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# **SIGNS AND OUTDOOR ADVERTISING STRUCTURES**

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## **19.0 GOVERNMENTAL SIGNS EXCLUDED**

For the purpose of this resolution, “sign” does not include signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by any law, ordinance, or governmental regulations.

## **19.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SIGNS AND DISTRICTS**

The regulations contained in this section shall apply to all signs and all use districts:

1. Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall employ only light emitting a light of constant intensity, and no sign shall be illuminated by or contain flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving light or lights. In no event shall an illumination sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination therefrom to be directed or beamed upon a public thoroughfare, highway, sidewalk, or adjacent premises so as to cause glare or reflection that may cause a traffic hazard or nuisance.
2. Walls of existing or new buildings not adjacent to or in residential districts may be used for advertising signs or billboards.
3. No portable or temporary sign shall be placed on the front, or face of, a building or on any premises, except as provided in Section 19.3 herein.
4. No sign or part thereof shall contain or consist of banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, or other similar moving devices. Such devices, as well as strings of lights, shall not be used for the purpose of advertising.
5. No sign of any classification shall be installed, erected, or attached in any form, shape, or manner to a fire escape.
6. Should any sign be or become unsafe or be in danger of falling, the owner thereof or the person maintaining the same, shall, upon receipt of written notice from the Zoning Inspector, proceed at once to put such sign in a safe and secure condition or remove the sign.

Adopted Date 5-01-00

Effective Date 5-31-00

Revised 19.5 Date 7-26-04

Revised 19.3, 19.4 Date 3-07-05

7. No sign shall be placed in any public right-of-way except government owned signs, such as traffic control signs and directional signs. Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking, also parking on private property, bearing no advertising matter, shall be permitted on the property.
8. All off-premises advertising devices are erected or maintained under Chapter 5516.10 of the Ohio Revised Code.
9. The following are prohibited:
  - a. Advertising devices erected or maintained on trees.
  - b. Advertising devices which prevent the driver of a vehicle from having a clear and unobstructed view of official signs and traffic.
  - c. Advertising devices illuminated so as to interfere with the effectiveness of or obscure an official sign, signal, or device.
  - d. Advertising devices which attempt or appear to attempt to direct the movement of traffic or which interfere with, imitate, or resemble an official sign, or device.

## **19.2 MEASURE OF SIGN AREAS**

The surface area of a sign shall be computed as including the entire area within a regular, geometric form or combinations of regular, geometric forms, comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the element of the matter displayed. Frames and structural members not being advertising matters shall not be included in the computation of surface area.

## **19.3 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL DISTRICTS - NO PERMIT REQUIRED**

1. Signs advertising the sale, lease, or rental of the premises upon which the sign is located shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area per side, except in all residential districts where the area of the sign shall not be more than six (6) square feet per side.
2. Professional name plates or home occupation signs not exceed four (4) square feet in area per side and not exceeding one (1) sign per home or business.
3. Farm signs, denoting the name and address of occupants, denoting advertising for produce or merchandise grown upon such farms, and denoting membership or organizations not to exceed twenty-five (25) square feet in area per side, per farm.
4. Signs or bulletin boards customarily incidental to places of worship, libraries, or museums which signs or bulletin boards, shall not exceed twenty (20) square feet in area and which shall be located on the premises of such institutions and shall be setback from the right-of-way at least twelve (12) feet.
5. Entrance and exit signs, containing only directional indication, shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area per side.
6. Temporary signs not exceeding twelve (12) square feet in area per side announcing special public or institutional events, the erection of a

building, the architect, the builders, contractors, etc., may be erected for a period of sixty (60) days, plus the construction period, after which the sign shall be removed from the premises.

- 7. Political and signs for issues on up-coming ballots are not to exceed nine (9) square feet in aggregate for each candidate or issue. Said signs shall not be posted more than thirty (30) days before an election. Each parcel may contain no more than three (3) sign for each person or issue. All candidates for public office and campaign committees for issues or political offices, or other persons responsible for the posting on private property of campaign material shall remove such material within 24 hours following the election day.

**19.4 SIGNS PERMITTED IN DISTRICTS - PERMITS REQUIRED**

- 1. In B-1 (business) or M-1 (manufacturing) districts, each business shall be permitted one (1) flat or wall on-premises sign. Projection of wall signs shall not exceed four (4) feet measured from the face of the main building, nor ten (10) square feet on any face of the sign. The area of all permanent on-premises signs for any single business may be equivalent to one and one-half (1 ½) square feet of sign area for each lineal foot of building width, or part of a building, occupied by such business but shall not exceed a maximum area of fifty (50) square feet per side.
- 2. In addition to the above, each business or industry shall be permitted one (1) on-premises permanently mounted ground sign, provided all parts of the sign shall be set back thirty (30) feet from the right-of-way. Based upon the number of businesses located on the site, the table below provides the maximum square feet, per face, for a two (2) face sign.

