

## **Chapter 1. General Provisions**

This is the preamble to the Code and contains general definitions.

## **Chapter 2. Administration**

**Part 1** explains the form of government through the purpose, adoption of the County Administrator plan and enactment.

**Part 2** addresses requirements to amend, change, or increase the rate of taxation for any service district.

**Part 3** addresses pre-employment searches of criminal history records for prospective Columbus County employees.

## **Chapter 3. Animals and Hunting**

**Part 1, Section 1** contains chapter definitions.

**Part 1, Section 2** addresses the authority of the Board of Commissioners to create an animal control program and its parameters.

**Part 1, Section 3** addresses cruelty to animals and sets the following as unlawful:

- for any person to molest, torture, torment, deprive of necessary sustenance, cruelly beat, needlessly mutilate or kill, wound, injure, poison, abandon or subject to conditions detrimental to its health or general welfare any animal, or to cause or procure such action;
- for any owner or keeper to fail to provide his animal or animals with proper shelter and protection from the weather, sufficient and wholesome food and water to keep his animal or animals in good health and comfort;
- for any person to sell or offer for sale, barter, or give away within the County baby chickens, baby ducklings, or other fowl under six weeks of age or rabbits under eight weeks of age as pets, toys, premiums, or novelties;
- to color, dye stain or otherwise change the natural color of baby chickens or other fowl or rabbits; and
- for any person to tether a fowl.

**Part 1, Section 4** addresses animals creating a nuisance and makes it unlawful for an owner or keeper to permit an animal or animals to create a nuisance, to maintain a nuisance created by an animal or animals, or to fail or refuse to abate the nuisance.

**Part 1, Section 5** addresses the unlawfulness of any person to entice or lure any animal out of an enclosure or off the property of its owner or keeper.

**Part 1, Section 6** addresses the unlawfulness of failing to comply with State Rabies Laws.

**Part 1, Section 7** addresses the unlawfulness of failing to provide current vaccinations for dogs, cats, and other pets.

**Part 1, Section 8** addresses the unlawfulness of an owner of a dog or cat to fail to provide a collar for said animal with a current rabies vaccination tag.

**Part 1, Section 9** addresses notice to the County Health Director when a person is bitten by an animal and confinement of said animal.

**Part 1, Section 10** addresses the destruction or confinement of an animal bitten by a known rabid animal.

**Part 1, Section 11** addresses area-wide emergency quarantine during an outbreak of rabies.

**Part 1, Section 12** addresses post mortem diagnosis of rabies when an animal dies under observation for rabies.

**Part 1, Section 13** addresses the unlawfulness to kill or release any animal under observation for rabies or biting a human.

**Part 1, Section 14** addresses the unlawfulness to fail or refuse to surrender any animal for confinement or destruction as required under this Chapter.

**Part 1, Section 15** addresses impoundment of lost, stray or unwanted animals.

**Part 1, Section 16** addresses posting of notice of impoundment of an animal.

**Part 1, Section 17** addresses redemption of an animal after impoundment by an owner or keeper.

**Part 1, Section 18** addresses the destruction or adoption of an unredeemed animal.

**Part 1, Section 19** addresses the procedure of redemption or adoption of an unvaccinated dog or cat.

**Part 1, Section 20** addresses immediate placement for adoption or destruction of owner surrendered animals.

**Part 1, Section 21** addresses destruction of wounded, diseased, or unwanted animals.

**Part 1, Section 22** addresses destruction of animals which cannot be seized by reasonable means.

**Part 1, Section 23** addresses the unlawfulness to fail to notify the owner or keeper of an animal after injuring said animal.

**Part 1, Section 24** addresses the unlawfulness of a person to keep a stray animal.

**Part 1, Section 25** addresses the procedure for determining a dangerous dog and the unlawfulness of leaving a dangerous dog unattended, failing to post warnings of the dangerous dog, failing to contain the dangerous dog, failing to place a muzzle on said dangerous dog, transferring ownership of said dangerous dog, or failing to kill a mad dog.

