

AGRICULTURAL USE

Agricultural buildings built within Olmsted County's jurisdiction are not required to obtain a building permit. An agricultural use permit is required. This holds true as long as the use of the building is used strictly for agricultural purposes only as specified in Minnesota State Statutes Section 326B.103, Subdivision 3:

Minnesota State Statutes Section 326B.103, Subdivision 3 defines an agricultural building as "a structure on agricultural land...designed, constructed, and used to house farm implements, livestock, or agricultural produce or products used by the owner, lessee, and sublessee of the building and members of their immediate families, their employees, and persons engaged in the pickup or delivery of agricultural produce or products."

Minnesota State Statutes Section 273.13, Subdivision 23, paragraph (e), is part of the property tax code that defines agricultural land as "contiguous acreage of ten acres or more, used during the preceding year for "agricultural purposes". "Agricultural purposes" as used in this section means the raising, cultivation, drying, or storage of agricultural products for sale, or the storage of machinery or equipment used in support of agricultural production by the same farm entity.

Using an agricultural use building for items not covered by the statutes listed such as: camper storage, family vehicles, commercial vehicles, workshops, etc., the building would be in violation with Minnesota State Statutes and Olmsted County Ordinances. This is a misdemeanor, which is punishable by a fine or jail term.

NOTE: IF a change of occupancy permit is to be requested in the future, this change of occupancy permit would need final approval before its new use is granted. The requirements needed for this permit would be the same as applying for a new permit, which is as follows:

1. State of Minnesota engineering approval showing design calculations of the entire building for snow load and wind design
2. County Health approval for placement
3. County zoning approval for new use
4. If the change of use is to commercial use, a design professional licensed in the state of Minnesota will be required to perform an analysis of the structure to ensure compliance with the Minnesota State Building Code.

Please retain this information with your personal records if a requires of change of occupancy may be made in the future.