

Comparison of Gas and Oil Ordinances: Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills and City of Rochester

City	Excerpts of ordinance statements about well site location	Comments
Rochester Hills	<p>“A new oil or gas well shall not be located closer than 1,000 feet from a residential dwelling or place of worship, school, hospital, child care center or public park or 330 feet from an adjoining property line, unless the adjoining property is pooled with the well site property, and unless the location is at least 660 feet from another well. This paragraph shall not be construed to restrict or prohibit underground horizontal drilling directional or horizontal drilling where lawfully permitted by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.”</p>	<p>Where lawfully permitted by Michigan DEQ: -450 foot setbacks from residential structures -300 foot setbacks from other building structures -No zoning restrictions</p>
Auburn Hills	<p>“The drilling, completion, completion, or operation of oil or gas wells or other wells drilled for oil or gas exploration purposes shall only be permitted in the I-1, Light Industrial, I-2 General Industrial, and I-3, Health Industrial districts subject to the terms and conditions of this section and shall not be permitted in any other districts.”</p> <p>“In addition to the spacing and setback requirements of the State of Michigan and the regulations of its Supervisor of Wells, the drilling, completion, or operation of oil or gas wells shall not be located within 1,000 feet of a residential zoned building used for the purposes of residing in, religious institution, public or private school, child care facility, or hospital.”</p>	<p>Approved April 21, 2014</p>
City of Rochester	<p>“The drilling, completion, or operation of oil or gas wells or other wells drilled for oil or gas exploration purposes shall only be permitted in the RP, Research Park, 1-1, Industrial I and 1-2, Industrial Z, districts subject to the terms and conditions of this section and shall not be permitted in any other districts. Regulations and limitations in this Section 2130 also apply to horizontal drilling activities, with or without surface activities.”</p> <p>“In addition to the spacing and setback requirements of the State of Michigan and the regulations of its Supervisor of Wells, the drilling, completion, operation of oil or gas wells shall be located within 1,000 feet and horizontal drilling lines shall not be located within 500 feet, of a residential zoned building (used for the purposes of residing in), religious institution, public or private school, child care facility, or hospital.”</p> <p>“The spacing and setback requirements herein are in addition to any, and not in lieu of, required by state law, and may be increased based on physical characteristics of the site, including but not limited to topography, woodlands, and distance from structures, parks, schools, residential areas, and bodies of water.”</p>	<p>Approved April 13, 2015</p>

Note: Horizontal drilling always includes a surface well site.