

ARTICLE VI

ON-PREMISE EXTERIOR SIGNS

SEC. 601 DEFINITIONS.

1. On-Premise Exterior Signs (hereafter called sign). A sign that contains a message related to the business or profession conducted and/or to the commodity, service or entertainment sold or offered upon the premises where said sign is located.
2. Identification Sign. A sign that identifies the business name, phone number and/or the street address and that sets forth no other advertisement or message.
3. Accessory Use Sign or Secondary Identification Sign. A sign that identifies the name of the business and advertises secondary goods or services, or a sign that identifies the name of the business and gives secondary information about the business, goods or services.
4. Business Center Sign. A sign that gives direction and identification to a group of two or more uses whether or not under single management, but located on a parcel of land in single ownership or sharing common facilities such as parking.
6. Roof Sign. As used in this zoning resolution, a roof sign shall refer to a sign that extends above the parapet or roof line of the building to which the sign is affixed.
7. Freestanding Sign. As used in this zoning resolution, a freestanding sign shall refer to any sign that is detached from a building but is permanently anchored.
8. Portable Sign. A freestanding sign not permanently anchored, affixed or secured to either a building or the ground, such as, but not limited to, "A" frame, "T" shaped or inverted "T" shaped sign structures.
9. Time-Temperature signs. A sign that displays the current time and outdoor temperature or both, which displays no other materials except for an identification sign as already defined.
10. Vehicular Sign. Any appliance or surface attached to any vehicle that is designated to advertise, convey information or attract attention for the benefit

of any person, organization, business, or cause operating such vehicles; excepting vehicles used solely for the delivery of merchandise or the performance of services.

11. Sign Area. The entire area within a circle, globe, or polygon enclosing the extreme limits of writing, representation, emblem, lettering only, or any figure of similar character, together with any frame, or other material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate such a sign from the background against which it is placed. The sign area shall be considered to be the largest area that any sign would project on a plane. Where a sign has two or more faces, the area of all faces shall be included in determining the area of the sign, except where two such faces are placed back-to-back and are at no point more than eighteen (18) inches from one another, the area of the sign shall be taken as the area of one face if the two faces are of equal area, or as the area of the large face if the two faces are of unequal area.
12. Wall Graphics Sign. Any sign or graphic design that is placed directly upon a building's surface including signs or lettering attached to windows.
13. Off-Premise Sign. Any sign containing a message not related to the business or activity upon which premises the sign seen is placed.
14. Home Occupation Sign. A sign that identifies the nature of an occupation in a dwelling unit.
15. Temporary Sign. As used in the zoning resolution, a temporary sign shall refer to a sign erected temporarily to be removed after ninety (90) days or upon fulfillment of its' purpose, whichever comes first.
16. Nonconforming Sign. A sign that does not conform to this zoning resolution as written or, a sign that was legally existing prior to enactment of this zoning resolution or amendments thereto.
17. Subdivision Sign. A sign which identities a subdivision that is located at the entrance to the subdivision.
18. Political Sign. A sign promoting issues or candidates for public office.

SEC. 602 RELATIONSHIP TO BUILDING CODE.

No provisions of this chapter shall nullify any portion or requirements of the

Building Code, except as to the specific definitions, prohibited locations, and size limitations as listed herein.

SEC. 603 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT SIGNS.

Only the following types, sizes and locations of signs shall be permitted in residential districts:

- 1. One non-illuminated sign advertising the sale, rental or lease of the property or building not exceeding six (6) square feet in area on any property, which sign shall be removed when premises are sold, leased or rented.

- 2. One non-illuminated accessory sign with a surface area not exceeding twenty (20) square feet that denote the name of the occupant on each lot on which a dwelling unit is located.

- 3. One sign, with a surface not exceeding twenty (20) square feet which identities the use of a property for the following uses in a residential district:
 - a. Cemetery;

 - b. Church, or other place of public religious worship;

 - c. Private or governmentally owned and/or operated park playground, golf course or other recreational facility;

 - d. Governmentally owned or operated building or facility;

 - e. Facility providing the following services:
 - 1. medical care
 - 2. hospital
 - 3. clinic
 - 4. convalescent home
 - 5. sanitarium
 - 6. home for the aged
 - 7. philanthropic institution
 - 8. child care center

9. bed and breakfast

- f. Public, private or parochial school.
- g. Home occupation signs are not permitted.
- h. Subdivision signs are not to exceed twenty-five (25) square feet in area and are not to exceed six (6) feet in height.

SEC. 604 C-1 LOCAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT SIGNS.

Only the following types, sizes and locations of signs shall be permitted in the C-1 Local Commercial District:

- 1. Wall signs must be fixed flat against the wall of a building or on the face of a marquee wall. No sign may extend above or beyond the building wall or project more than one (1) foot from the front of the structure.
- 2. A total sign area of two (2) square feet shall be permitted for each lineal foot of building frontage on the principal street. On a corner lot the area may be computed on the basis of the longer building frontage. Maximum total size is not to exceed two hundred (200) square feet.
- 3. Business center signs as defined in 601.4 and freestanding signs shall be permitted provided they are ground mounted and not placed upon a pole that allows the bottom of the sign to project more than six (6) inches above ground level.

SEC. 605 C-2 HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT SIGNS.