Number of businesses	1	2	3	4 or more
Maximum sign area	32	48	64	80

Where a sign has more than two (2) display faces, the total sign area shall not exceed two (2) times the value derived from the table above.

For example a single business with an equally sided 3 face sign, the sign area allowed is sixty-four (64, i.e. 32 x 2) sq ft, and each side would be approximately twenty-one (21) sq. ft. The total height of all signs shall not exceed twenty(20) ft. in height from grade, including the support structure.

- 3. In addition to the above, each business or industry shall be permitted two (2) on-premises temporary free standing signs, not exceeding eight (8) feet in height or twelve (12) square feet in area on any face of the sign. Such signs shall not be located closer than twelve (12) feet from the right-of-way. Each temporary sign shall comply with Section 19.3, paragraph 6.
- 4. Larger signs or advertising devices for business or industries adjacent to the interstate and primary highways as regulated by the Ohio Revised Cod, Section 5516.07, as amended, shall be permitted in accord with those laws. Such signs shall not be subject to the above

regulations but shall require a permit from the Township Zoning Inspector and the owner or agent of such sign must show proof of having obtained the required State of Ohio approval.

## **19.5 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING DISPLAYS BILLBOARDS - OFF PREMISES**

1. Outdoor advertising in B-1 (business), M-1 (manufacturing), and AG (agriculture) districts shall be classified as a B-1 use and is subject to the following regulations:
  - a. Such signs or structures shall not be located within fifty (50) feet of any right-of-way nor within 100 feet of an adjoining property line.
  - b. Such signs or structures shall not be located within twenty-five hundred (2500) lineal feet of any other outdoor advertising display or billboard on the same or opposite side of the street or road.
  - c. Such signs or structure shall not be located on or within one-hundred (100) feet of any building/structure.
  - d. Such signs or structure shall not be larger than one-hundred (100) square feet on one (1) face and/or two-hundred (200) square feet for two (2) or more faces. In no case shall more than one-hundred (100) square feet of display or sign area be visible from any road or street.
  - e. Such signs or structure shall not exceed thirty five (35) feet in height from grade.
2. In addition to the above regulations advertising devices adjacent to interstate and primary highways as regulated by the Ohio Revised Code, Sections 5516.01 to 5516.13 and 5531.07, as amended, shall be permitted in accord with those state laws.

## **19.6 SETBACK FOR PUBLIC AND QUASIPUBLIC SIGNS**

Real estate signs and bulletin boards for a church, school, or any other public, religious, or education institution may be erected not less than twelve (12) feet from the right-of-way, provided such sign or bulletin board does not obstruct traffic visibility at street or highway intersection.

## **19.7 SPECIAL YARD PROVISIONS**

On-premises signs, where permitted, shall be erected or placed in conformity with the side and rear requirements of the district in which located, except that in any residential district, on-premises signs shall not be erected or placed within twenty (20) feet of a side or rear lot line.

## **19.8 VIOLATIONS**

In case any sign shall be installed, erected, constructed, or maintained in violation of any of the terms of this resolution, the Zoning Inspector shall notify, in writing, the owner or lessee thereof to alter such sign so as to comply with this resolution. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of the article shall be deemed a violation and shall be punishable under Section 5.10 of this resolution. Political signs posted in violation of Section 19.3 of this resolution are subject to removal by the Zoning Inspector five (5) days after written notice of violation of Section 19.3 has been given.

## **19.9 ERECTION PERMIT**

The Zoning Inspector shall issue an erection permit, when required, upon receipt of a properly completed application, and proof of the applicant having obtained the required State of Ohio approval. The application shall contain the purpose, anticipated longevity, name(s) and address of the applicant(s), name(s) and address of landowner(s), and the address for the property on which the sign is to be located.

## **19.10 SCHEDULE OF FEES, CHARGES, AND EXPENSES**

The Board of Township Trustees shall by resolution establish a schedule of fees, charges, and expenses and a collection procedure for zoning permits, amendments, appeals, variances, conditional use permits, plan approvals, and other matters pertaining to the administration and enforcement of this resolution requiring investigations, inspections, legal advertising, postage, and other expenses. The schedule of fees shall be posted in the office of the Zoning Inspector and may be altered or amended only by the Board of Township Trustees. No action shall be taken on any application or appeal until fees are paid.