**Part 1, Section 26** addresses the unlawfulness of maintaining a dog for protecting commercial or patrolling residential property without a permit.

**Part 1, Section 27** addresses the unlawfulness of possessing non-domestic animals which are dangerous or have the potential to be dangerous to persons or property.

**Part 1, Section 28** addresses the unlawfulness of any person to collect any dog/cat for the purpose of resale unless obtaining a permit to do so.

**Part 1, Section 29** addresses the unlawfulness of any person to interfere with, hinder, or molest any employee of the Animal Control Division.

**Part 1, Section 30** addresses the criminal and/or civil penalties associated with any violation of this chapter.

**Part 1, Section 31** addresses requirements and fees for adoption of animals and the unlawfulness of a person to obstruct or interfere in any manner with the restraint, capture, transportation or impoundment of any dog or other animal.

**Part 1, Section 32** addresses enactment of this Part and subsections.

**Part 2** addresses the unlawfulness of a person to hunt, take, or kill any wild animal or wild bird with a firearm on, from, or across the right-of-way of any public road or highway.

#### **Chapter 4. Aviation**

**Part 1, Section 1** contains chapter terms and definitions.

**Part 1, Section 2** addresses delegation of powers for the Airport.

**Part 1, Section 3** addresses the leasing of Airport property.

**Part 1, Section 4** addresses operation of motor vehicles on Airport property.

**Part 1, Section 5** addresses Airport operating procedures.

**Part 1, Section 6** addresses aircraft fueling procedures.

**Part 1, Section 7** addresses fire procedures with restrictions on open flames, electrical and fire extinguisher requirements.

**Part 1, Section 8** addresses aircraft maintenance.

**Part 1, Section 9** addresses Airport security, restricted areas, and weapons restrictions.

**Part 1, Section 10** addresses conflicting regulations and changes.

**Part 1, Section 11** addresses enactment.

**Part 2, Section 1** contains terms and definitions for commercial activities.

**Part 2, Section 2** addresses regulations governing fixed base operators, special aviation service organization, and independent operators.

**Part 2, Section 3** addresses minimum operating standard requirements.

**Part 2, Section 4** addresses construction requirements at the Airport for permanent or temporary structure, landscaping, signs or support facilities.

**Part 2, Section 5** addresses staffing and employment conditions.

**Part 2, Section 6** addresses leasehold conditions.

**Part 2, Section 7** addresses insurance coverage requirements for each operator.

**Part 2, Section 8** addresses minimum required standards related to the sale and distribution of fuel, aircraft line services, hangar storage, aircraft maintenance and repair, flight training/rental, aircraft charter and taxi service, aircraft sales, crop dusting and spray operations, aircraft painting, through-the-fence operators, and flying club/associations at the Airport.

**Part 2, Section 9** addresses procedures for receiving and processing applications.

**Part 2, Section 10** addresses lease termination.

**Part 2, Section 11** addresses amendments, conflicting regulations, violations, and changes of ordinances.

**Part 2, Section 12** addresses enactment.

**Part 3, Section 1** addresses the short title of this Part as “Columbus County Municipal Airport Height Hazard Ordinance.”

**Part 3, Section 2** contains additional definitions specifically for this Part.

**Part 3, Section 3** addresses defining different Airport zones. (Is this for any airport or just Columbus County’s?)

**Part 3, Section 4** addresses Airport environs (???) height limitations.

**Part 3, Section 5** addresses use restrictions.

**Part 3, Section 6** addresses nonconforming uses.

**Part 3, Section 7** addresses permits for future uses, existing uses, nonconforming uses abandoned or destroyed, variance, and obstruction of marking and lighting.

**Part 3, Section 8** addresses enforcement.

**Part 3, Section 9** addresses the Board of Adjustment and addresses said Board created in Chapter 10, Part 2, Article 4 of the Code of Ordinances.

