
Town of Skaneateles
Local Law C of the Year 2018
A Local Law Amending the
Code of the Town of Skaneateles

Section 1. Authority

This local law is enacted pursuant to the provisions of the New York Town Law and the New York Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 2. Purpose

This local law shall amend the definitions of “Light Industry” and “Agriculture” found in Section 148-56 the Code of the Town of Skaneateles (the “Code”). The proposed amendment shall require a landowner to obtain a special permit in order to process raw logs into firewood, wood pellets or lumber, in every zoning district in the Town except for the Industrial/Research Office District (IRO). However, this amendment would not require a landowner to obtain a special permit if raw logs are harvested, processed and used on the same tax parcel. Though this law may require a farm operation to obtain a special permit in order to engage in certain activities, the Town does not view this to be an unreasonable restriction.

Section 3. Amendment to Code

§ 148-56. Definitions.

LIGHT INDUSTRY — Manufacture, assembly, treatment or packaging of products that does not emit objectionable levels of smoke, noise, dust, odor, glare or vibration beyond the property boundaries. The processing of raw logs into firewood, wood pellets or lumber is light industry unless the raw logs are processed and used on the same tax parcel where they were harvested from.

AGRICULTURE — The utilization of land and structures for the production, preservation, nonindustrial processing, storage and sale of agricultural commodities such as crops, plants, flowers, vines, trees, sod, shrubs, livestock, honey, Christmas trees, compost, poultry or dairy products, not including agricultural industry or farms primarily for the disposal of offal or garbage. Commercial horse-boarding operations, as defined herein, and the raising or breeding of horses are agricultural uses, distinguished from the business use of teaching or training people to ride a horse. (See "riding academy.") The processing of raw logs into firewood, wood pellets or lumber shall not be considered Agriculture unless the raw logs are processed and used on the same tax parcel where they were harvested from.

Section 4. State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

The Town Board has considered the provisions of Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law (“SEQRA”) and the regulations adopted thereunder at 6 NYCRR Part 617 and finds that the proposed amendment to the Zoning Map will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, no further review is required under SEQRA.

Section 5. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State.