



HOME OCCUPATIONS
ZONING CODE: 153.092

The following information will need to be submitted to initiate the review process to obtain a Certificate of Compliance for a Home Occupation:

- Completed Certificate of Compliance application
- Application fee (\$50)
- Completed Sign Permit application (if business sign is proposed)

HOME OCCUPATIONS

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The City of Forest Lake Zoning Code allows for small-scale businesses to be carried out in residential dwellings under certain circumstances. Defined as Home Occupations, those businesses include, but are not limited to, desk and mail order businesses, craft and hobby operations, and personal services such as music lessons. If the business includes a sign, it must comply with applicable sign standards.

Home Occupations require an application for, and approval of, a Certificate of Compliance from the Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Administrator or designee will review all applications for conformance to the Zoning Ordinance to ensure minimal impacts to the surround neighborhood.

The following conditions must be met before a certificate of compliance is issued for a Home Occupation:

1. No person, other than the residents of the premises, shall be engaged in a home occupation. The home occupation shall be located in the main principal structure or permitted accessory structures.
2. Vehicular traffic and parking shall not increase by more than one (1) additional vehicle at a time. All parking needs generated shall be on-site.
3. Any signage associated with the home occupation shall be in full compliance with the City of Forest Lake Sign Ordinance and fully permitted.
4. The home occupation shall not generate hazardous waste unless a plan for off-site disposal of the waste is approved.
5. A home occupation at a dwelling with an on-site sewage treatment system shall only generate normal domestic household waste unless a plan for off-site disposal is approved.
6. The home occupation shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the total floor area of the principal building (except for home daycare uses)
7. The home occupation shall not be established prior to the member(s) of the family conducting the home occupation taking possession of, and residing in, the dwelling.
8. The home occupation shall not change the fire rating of the structure.
9. receipt, sale or shipment of deliveries shall not be permitted on or from the premises, with the exception of regular U.S. Mail and/or an express shipping services that is characteristic of residential neighborhoods.
10. No exterior alteration that changes the residential character of the principal building shall not be permitted.
11. The home occupation shall not constitute, create, or increase a nuisance to the criteria as established in the City of Forest Lake's Code of Ordinances.
12. There shall be no outdoor display or storage of goods, equipment, or materials for the home occupation.
13. Any type of motor vehicle repair and/or service business is prohibited as a home occupation.
14. Home daycares shall comply with all requirements in 153.096 (l).