**Part 3, Section 10** addresses administration, enforcement, and appeals.

**Part 3, Section 11** addresses enactment.

## **Chapter 5. Buildings & Addressing**

**Part 1** addresses the establishment of the Board of Inspections by the Board of County Commissioners and defines the purpose and parameters of the Board of Inspections.

**Part 2, Section 1** addresses the purpose and intent of this chapter to provide a uniform system of rural addresses.

**Part 2, Section 2** contains terms and definitions specifically for this Part.

**Part 2, Section 3** addresses the process by which road names may be established or changed.

**Part 2, Section 4** addresses administration and application using the Columbus County Addressing System defined. (I do not understand this.)

**Part 2, Section 5** addresses the display of road address numbers.

**Part 2, Section 6** addresses enforcement of house numbers by civil penalty.

**Part 2, Section 7** establishes the effective date of this chapter as May 15, 1995.  
(Or is the date for just Part 2?)

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 1** addresses this authority of this Part concerning insulation contractors pursuant to Chapter 703, North Carolina Session Laws of 1977, and G.S. 153A-134.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 2** defines licensing requirements.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 3** addresses the form, content, and licensing fee for application for licensures.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 4** addresses the procedure for issuance of licensure for insulation.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 5** addresses the bond requirement for licensure.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 6** addresses termination and renewal of licensure.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 7** addresses suspension, revocation, and appeal of licensure.

**Part 3, Article 1, Section 8** addresses notice for change in location of any licensed business.

**Part 3, Article 2** addresses permits are required for installation or restoration of any insulation or other materials or energy utilization equipment, but exempts an owner working on his own building, any person working under the supervision of a registered architect or professional engineer, and a contractor licensed to do the proposed work under Chapter 87 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

**Part 3, Article 3** addresses penalties and an effective date of December 19, 1977.

**Part 4, Article 1** addresses authority, jurisdiction and short title for the Abandoned Structure Ordinance of Columbus County.

**Part 4, Article 2** addresses the purpose of this chapter, which is promoting public safety, health, and welfare.

**Part 4, Article 3** contains definitions for abandoned structures.

**Part 4, Article 4, Section 1** addresses the unlawfulness of abandoned manufactured homes.

**Part 4, Article 4, Section 2** addresses nuisance conditions, junked or nuisance vehicles, and authorization for removal.

**Part 4, Article 4, Section 3** addresses notice, hearing, appeal and lien on property.

**Part 4, Article 5** states that the Columbus County Planning Department and Columbus County Building Inspections Department are jointly responsible for the enforcement of this Part 4. First time violators of this ordinance will be issued a warning. Subsequent violations are subject to civil and criminal penalties.

#### **Chapter 6. Regulation of Certain Businesses**

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 1-2** define masseurs, massage parlors, and health salons and clubs and the purpose of regulating same.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 3-5** address licensure requirements for the aforementioned businesses.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 6-8** address the authority of the aforementioned businesses to employ and train personnel; requirement that names of employees be filed with the Sheriff; and prohibition of employees with convictions of certain crimes.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 9-10** address enforcement and revocation of license and hours of operation restrictions.

**Part 1, Article 1, Section 11** states that it is unlawful to engage in the following practices:

- a. offer massages if not licensed or directly supervised by a licensee for training purposes;
- b. have contact with genital organs of any person;
- c. not have genital organs covered;
- d. provide massages in private areas of the establishment;
- e. not post unlawful practices within the establishment;
- f. treat a person of the opposite sex without a medical professional's order;
- and
- g. perform a massage without being fully clothed in the establishment.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 12-13** restrict minors under the age of eighteen from entering the establishment and restrict massages by persons not holding a license.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 14-15** address applicability and violations.

**Part 1, Article 1, Sections 16-17** address the unlawfulness for a person to induce a licensee or employee to violate this Part 1, Article 1 concerning sexual misconduct and enactment with effective date.

