



**VARIANCE APPLICATION-HARDSHIP
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF GRAY MAINE**

For Office Use Only
 Date Submitted: _____
 Tent. Sched. for: _____
 Amount Paid: _____

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property Location/Address		Property Map/Lot	_____ - _____ - _____
Zoning District		Lot Acreage	
Owner Name		Owner Phone Number	
Number of Dwelling Units			

APPLICANT

Name (IF different than owner)		Email Address	
Mailing Address		Contact Phone Number	
Mailing City/State/Zip		Alternate Phone Number	

VARIANCE INFORMATION

Per Gray Zoning Ordinance 402.9.2.B.2:

Variance Appeals: To hear and decide, upon appeal, in specific cases where a relaxation of the terms of this Ordinance would not be contrary to the public interest and where, owing to conditions peculiar to the property and not the result of the actions of the applicant, a literal enforcement of this Ordinance would result in unnecessary or undue hardship. A variance may be granted by the Board only where strict application of the Ordinance, or a provision thereof, to the petitioner and his/her property would cause undue hardship. The words “undue hardship” mean:

- a. That the land in question cannot yield a reasonable return unless a variance is granted;
- b. That the need for a variance is due to the unique circumstances of the property and not to the general conditions in the neighborhood;
- c. That the granting of a variance will not alter the essential character of the locality; and
- d. That the hardship is not the result of action taken by the applicant or a prior owner.

Establishment or expansion of a use or structure otherwise prohibited shall not be allowed by variance, nor shall a variance be granted because of the presence of nonconformities in the Zoning District or uses in adjoining Zoning Districts. The Board of Appeals shall grant a variance only by concurring vote of at least three (3) members and in so doing may prescribe conditions and safeguards as are appropriate under this Ordinance.

Describe request (description may be attached separately). Survey of property required to be attached.

	Current Requirement	Currently Existing	Proposed
Front Setback			
Rear Setback			
Side Setback			
Other Setback (describe)			
Max. Lot Coverage			
Max. Impervious Surface			
Min. Lot Area			
Min. Street Frontage			
Other (describe)			

CRITERIA- BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW YOUR REQUEST MEETS EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

a. That the land in question cannot yield a reasonable return unless a variance is granted;

b. That the need for a variance is due to the unique circumstances of the property and not to the general conditions in the neighborhood;

c. That the granting of a variance will not alter the essential character of the locality; and

d. That the hardship is not the result of action taken by the applicant or a prior owner.

Per Gray Zoning Ordinance 402.9.2.B.4:

Variance Review Criteria: In hearing variance appeals under this section, the Board of Appeals shall determine that the applicant has demonstrated that all of the undue hardship or practical difficulty criteria in sub-Sections 2 and 3 above have been met. Additionally, the Board shall consider the following criteria in its decision to grant any variances or impose conditions:

- a. What effect will be proposed variance have on the prevailing character of the area?
- b. Does the proposed variance require special screening or fencing to separate or protect the property of abutting owners?
- c. Will the proposed variance create drainage, erosion or flooding problems?
- d. Will the proposed variance increase water pollution?
- e. Will the proposed variance generate vehicular traffic, access circulation or parking conditions which create hazardous situations?
- f. Will granting of the variance violate any of the performance standards of this Ordinance apart from the specific relief authorized by this Section?
- g. Will the proposed variance create to any degree nuisances to abutting property owners?
- h. Is the variance request the least modification of the Zoning Regulations necessary to afford relief?
- i. In granting any variance, the Board may attach such reasonable conditions and safeguards as it may deem necessary to implement the purposes of this Ordinance.

PLEASE REFER TO THE CURRENT FEE SCHEDULE FOR APPLICABLE FEES TO INCLUDE REQUIRED ADVERTISING AND ABUTTER NOTIFICATIONS

Applicant Signature

Printed Name

Date