not affect other property, buildings or structures.

### **501.07            Prior Ordinance Repealed**

This Ordinance repeals and replaces all prior zoning ordinances.

**501.08 Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, as provided by law.

**501.09 Rules of Construction and Interpretation**

The following rules of construction and interpretation apply to this Ordinance:

- A. **Conflict.** Where any provision of this Ordinance conflicts with another rule, regulation or ordinance of the County, the provision that is more restrictive shall prevail. For example, a provision that requires a thirty-five acre minimum lot size for residential use is more restrictive than a provision that requires a two-acre minimum lot size for residential use.
- B. **Minimum requirements.** This Ordinance establishes minimum requirements for the use and development of land.
- C. **Powers not limited.** This Ordinance does not limit any other power granted to Rice County.