

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 13-01

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING Special Events in Queen Anne’s County, Maryland;

FOR THE PURPOSE of defining “Special Events” under the Queen Anne’s County Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 18:1 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County), providing that Special Events shall be a conditional use in the Agricultural (AG) and Countryside (CS) Districts in Queen Anne’s County; and providing for specific standards and requirements for Special Events;

BY ADDING a definition of “Special Events” to Chapter 18 App of the Code of Public Local Laws and ADDING Sections 18:1-14 C. (25), 18:1-15 C. (25) and 18:1-95 T. to the Code of Public Local Laws.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND that Chapter 18 App of the Code of Public Local Laws be amended by adding the following definition to Section 18 App-1 Definitions.

***Chapter 18App
Appendix A: Glossary***

§18App-1. Definitions.

...

SPECIAL EVENTS – Personal or business social engagement or activities conducted at a bed-and-breakfast, single family residence, or on a farm where guests assemble for parties, wedding events, reunions, birthday celebrations, or similar uses for compensation, during which food and beverages may be served to guests and music and other entertainment is provided to guests. This definition shall not include places of worship.

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SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that Chapter 18:1 of the Code of Public Local Laws be amended to read as follows:

***Chapter 18:1
ZONING AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS***

...

§18:1-14 Agricultural (AG) District.

...

C. *Conditional uses.*

....

(25) Special Events.

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§18:1-15 Countryside (CS) District.

...

C. *Conditional uses.*

....

(25) Special Events.

...

§18:1-95. Additional standards for specified conditional uses.

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T. Special Events

(1) Purpose. The purpose of this subsection is to establish criteria and requirements for holding special events at bed-and-breakfasts, on farms, and on single-family residential properties in the County in the Agricultural (AG) and Countryside (CS) zones.

(2) The following criteria must be satisfied to hold a special event:

(a) Comply with all applicable state and local laws, including but not limited to the effluent disposal regulations of Queen Anne's County Health Department and requirements of the Queen Anne's County Fire Marshall.

(b) Be located on a parcel of land at least 20 acres in area.

(c) Be located at least 250 feet from the nearest residence on adjacent property.

(d) For properties within the Resource Conservation Area (RCA) special events standards are found in Chapter 14:1 Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Act and for properties outside of the RCA the annual number of events shall be determined by the Board of Appeals.

(e) Hours during which special events occur shall be determined by the Board of Appeals.

(f) Be limited to the number of guests allowed by the Queen Anne's County Health Department and Fire Marshall.

(g) Outdoor amplified music shall not exceed 65 dB (decibel) level as measured from adjacent properties or residences according to §18:1-95.T.(2) (c).

(h) Provide lighting that is installed and maintained to confine direct light beams to the lighted property and away from nearby properties and the vision of passing motorists.

(i) Be conducted on properties with direct access to a public or private road.

(j) Provide all parking on-site in designated areas that are as far removed from nearby residences as possible.

(k) Limit signage to one non-illuminated nameplate, not exceeding eight (8) square feet in area.

(3) In addition to other conditional use requirements set forth in Chapter 18:1, Part 5, Article XVII, *special events zoning certificate* shall be issued annually pursuant to §18:1-138.

SECTION III

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on the forty-sixth (46th) day following its enactment.

INTRODUCED BY: Commissioner Dumenil

DATE: January 8, 2013

PUBLIC HEARING HELD: February 26, 2013 @6:00 p.m.

VOTE: 4 Yea 0 Nay (Commissioner Simmons Abstained from the vote)

DATE OF ADOPTION: March 26, 2013

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 11, 2013

Please refer to TA 12-18. Since this Ordinance was introduced in 2013, the number was changed to 13-01.