



## CURRENT STATUS OF ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS IN CROOK COUNTY

PLEASE NOTE, Crook County does not currently allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) outside the Prineville urban growth boundary. While the Oregon Legislature recently passed legislation that will eventually allow counties to permit ADUs in certain zones, Crook County has not yet adopted implementing regulations or standards.

At this time, counties are not allowed to approve ADUs until the state adopts statewide wildfire risk maps. Thus, until the wildfire risk maps are adopted and the County has adopted its own ADU standards, ADUs remain unlawful outside the UGB.

For those folks planning to construct an accessory structure with the intent of one day converting it to an ADU, please be aware that the Planning Department cannot provide, with certainty, guidance as to what standards the County may eventually adopt.

While the state has required certain minimum standards, it is possible that Crook County will adopt more restrictive standards. Thus, the standards listed below and those included in Senate Bill 391 (2021), [SB 391](#) should not be relied on when siting an accessory structure if the intent is to one day convert it to an ADU. If an accessory structure is built now and cannot later meet the adopted ADU standards, it is likely that the structure will not qualify for ADU conversion.

For a complete review of the state's minimum standards, please use the link to SB 391 (above). A few of those minimum standards required by the state include, but are not limited to:

- The lot or parcel must be at least 2 acres in size (accordingly, if a lot is less than 2 acres, it likely will not qualify for an ADU),
- The ADU must comply with applicable sanitation and wastewater requirements,
- The ADU cannot include more than 900 square feet of usable floor area,
- The ADU must be no more than 100 feet from the existing primary dwelling, and
- The subject property must be an area zoned for rural residential use.

Moreover, each county must adopt standards that ensure:

- The ADU has adequate setbacks from adjacent farm and forest lands,
- The ADU has adequate access for firefighting equipment, safe evacuation and staged evacuation areas, and
- Certain properties are subject to certain defensible space and fuel break standards as developed in consultation with the local fire protection agency.

Again, these are just a sample of the minimum standards. Additional standards may be adopted.

If you are interested in participating in the Crook County Planning Commission's public hearing process as it considers ADU standards, you are encouraged to join the conversation. The Planning Commission's calendar and agendas are available at this [link](#). You may join us in person or via Webex. We appreciate public input and hope you will join us in shaping the future of Crook County.