**Part 1, Article 2, Sections 1-4** address authority and jurisdiction, purpose, abrogation, and definitions for regulating sexually oriented businesses.

**Part 1, Article 2, Sections 5-6** address structure separations requirements for adult businesses and sexually oriented businesses with restrictions for current nonconforming businesses.

**Part 1, Article 2, Sections 6-9** address further terms or definitions, severability, enforcement, and enactment.

**Part 2, Sections 1-3** address purpose, definitions, and permit requirements for dealers of precious metals.

**Part 2, Sections 4-5** address records to be kept and notice requirements.

**Part 2, Sections 6-9** address permit revocation, notice and hearing before revocation, penalties, and enactment/effective date.

**Part 3, Sections 1-2** address applicability and definitions concerning non-emergency ambulance franchises.

**Part 3, Sections 3-6** address the requirement of a franchise, application for a franchise, granting of a franchise, and term requirements of a franchise.

**Part 3, Sections 7-9** set standards for drivers, EMS personnel, vehicles, equipment, and communications.

**Part 3, Sections 11-12** set requirements for trip records, daily report logs, and annual reports with assigning enforcement of this Part 3 to Columbus County Emergency Services. (Is Part 3 called "Columbus County Emergency Services"? If so, then delete "to . . . Services.")

**Part 3, Sections 13-15** addresses violations, compensation, and enactment.

## **Chapter 7. Emergency Management**

**Part 1, Sections 1-3** set short title, intent and purpose and definitions for Emergency Management.



**Part 1, Sections 4-6** set requirements for organization and appointments, emergency powers and duties, and day to day duties and responsibilities of the coordinator.

**Part 1, Section 7** sets requirements for emergency management plans.

**Part 1, Section 8** states there shall be no municipal or private liability.

**Part 1, Sections 9-12** address violations, severability, conflicting ordinances, orders, rules and regulations, and enactment.

**Part 2, Sections 1-2** address declaring and authorizing restrictions for a “State of Emergency” by proclamation.

**Part 2, Sections 3-7** address evacuation, curfew, restrictions on (sale of?) alcoholic beverages, dangerous weapons and substances, and restrictions to access.

**Part 2, Section 8** states types of actions the proclamation may prohibit, restrict or authorize - such as movement of people, operation of offices, activity to maintain order, and expenditures.

**Part 2, Sections 9-11** address removal of prohibitions and restrictions, superseding the amendatory proclamations, and termination of proclamation.

**Part 2, Sections 12-14** address the absence or disability of a chairperson, penalty for violation, and repeal of conflicting ordinances.

**Part 2, Sections 15-17** address territorial applicability, validity, and enactment.

**Part 3, Article 1** states the purpose and definitions of the Water Emergency Ordinance. (Ok, unless Part 3, Article 1 is entitled “Water Emergency Ordinance.” If the title is that, then delete “the . . . Ordinance.” and replace with “this Part 3, Article 1.”)

**Part 3, Article 2** addresses a declaration of water emergency and the various stages of water use and compliance.

**Part 3, Article 3, Sections 1-3** state the penalties for violation of mandatory restrictions and address the authority to discontinue service, and appeals by customers of penalties and termination of service.

**Part 3, Article 3, Sections 4-6** state requirements for adoption and enforcement of ordinance (or Part 3 – see Part 3, Article 1 above comment) by public or private water systems to adopt said ordinance (or Part 3 – see line above comment) when purchasing water, termination of restrictions, and enactment.

## **Chapter 8. Environment, Noise & Watersheds**

**Part 1** states unreasonably loud and disturbing noise is prohibited, including but not limited to:

- a. blowing horns without danger
- b. yelling, shouting and hooting
- c. defect in vehicle
- d. excessive noises near churches
- e. radios or phonographs
- f. live music, jukeboxes, and similar musical instruments
- g. loudspeakers or magnifier
- h. with exceptions to public schools, official school functions or present churches, warning signals, factories, and public officials performing duties
- i. Special, sanctioned, organized by sponsorship or community events and festivals may be exempt subject to licensing
- j. This does not apply to farming

**Part 2, Article 1** addresses authority, enactment, jurisdiction, exceptions to applicability, criminal penalties, remedies, and severability of watershed protection.

