

ARTICLE 6 SIGNS

Section 6.01 General Requirements - All signs which are located, erected, moved, reconstructed, extended, enlarged or structurally altered after the effective date of this ordinance must be in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance though some signs are exempted from otherwise applicable permit requirements and accompanying regulations. (see Section 6.02). Signs placed in or on the windows of residences, stores, or other buildings are not regulated by this ordinance except that such signs may not be animated, and they may not utilize flashing lighting.

No sign, (whether regulated or unregulated by this ordinance) may resemble, imitate, or approximate the shape, size, form, or color of railroad or traffic signs, signals, or devices. No sign may be positioned so as to prevent or block the free ingress to or egress from any door, window, or fire escape or in a manner which confuses, impedes, or impairs traffic movement or visibility. No sign, except publicly owned signs, may be placed upon, extend into, or over the right-of-way of any public or private road.

The owner of the land upon which a sign is located is responsible for its safe construction, installation, and maintenance. Unsafe damaged or deteriorated signs, signs in danger of falling, or signs not in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance are in violation of this ordinance. The Code Enforcement Officer shall order compliance with this ordinance which may include the repair, or removal of such signs. If compliance with his order is not achieved within the time period specified in the order, the Town in addition to the remedies provided in Sections 12.02 and 12.03 may repair or remove the violating sign and assess the costs to the landowner.

Signs lawfully existing on the effective date of this ordinance may be continued though not in conformance with the provisions of this ordinance. However, such signs are nonconforming structures and as such subject to the provisions of Article 9.

For purposes of this ordinance signs having two (2) back-to-back display faces shall count as only one (1) sign and only one (1) face shall be used in determining its size.

Section 6.02 Signs Not Requiring a Permit - Signs which do not require a permit may not exceed twenty (20) sq. ft. in size nor, including their supporting structure, may they exceed fifteen (15) feet in height. They are permitted in all of the zoning districts created by this ordinance. There may not be more than a total of two (2) of any such signs on any one lot or parcel of land. Except for official traffic control signs, they must directly relate to activities or beliefs of, or information about the land itself or the owner or lessee of the land upon which the signs are situated. Again excepting official traffic control signs, they must comply with the general requirements for all signs contained in Section 6.01. Signs not requiring a permit include:

1. Signs containing the house number, house name, street address, or name of the occupants of a house;
2. Real estate signs advertising the sale or lease of the property;

3. Business signs indicating the profession, home occupation, or commercial activity of the land owner or lessee;
4. Bulletin board or informational signs of public, charitable, or religious institutions;
5. Memorial signs or tablets, including historical markers;
6. Official traffic control signs;
7. Temporary signs indicating a sale, activity, or event being undertaken by the land owner or lessee;
8. Political signs;
9. On-site informational signs giving persons coming to the property necessary and useful information as to the location of parking areas, restrooms, pick-up and delivery areas, etc, and
10. Warning signs or signs prohibiting trespass or other activities. Such signs may also exceed the above limit to two (2) per lot or parcel of land.

All of the above signs may be lighted indirectly or internally but only by non-flashing white light. They may not be placed on the roof of any building nor may they be painted or affixed directly onto a wall or the side of any structure. They may not be painted or affixed directly onto rocks or other natural objects except that they may be attached or fastened to such objects in manner that will not injure them.

Section 6.03 Signs Requiring a Permit - All signs except those specifically exempted by the provisions of Sections 6.01 and 6.02 require a permit including those signs enumerated in Section 6.02 which are either larger in size than or exceed the number permitted by that section. A sign permit for purposes of this ordinance shall be deemed a type or subcategory of building permit--as such it will be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer subject to and in accordance with all of the provisions outlined in Sections 2.03 and 2.05. In addition the following regulations apply to signs requiring a permit:

1. All of the general requirements for signs contained in Section 6.01.
2. No sign requiring a permit may be located in either the (FA) or (C) district.
3. In all other districts a sign requiring a permit is either a primary or conditional use as specified (see Sections 3.04, 3.05, and 3.06).
4. No sign may exceed three hundred (300) Sq. ft. in size nor may a

sign including its supporting structure exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height.

5. Animated signs and signs involving neon, white, colored, or flashing lighting must be positioned in a manner which avoids confusion with, intrusion upon, or harm to persons or activities situated on adjacent land.
6. An individual lot or parcel of land may not under the combined provisions of Sections 6.02 and 6.03 contain more than 4 signs, with the exception as to number noted in 6.02 (10), or a total of three hundred forty (340) sq. ft. of sign space.
7. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this ordinance, in (V) (R) and (AR) districts signs which exceed one hundred (100) sq. ft. in size and which are located along or so as to be viewed from any public or private roadway must be at least five hundred (500) feet apart as measured along the roadway.
8. No sign requiring a permit may be positioned along or so as to be viewed from any waterway.
9. All signs requiring a permit pursuant to provisions of this ordinance must evidence compliance with all state sign and billboard control statutes or regulations and must have received any required state permits.