

ARTICLE 18

SIGNS AND ADVERTISING STRUCTURES

Signs may be erected and maintained only when in compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance and any and all ordinances and regulations relating to the erection, alteration or maintenance or signs and similar devices.

SECTION 18.01 – AREA OF SIGN: The area of a sign shall be construed to include all lettering, wording, and accompanying designs and symbols, together with the background, whether open or enclosed, on which they are displayed, but not including any supporting framework and bracing which is incidental to the display itself. Where the sign consists of individual letters or symbols attached to or printed on a surface, the area shall be considered to be the smallest rectangle which can be drawn to encompass all of the letters and symbols.

Double face signs shall be considered as one (1) sign.

SECTION 18.02 – GENERAL REGULATIONS: All signs and/or advertising structures where permitted in the Zoning Ordinance, are subject to the following:

- A. No sign shall be erected, enlarged or relocated until a permit for so doing has been issued by the Zoning Officer, except that no permit shall be required for historical or geographical identification signs, real estate signs or temporary signs as specified in the Ordinance,
- B. Every sign shall be kept in a state of good repair from the standpoint of safety, fire protection and appearance. The Zoning Officer shall require such maintenance and, in the event of failure of a sign owner to correct unsafe conditions or dilapidated appearance within fifteen (15) days, the Zoning Officer shall order the removal of the sign by the Township at the owner's expense. All signs not owned by the person, firm, or organization advertising thereon shall carry a clearly legible imprint showing the owner's name.
- C. Construction and wiring of all electric signs shall comply with the requirements of all present National Electrical Code and operating permits will not be issued therefore until the label of the Underwriters Laboratories has been affixed. No sign shall be so illuminated as to permit spot or flood lights to shine into or have a blinding effect upon vehicular traffic. No sign shall be so illuminated so as to constitute a nuisance by spilling light into any adjacent residential property.
- D. No sign shall contain moving parts or flashing or intermittent illumination. The source of light shall be steady and stationary.
- E. No sign shall be higher than thirty-five (35) feet from the ground to the highest part of the sign.
- F. No sign shall be so erected as to obstruct entrance to or exit from a required door, window, fire escape or other required exitway.

- G. Temporary signs not exceeding a total of sixteen (16) square feet in area of painters, mechanics, contractors and the like are permissible in all districts, provided such signs are removed as soon as work has been completed on the premises.
- H. Temporary signs and banners of a non-commercial nature across a public right-of-way are permitted provided permission is obtained from the Township Supervisors, provided it is erected in a location in which it will not cause a traffic hazard, provided it meets safety standards and is maintained, and provided it is removed when its temporary use is completed.
- I. Bulletin or announcement boards or identification signs for schools, churches, hospitals, recreation areas, and similar uses or buildings, provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and not more than one (1) such sign shall be placed on property held in single and separate ownership unless such property fronts on more than one (1) street, in which case one (1) such sign may be erected on each street frontage.
- J. Temporary signs announcing a campaign, drive, or event of a civic, philanthropic, educational or religious organization. Such signs shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after completion of the campaign, drive, or event.
- K. Off-premises signs as follows:
1. Off -premises signs which are used for directing patrons, members or audience to service clubs, churches or commercial or other organization may be erected subject to the following requirements:
 - a. A sign shall indicate only name of the organization, the directions to the facility, and the distance.
 - b. Only one (1) such sign shall be erected at each intersection turning movement necessary to reach such facility.
 - c. The number of signs, placement, and erection shall be at the discretion and approval of the Township Manager and Zoning Officers as directed by the Township Supervisors.
 - d. The number of signs permitted shall not exceed the number of major intersections on the most direct route to the facility from the nearest collector road.
 - e. All signs shall be of uniform specifications including size not to exceed two (2) square feet, color, and lettering as approved by the Township Manager to be the most aesthetically congruent with existing condition. No moving parts, flashing lights, or illumination shall be permitted.
 - f. Application for off-premises signs shall include a map of placement requests, location of facility, name to be placed on sign, distances from facility of each

sign. Permits may be obtained from the Zoning Officer after notification to the Township Manager.

2. Signs directing patrons, members, or audience to temporary exhibits, shows, or events and signs erected in conjunction with a political election subject to the following requirements:

a. No such sign shall exceed twelve (12) square feet in area.

b. Signs shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after the date of the exhibit, show, event or election.

c. No such sign shall be posted earlier than two (2) weeks before the occurrence of the event to which it relates with the exception of political signs shall be posted not earlier than one (1) month prior to an election.