Only the following types, sizes and locations of signs shall be permitted in the C-2 Highway Interchange Commercial District:

- 1. Wall signs must be fixed flat against the wall of a building or on the face of a marquee wall. No sign may extend above or beyond the building wall or project more than one (1) foot from the front of the structure.
- 2. A total sign area of two (2) square feet shall be permitted for each

lineal foot of building frontage on the principal street. On a corner lot the area may be computed on the basis of the longer building frontage. Maximum total size is not to exceed two hundred (200) square feet.

3. One freestanding sign with a sign area not to exceed one (1) square foot for each foot of building frontage on a principal street. Maximum total size for a sign may not exceed fifty (50) square feet or exceed a maximum height of twenty (20) feet.
4. Business center sign as defined in 601.4 shall be permitted provided they are ground mounted and not placed upon a pole that allows the bottom of the sign to project more than six (6) inches above ground level.

SEC. 606 INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT SIGNS.

Only the following types, sizes and locations of signs shall be permitted in the Industrial district:

1. A total sign area of three (3) square feet for each lineal foot of building frontage on each street, up to a maximum total area of all permitted signs for any establishment of four hundred (400) square feet.
2. One “for sale” or “for rent” sign, not exceeding fifty (50) square feet in area pertaining to the premises upon which it is displayed may be erected or placed on a given property but shall be removed forthwith when the premises are sold or rented.
3. One freestanding sign with a sign area not to exceed two (2) square feet for each foot of building frontage on a principal street is permitted. The total maximum size of the sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet with a maximum height not to exceed twenty (20) feet.

SEC. 607 FOR SALE/FOR RENT SIGNS IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS.

One for sale or for rent sign, not exceeding twenty (20) square feet in area, pertaining to the premises upon which it is displayed, may be erected or placed on a given property but shall be removed forthwith when the premises are sold or rented.

SEC. 608 TEMPORARY AND PORTABLE SIGNS.

1. Temporary signs. Signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet relating to civic, charitable, educational, religious, governmental, school activities, construction, or private special events may be erected or placed in any Zoning District, but shall be removed forthwith upon fulfillment of their purpose. A temporary sign may not be displayed for more than ninety (90) days.

2. Portable Signs. Portable signs in commercial and industrial districts are permitted but must comply with all conditions of this chapter. Portable signs may not exceed forty (40) square feet in size. A portable sign may not be placed on a given property for more than fifteen (15) days in any one year.

3. Political signs. Political signs are temporary signs promoting issues or candidates for public office for which no permit is needed. Such signs shall not be placed on utility poles or over public property or within the right-of-way of any public street. Such sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in area. Political signs may not be erected more than thirty (30) days prior to the election to which they relate and shall be removed with fifteen (15) days after the election to which they relate. Political signs are permitted in any District.

SEC. 609 NON-AFFECTED SIGNS.

Signs required by law and necessary to the public safety and welfare.

SEC. 610 TOTAL SIGNAGE AREA.

Total signage area for any panel in a commercial zoning district for both wall signs and freestanding signs will not exceed two hundred (200) square feet.

SEC. 611 NON-CONFORMING SIGNS.

Any non-conforming sign removed, terminated, or discontinued for any reasons for a period of two or more years shall not be restored or replaced by any type of sign unless the sign is in conformance with the appropriate district regulations of this chapter and other provisions of this resolution as may be applicable. For purposes of this section pole and frame replacement shall constitute sign removal and must comply with this chapter.

SEC. 612 REVIEW PROCESS.

Application for Zoning Certificates for signs shall be submitted according to the following procedure:

1. The application for Zoning Certificate for signs shall include the following information:
 - a. A plot plan and building elevations drawn to scale showing the locations and dimensions for all business signs, existing and proposed; and,
 - b. A description and drawings indicating the lighting of the proposed sign where permitted, herein.
2. The application shall be made to the Wadsworth Township Zoning Inspector.

SEC. 613 SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS.

All signs are subject to the following regulations:

1. No sign or outside lighting shall flash, be animated, rotate, or have the appearance of moving, except that non-rotating signs that depict the time, temperature, current weather shall be permitted;
2. No sign shall contain banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, string of light bulbs, spinners, or similarly fixed or moving devices;
3. No freestanding sign shall be located on or over public property;
4. All electrical wiring serving freestanding signs must be underground;
5. No freestanding sign may be erected closer than forty (40) feet to any intersection with the exception of those signs incidental to the legal process and necessary to the public welfare or wall signs attached to the building of businesses closer than forty (40) feet to an intersection;
6. All signs erected with one hundred (100) feet of any intersection must be constructed so as not to obstruct traffic sight lines;

7. No sign shall be located in or project into a public right-of-way;
8. Any sign permitted by this chapter that may show structural deterioration shall be replaced or removed at the owner's expense upon proper citation by the Wadsworth Township Zoning Inspector; and,
9. No illuminated sign shall produce glare that is visible from any public right-of-way or adjacent properties.
10. All signs within 660 feet of the right-of-way of Interstate 76 are subject to regulation by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5516 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto. Zoning Certificates for signs within 660 feet of this right-of-way shall not be issued without evidence that a permit has first been issued by ODOT; or notice from ODOT that a permit is not necessary.