**Part 2, Article 2, Section 1** states general provisions concerning plats of subdivisions, their recordation, and approval of plat, if located within watersheds.

**Part 2, Article 2, Section 2** states the application and review procedures for subdivisions in watersheds.

**Part 2, Article 2, Sections 3-4** address subdivision standards, required improvements, and construction procedures.

**Part 2, Article 2, Section 5** states penalties for transferring lots in unapproved subdivisions.

**Part 2, Article 3, Sections 1-4** lists and describes the watershed areas and sets restrictions for cluster development and buffer areas.

**Part 2, Article 3, Sections 5-10** address rules governing the interpretation of watershed boundaries application of regulations, existing developments, watershed protection permits, building permits, and watershed protection occupancy permits.

**Part 2, Article 4** addresses water quality, public health, and the Watershed Review Board's power of abatement.

**Part 2, Article 5, Section 1** defines the Watershed Administrator and duties thereof.

**Part 2, Article 5, Sections 2-4** address the process for appeal from the Watershed Administrator, changes and amendments to the watershed protection ordinance, and public notice and hearing requirements.

**Part 2, Article 5, Sections 5-8** establish the Watershed Review Board, set rules of conduct for members, set powers and duties of the Watershed Review Board, and appeals from said board.

**Part 2, Article 6** states definitions and word interpretation for this watershed ordinance.

### **Chapter 9. Firearms & Handgun Prohibitions**

Signs prohibiting carrying concealed handguns shall be placed on certain county property and visibly posted on the exterior.

### **Chapter 10. Planning & Zoning**

**Part 1, Article 1** states the statutory authorization, findings of fact, purpose and objectives of the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

**Part 1, Article 2** lists the definitions associated with flood damage prevention.

**Part 1, Article 3** states the general provisions concerning the basis for establishing special flood hazard areas and floodplain development permits.

**Part 1, Article 4** addresses the designation of Floodplain Administrator, flood plain development application, permits, certification requirements, duties and responsibilities of the floodplain administrator, corrective procedures, and variance procedures.

**Part 1, Article 5, Section A** establishes general standards for special flood hazard areas.

**Part 1, Article 5, Section B** lists specific standards as follows:

- residential construction
- non-residential construction
- manufactured homes
- elevated buildings
- additions/improvements
- recreational vehicles
- temporary non-residential structures
- accessory structures.

**Part 1, Article 5, Section D-G** address standards for floodplains without established base flood elevations, standards for riverine flood plains with BFE but without established floodways or non-encroachment areas, sets floodways and non-encroachment areas, and standards for areas of shallow flooding.

**Part 1, Article 6** contains legal status provisions concerning flood plains.

**Part 2, Articles 1-2** state the general purpose of land use regulations and the following general provisions:

- Application
- Continuation of nonconforming uses
- Relationship of buildings to lots
- Open space requirements
- Reduction of lot and yard areas prohibited
- Public access to property
- Projections into public rights-of-way
- Interpretation of district boundaries
- Interpretation of regulations
- Official zoning map.

**Part 2, Article 3** names the planning director as administrator of this ordinance and addresses appeals, conflict with other laws, penalties, severability, and ordinance amendments.

**Part 2, Article 4** establishes the planning board and addresses membership, vacancies, organization, rules, meetings, records, general powers and duties, basic studies, comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, public facilities, miscellaneous powers and duties, annual report of activities, analysis of expenditures and budget request for ensuing fiscal year, advisory-council and special committees.

**Part 2, Article 5** establishes the Board of Adjustment and addresses membership, rules of procedure, powers, and duties.

