



54111 Broughton Rd  
Macomb, MI 48042  
Town Hall (586) 992-0710  
DPW (586) 598-0687

## Property Owner Understanding of Altering Grade

I am the owner of \_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter “property”),

and as the undersigned, do hereby understand and agree to the terms and conditions of the Township regarding altering grade:

- The property was initially graded so that water will drain from the house to appropriate drainage swales and catch basins. These drainage swales and catch basins may be on the property, along the property lines or on a neighboring property.
- The property was initially graded so that water may drain from adjacent properties to appropriate drainage swales and catch basins. These swales may be on the property, along the property lines or on a neighboring property.
- It is my responsibility to understand how the property was initially graded as noted above prior to any project being performed on the property that may alter the grade of the property.
- If a project being performed on the property alters the grade of the property in any manner, the drainage pattern established with the initial grading of the property must be maintained. The Township shall be contacted for inspection to verify that the established drainage pattern has been maintained. Approval by the Township is required prior to another project being performed (**examples on Page 3**).
- Installation of any future landscaping **cannot change the drainage pattern that was established with the initial grading** of the property as noted above, since changing the drainage pattern potentially affects neighboring properties. If landscaping changes the drainage pattern or obstructs the flow of water in any way when installed or in the future, **I am responsible** for restoring the drainage pattern back to its original condition.
- I will adhere to Ordinance 15-261\* (Permit—Required.) and 15-265\*\* (Obstructing flow of surface water prohibited.).
- The representations and understanding under this document shall be binding on any heirs, assigns, successors, agents or others related to ownership of the property.

**\*Ordinance 15-261:** *Except for agricultural purposes, it shall be unlawful for any person to change the drainage pattern of any land by excavating, grading, or filling without first obtaining a written permit therefore from the superintendent.*

**\*\*Ordinance 15-265:** *It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, modify or obstruct the flow of surface water across any property in any manner different from the approved site grading plan.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**A photocopy of a valid  
Driver's License must  
accompany the signature for  
verification purposes.**



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## EXAMPLES

### ***Example 1: I am installing a pool.***

- The pool permit is specifically for installation of a pool.
- The established drainage pattern must be maintained in its original condition or as approved by the Township as part of the Pool Review before any landscaping (another project) is started.
- The Township must inspect and approve the grading of the property before another project commences.
- If landscaping is installed, it is the responsibility of the property owner to place the landscaping so as not to block access to utilities within easements or impede the established drainage pattern.

### ***Example 2: I am installing landscaping.***

- No permit is necessary to install landscaping, however, the established drainage pattern of the property must be maintained.
- Typical concerns with landscape installation:
  - Trees or shrubs planted too close to the property line, and the raised area under the trees directs water onto the neighboring property. This is considered an alteration to the established drainage pattern.
  - Trees, shrubs, and landscape beds are installed in rear yard easements. If the landscaping blocks access to the utilities within the easement or impedes water from flowing to or through the drainage swale, it is considered an alteration to the established drainage pattern.
- If landscaping is installed in a location that alters the established drainage pattern, it is the responsibility of the property owner to move the landscaping as necessary to restore the established drainage pattern.
- Landscaping is not to be planted blocking hydrants, electrical meters, transformer pads, etc.