Lawrence County, Missouri: written reply to a public-records request

Copied word for word from the county's email to DreamStart Building Company. Personal phone numbers and email addresses are left out.

From: Tammy Riebe, Lawrence County Clerk, 1 Courthouse Square, Suite 101, Mt Vernon, MO 65712 · 417-466-2638

Received: October 23, 2026

The county's reply:

Hello,

All the information appears to be correct. There is not a lot size or home size requirements. As for splitting parcel, please contact the Lawrence County Assessor's office at 417-466-2831.

Tammy Riebe

County Clerk

Lawrence County

1 Courthouse Square, Suite 101

Mt Vernon MO 65712

417-466-2638

What we asked:

Our checklist of October 22, 2026 ("Please reply 'all correct', or just tell us the numbers that are wrong or missing"), for unincorporated Lawrence County, for a new single-family home:

1. County zoning: does the county have zoning for unincorporated land (county-wide, by township, or none)?

   What we have: None. The county website says "Lawrence County, Missouri has no zoning restrictions, nor does the county have any building codes or regulations."

2. Building permit: is a county building or land-use permit required for a new single-family home outside city limits? If so, what is the fee?

   What we have: None. "No building permits are required by the county in the unincorporated parts of the county", and the county does not issue certificates of occupancy.

3. Building code: has the county adopted a residential building code (for example the IRC), and which edition?

   What we have: None (same county page).

4. Inspections: which inspections does the county require for a new home (footing, rough-in, final), if any?

   What we have: We don't know yet.

5. Owner's own work: may a property owner do their own electrical and plumbing, or is a licensed contractor required?

   What we have: Homeowners may install their own septic system after passing an installer test, with a pre-site and an installation inspection. We don't know about electrical or plumbing.

6. Septic: who issues septic permits (county health department, a county office, or the state), the fee, whether a soil test is required, and whether lots of 3 acres or more are exempt?

What we have: The Lawrence County Health Department ((417) 466-2201): a permit is required only for a septic system; $150 residential permit; soil analysis by a county-registered soil scientist.

7. Minimum lot size for a home, if any (and by district, if zoned)?

What we have: We don't know yet.

8. Minimum home size (square feet), if any?

What we have: We don't know yet.

9. Homes per parcel: how many homes may be built on one parcel?

What we have: We don't know yet.

10. Dividing land: when must land be platted or surveyed before a home can be built?

What we have: We don't know yet.

11. Floodplain: does the county take part in the National Flood Insurance Program, and is a floodplain development permit required? Who is the floodplain administrator?

What we have: The county participates in the National Flood Insurance Program; floodplain administrator Eric Vought, [email left out].

12. Who to call: the best office and phone number for building questions on rural land.

What we have: County Commission, 417-466-3666, [email left out].