

CHAPTER 29  
**SOLAR AIRSPACE**

SECTION:

- 10-29-1: Purpose
- 10-19-2: Permits
- 10-29-3: Obstruction Prohibited

10-29-1:       **PURPOSE:** This chapter encourages the use of solar energy by providing for city protection of reasonable solar airspace. (Ord. 94-1101,11-1-1994)

10-29-2:       **PERMITS:**

- A.       Application: A solar airspace permit may be established for any solar energy collection surface capable of generating 25,000 BTU (British Thermal Units) or more on a clear winter solstice day. The owner of such a collection surface may file an application for a solar airspace permit with the administrator at any time. The application shall be accompanied by the required fee and shall include:
  - 1. A description of the collection surface that would be protected by the proposed permit, including a calculation of its BTU generation on a clear winter solstice day, and
  - 2. A site plan and cross-sections showing the location and size of the collection surface, the extent of the proposed permit, the location of and dimensions of all existing buildings, and the location and height of all existing trees and shrubs that are over six feet in height, or that may reasonably be expected to attain a height of over six feet.
- B.       Solar Airspace Permits: Extent. Solar airspace permits shall include all currently unobstructed airspace, except any airspace into which existing trees or shrubs may reasonably be expected to grow, required for solar access to the collection surface between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. on the winter solstice, EXCEPT that no solar airspace permit shall prevent the construction of a solid wall or fence of eight feet in height at the southern property line. Where the lower plane of the solar airspace would be broken by such a wall or fence, the bottom plane of the solar airspace permit shall be adjusted to begin at a point eight feet above grade on the property line.

- C. Processing: The administrator shall determine whether the application is complete and accurate. Incomplete or inaccurate applications shall be rejected, with the reason for rejection being provided to the applicant within 10 days of the application date. The administrator's decision to reject an application may be appealed using the process provided in III.O. Complete and accurate applications shall be accepted and the solar airspace permit recorded on a master solar airspace map maintained by the administrator. (Ord. 94-1101,11-1-1994)

10-29-3: **OBSTRUCTION PROHIBITED.** No permit shall be issued for any building that would obstruct solar access in a recorded solar airspace permit, except where it can be shown that the solar collection surface to which the permit was appurtenant has been destroyed or abandoned for a period of 12 or more months. (Ord. 94-1101,11-1-1994)