3. Official traffic signs and other official federal, state, county or Township government signs.

L. No sign shall be erected that will impede traffic flow or interfere with clear sight distance at intersections.

SECTION 18.03 – SIGNS IN RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS: The following types of signs may be permitted in residential and agricultural districts unless otherwise provided:

A. One (1) name plate for a home occupation, provided it does not exceed four (4) square feet and identifies only the name and title of the occupant. It shall not extend beyond a vertical plane two (2) feet inside the road right-of-way line. If lighted, it will be illuminated without objectionable glare. No displays or change in facade shall indicate from the exterior that the building, is being used in whole or part for any purpose other than that of a dwelling.

B. One (1) real estate sign, which may be lighted, provided it is not closer to a road right-of-way than one-half (1/2) the depth of the existing front yard, does not exceed six (6) square feet in area and pertains to the lease, rental or sale of the premises on which it is maintained.

C. One (1) institutional sign, provided it does not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in area and is not closer to a road right-of way than half (1/2) the depth of the existing front yard. If lighted, it shall be illuminated without objectionable glare.

D. Signs up to two (2) square feet in area on each side which are necessary for the identification, protection and operation of public, utility facilities.

SECTION 18.03 A – SIGNS IN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS ONLY: The following types of signs may be permitted, in agricultural districts, subject to restrictions set forth in other provisions of this Ordinance and the following restrictions:

- A. Signs offering the sale of farm products, nursery products, or livestock, when such offerings have been produced or raised on the premises, provided that the area of such signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) square feet per side for a free standing sign and shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet per side for wall and projecting signs; not more than one (1) such sign shall be erected on any one street frontage.
- B. Signs denoting membership in agricultural associations or cooperatives or indicating specialization in a particular breed of cattle, hogs, or other animals, or any particular hybrid or strain of plant provided that such signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet per side, and not more than one (1) such sign shall be erected on any one street frontage.
- C. No sign or portion thereof shall be located closer to the road right-of-way than one-half (1/2) the depth of the existing front yard or ten (10) feet, whichever is less, and shall not be located within five (5) feet of any side lot line.

SECTION 18.04 – SIGNS IN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS: Each permitted use may have one (1) sign for each road frontage provided the sign is a wall, projecting, or freestanding sign erected in compliance with the following standards:

- A. One (1) wall sign to property, provided it is attached to the wall of a building and projects horizontally not more than twelve (12) inches therefrom, is not less than ten (10) feet above the sidewalk and occupies not more than twenty (20) percent of the total area of the front of the principal building. It shall not project more than three (3) feet above the roof line or parapet wall.
- B. One (1) projecting sign, provided it shall not project beyond a vertical plane two (2) feet inside the road right-of-way line and does not exceed twenty (20) square feet in area.
- C. One (1) free-standing sign not to exceed eighty (80) square feet in area, It shall not extend beyond a vertical plane two (2) feet inside the lot from the road right-of-way line and shall not exceed a height of thirty-five (35) feet. Said sign shall provide a minimum of ten (10) feet between the ground and base of the sign.
- D. General shopping district identification signs, provided they are separate and not attached to any building. Maximum of two (2) such signs for any one (1) general shopping district. The height of signs shall be a maximum of thirty-five (35) feet measured from the ground, and the maximum size of the sign portion itself shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet.

SECTION 18.05 – PROHIBITED SIGNS: No signs shall be erected, relocated or enlarged which, in the opinion of the Zoning Officer, shall:

- A. Create a traffic hazard as a result of screening traffic signals or signs of which may cause confusion by utilizing red, green or amber lights or reflectorized materials which creates a flashing action and is so located as to resemble or render ineffective any traffic sign or signal which uses the words "Stop", "Slow" or "Danger" or any other official traffic device.

B. Which is painted, pasted, or otherwise affixed to any tree, rock, utility pole, hydrant, bridge, sidewalk, curb, or street except when authorized by and under permit from an authorized public agency or required by law.

SECTION 18.06 - NONCONFORMING SIGNS: Nonconforming signs, once removed shall thereafter be replaced only in conformance with the requirements of this Ordinance. Nonconforming signs may be repainted or repaired but shall not be enlarged thereby to exceed the dimensions of the existing sign.