



Permit & Development Center

809 N. Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-8211 | milwaukee.gov/permits | DevelopmentCenterInfo@milwaukee.gov

Transmission towers include reception/transmission systems, both freestanding systems and those mounted to a building or structure.

Under Milwaukee's zoning ordinance, towers are either a limited, special or prohibited use, depending on the zoning district in which the tower is located. If designated as a limited use, the tower must meet designated restrictions with respect to height, setback and other issues, and may not be located within 500 feet of another transmission tower. To check the zoning district and tower restrictions for a particular location, call the Milwaukee Development Center at (414) 286-8210.

A plan review is required to determine compliance with the zoning and building codes. The fee is \$425, and includes the review of plans for buildings accessory to the tower that are submitted with the tower plans. To make an appointment for plan submittal, call the Milwaukee Development Center at (414) 286-8210.

All new tower installations are required to comply with the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances Chapter 295-413. This section requires new towers to provide:

- A landscaped buffer for ground level equipment, storage buildings, and structural support elements
- Paved access drives
- No illumination, except as required by the FAA
- In some instances, a setback from the property line a distance of at least 25% of the tower's height
- Related accessory structures constructed within 20 feet on each side of each guy anchorage
- Guy anchors or enclosures located further than 30 feet away from any lot line or street line
- The design to be as advanced as technologically feasible
- If located closer than 1000 feet to a residence, measures to protect the neighboring properties from undesirable impacts of the tower
- A written statement indicating every reasonable effort has been made to locate the reception antennae on existing tower structures
- A design that accommodates multiple reception/transmission systems
- A statement indicating that the tower owner allows for co-location of systems on the tower at fair market rates
- Evidence showing that the tower construction will lead to a net reduction in the number of towers in the city.