

**CHAPTER 11.02**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTIONS:**

11.02.010	Authority and Purpose
11.02.020	Relationship to Other Regulations
11.02.030	Severability
11.02.040	Administration
11.02.050	Interpretation
11.02.060	Effective Date

**11.02.010 AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE.** (a) This title is adopted pursuant to RCW Chapters 36.70 and 36.70A, as they now exist or are hereafter amended, which empowers a county to enact a zoning ordinance and provide for its administration, enforcement and amendment.

(b) The purpose of this title is to further the goals and policies of the comprehensive plan for the physical development of the county. The objectives of this ordinance are to protect the public health, safety and welfare; encourage the orderly growth of the county; promote compatible uses of land; provide desired levels of population density and intensity of land use; facilitate adequate levels of community services and utilities; and to provide workable relationships between land uses, the transportation system, and the environment.

(c) The provisions of this title shall apply to all lands, buildings, structures and uses classified under this title.

(d) The provisions of this title shall be held to constitute the minimum requirements for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the county.

[Ord. 611 (2018) § 2]

**11.02.020 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER REGULATIONS.** Other official controls, ordinances, regulations, and plans have a direct impact on the development of land in the county. The number and type of such ordinances may vary from time to time. Where provisions of other official controls and regulations overlap or conflict with provisions of this title, the more restrictive provisions shall govern.

[Ord. 611 (2018) § 3]

**11.02.030 SEVERABILITY.** Shall any chapter, section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this title be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this title.

[Ord. 611 (2018) § 4]

**11.02.040 ADMINISTRATION.** The Planning Administrator or his/her designee shall have the authority and duty to administer the provisions of this title. The Planning Administrator may adopt, and revise as required, such instructions, policies and forms as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

[Ord. 611 (2018) § 5]

**11.02.050 INTERPRETATION.** It shall be the duty of the Planning Administrator to:

(a) Interpret in a zoning classification any use not described in this title as an allowable use, accessory use, administrative review or conditional use, and deem it to be in general keeping with the uses authorized in such zoning classifications.

(b) Interpret the provisions of this title in such a manner as to carry out the intent and purpose of the zoning map(s).

(c) Interpret and/or administer the provisions of this title in such a manner as to carry out the intent and purpose of the Benton County Comprehensive Plan as it presently exists or is hereafter amended.

(d) A record shall be kept by the Planning Administrator of such interpretations to facilitate equitable future administration and to permit periodic amendments to this title.  
[Ord. 611 (2018) § 6]

**11.02.060 EFFECTIVE DATE.** This chapter shall take effect and be in full force upon its passage and adoption.  
[Ord. 611 (2018) § 250]