**Part 2, Article 6** divides Columbus County into the two zones of Southeastern Community College Zoning Area and General Use District Zoning Area.

**Part 2, Article 7** defines the Southeastern Community College Zoning Area into the following district regulations:

- Residential agricultural district
- Institutional district
- Business district
- 1 Industrial district
- 2 Industrial district
- Mobile home district

Off-street parking requirements  
Off-street loading for industrial uses.

**Part 2, Article 8, Sections 1-2** sets the General Use District Zoning Area regulations and lists the special use permits required for the following:

Heavy industrial uses  
Light industrial uses  
Industrial parks  
Private and public utilities and related operations  
Solar energy generation facilities  
Propane, fuel oil, gasoline, or other hydrocarbon bulk storage facilities  
Junk, storage, recycling, reclamation, or salvage yards  
Electronic gaming operations  
Wireless communication towers or other steel frame structures/towers  
Firing Range  
Landfill  
Mining/Quarrying, borrow pits, and/or extraction operations  
Go-cart, motor cross, and or other categories of race tracks  
Intensive livestock farming  
Meat packing facilities  
Land application of animal and human waste  
Adult businesses  
Resort vehicle campgrounds  
Manufactures/mobile home parks.

**Part 2, Article 8, Sections 3-10** defines purpose, procedure, planning board action, board of adjustment action, denials, appeals, failure to comply/notification of adjacent property owners, expiration of special use permit, modification of plans, and general requirements for special uses.

**Part 2, Article 9** sets special development standards that apply to the uses specified in addition to the general standards as follows:

Standard A - Minimum Solar Farm Requirements  
Standard B – Resort Vehicle Park/Campground Ordinance  
Standard C – Manufactured/Mobile Home Park Ordinance

**Part 2, Article 10** contains definitions and rules of construction for zoning.

**Part 3, Article 1** contains the introductory provisions for the Subdivision Regulations Ordinance.

**Part 3, Article 2** contains the legal provisions for subdivision regulations.

**Part 3, Article 3** contains procedures for review and approval of subdivision plats.

**Part 3, Article 4** contains provisions for required improvements, dedications, reservations, and minimum standards of design.

**Part 3, Articles 5-6** contain definitions concerning subdivisions and enactment.

**Part 4** contains provisions for title, authority, purpose, jurisdiction, definitions, qualifications, certifications, application, approval and appeal procedures, revocation of conservation agreements, agricultural board, land use incentives, zoning review, public hearings, agency notification, legal provisions, and enactment of the Voluntary Agricultural Districts.

### **Chapter 11. Fire Protection, Hazardous Materials & Public Safety**

**Part 1** contains provisions concerning administration such as title, intent, code amendments, applicability, jurisdiction, and definitions.

**Part 2** contains inspection schedules for existing buildings.

**Part 3** contains provisions for permits, plan review, and fees.

**Part 4** addresses unsafe buildings.

**Part 5** addresses civil penalties.

**Part 6** provides for reporting a hazard or violation.

**Part 7** provides for collection of fees.

**Part 8** contains forms.

**Part 9** addresses false alarms.

**Part 10** contains the open burning policy.

**Part 11** addresses uniform property addressing and display of said address.

**Part 12** addresses hazardous material and substance abatement.

### **Chapter 12. Solid Waste**

**Part 1** states and addresses the purpose, statutory authority, definitions, storage, disposal, landfill management, solid waste receptacles, corrugated cardboard, licensing of solid waste collectors, and penalties for failing to comply

**Part 2** address the assessment and collection of solid waste user fees with exemptions.

**Part 3** addresses the definitions and franchise requirements of the Columbus County Landfill.

### **Chapter 13. Utilities- Sewer Use and Wastewater Collection**

**Part 1** contains the purpose and objectives.

**Part 2** contains definitions and abbreviations.

**Part 3** addresses general sewer use requirements.