

CHAPTER 306

SIGNAGE

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CROSS REFERENCES

Landscaping for signage - see Sec. 304.07

306.01 PURPOSES

The purposes of these sign regulations are to encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication in the Township, to maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment and the Township's ability to attract sources of economic development and growth, to improve pedestrian and traffic safety, to minimize the possible adverse effect of signs on nearby public and private property, and to enable the fair and consistent enforcement of these sign regulations.

306.02 APPLICABILITY

A sign may be erected, placed, established, painted, created, or maintained in the Township only in conformance with the standards, procedures, exemptions, and other requirements of this chapter.

306.03 ADMINISTRATION

A. Permit. A permit issued by the Zoning Administrator shall be required for the erection of each individual sign within the Township except as exempted in Sec. 306.06. An application for such permit shall contain a scale drawing of the sign, a site plan showing the sign's proposed size and location in relation to any building, and other information necessary to fully explain the proposed sign.

B. Fees. Fees shall be paid according to an annual Schedule of Fees.

C. Inspection and Maintenance. The Zoning Administrator shall administer and enforce these regulations. Any sign for which a permit has been issued may be inspected at any time to determine its compliance with this chapter, applicable building regulations, and acceptable safety standards. If violations are found, the Zoning Administrator shall notify the owner of the sign of the alterations, repairs, support replacement, cleaning, repainting or maintenance necessary for compliance. Failure to comply within thirty (30) days, unless otherwise extended by the Zoning Administrator, shall constitute a violation of the Zoning Resolution and subject the owner of such sign to the penalty provided in Ch. 103.

306.04 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. General Requirements. Signs shall not be placed within a public right-of-way, shall not create a demonstrable safety hazard for pedestrians or vehicles, shall not resemble by design, color or shape any governmental sign, and the level of illumination emitted by or reflected from a sign shall not be of an intensity or direction sufficient to create either a safety hazard to the safe movement of vehicles on adjacent streets or a nuisance to adjacent properties.

- B. Design and Construction. All signs shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with the following standards:
 - 1. All signs shall comply with applicable provisions of the Ohio Basic Building Code and the applicable electrical code.
 - 2. Except for banners, flags, temporary signs, and window signs conforming in all respects with the requirements of this Resolution, all signs shall be constructed of permanent materials and shall be permanently attached to the ground, a building, or another structure by direct attachment to a rigid wall, frame, or structure.
 - 3. No more than four (4) colors shall be used on the sign and white and black shall be considered colors for the purposes of this chapter.

- C. Computations. The following principles shall control the computation of sign area and sign height.
 - 1. Computation of Area of Individual Signs. The area of a sign face (which is also the sign area of a wall sign or other sign with only one face) shall be computed by means of the smallest square, circle, rectangle, triangle, or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the writing, representation, emblem, or other display, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the backdrop or structure against which it is placed, but not including any supporting framework, bracing, or decorative fence or wall when such fence or wall otherwise meets Zoning Resolution regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself.
 - 2. Computation of Area of Multifaceted Signs. The sign area for a sign with more than one face shall be computed by adding together the area of all sign faces visible from any one point. When two identical sign faces are placed back to back, so that both faces cannot be viewed from any point at the same time, and when such sign faces are part of the same sign structure and are not more than forty-two (42) inches apart, the sign area shall be computed by the measurement of one of the faces and then doubled to determine the sum of the full allowed sign area.
 - 3. Computation of Height. The height of a sign shall be computed as the distance from the base of the sign at normal grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign. Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of (1) existing grade prior to construction or (2) the newly established grade after construction.

- D. Location. All signs shall be subject to the setback requirements contained within Subsec. 306.07(B)(3). In specific instances, if the exact existing or proposed right-of-way line cannot be determined, all required setbacks shall be increased by twelve (12) feet and shall be measured from the edge of the existing pavement. No sign shall be located within a public right-of-way.

- E. Nonconformance. See Ch. 109 regarding nonconformance provisions.

306.05 SIGNS PROHIBITED

All signs not expressly permitted under this Resolution or exempt from regulation in accordance with this chapter are prohibited in the Township. Such signs include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Banners, pennants, streamers, portable signs, flashing or animated signs, or a source of illumination that flashes, blinks, or fluctuates.
2. Temporary off-premises signs except where otherwise permitted herein.
3. Electronic variable message signs and such portions of signs.
4. All signs located in a residential zoning district and PUD District unless otherwise permitted herein.
5. All signs except those of a duly constituted government body located or placed in a public right-of-way.

306.06 SIGNS NOT REQUIRING A PERMIT

The following signs do not require a permit and are otherwise exempt from these regulations except for safety requirements.

1. The flag, pennants or insignia of any nation, state, city or other political unit.
2. Signs of a duly constituted government body.
3. Cornerstones, commemorative tablets and historical signs provided such signs do not exceed ten (10) square feet in area.
4. Signs bearing only property address, post office box numbers, or names of occupants of premises provided such signs do not exceed two (2) square feet in area.
5. For sale, rental, or lease signs, and contractors' signs of or for the premises on which such sign is located provided such signs do not exceed six (6) square feet in area and provided only one (1) such sign is displayed for each street front with a maximum of two for each parcel. Two signs are possible only for a corner lot.
6. Church or school bulletin boards.
7. Signs for the civic promotion of school, church or community service activities provided such signs are not displayed for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days and no more than thirty (30) days in one (1) calendar year.
8. Signs and sources of illumination clearly in the nature of decorations customarily associated with any national, state, local, or religious holiday.
9. Traffic directional signs indicating points of entry or exit to off-street parking provided such signs are not located in a public right-of-way, and provided they are limited to four (4) square feet in area and three (3) feet in height.
10. Temporary window advertising signs provided the Franklin County Sheriff's Department does not find that undue problems are created in assuring adequate protection to the premises.
11. Signs or posters indicating candidates or issues on the public ballot provided such material is posted no earlier than ~~sixty (60)~~ **thirty (30) days**¹ prior to an election and is removed no later than ten (10) days following the election. Such signs shall be no larger than eight (8) square feet in area and shall not be located within a public right-of-way. No more than four (4) such signs may be permitted on a single tax parcel.
12. Any public notice or warning required by a valid and applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance.
13. Any sign inside a building, not attached to a window or door, that is not legible from a distance of more than three (3) feet beyond the lot line of the parcel on which such sign is located.

Zoning
Text
Change

¹ Text Amendment approved by Board of Trustees on February 15, 2000 in Resolution #2000-28 following hearing and approval by Zoning Commission on January 24, 2000.

14. Works of art that do not include a commercial message.
15. One (1) sign shall be permitted for announcing a permitted home occupation provided such sign is limited to three (3) square feet in area, provided such sign is affixed flatly against the surface of the respective dwelling, provided that if illuminated such sign is indirectly illuminated by reflected light or back light, non-flashing and intensity shielded, and provided such sign is in harmony with the residential structure.

306.07 SIGNS REQUIRING A PERMIT

The following signs are allowed subject to meeting the requirements of this chapter and shall not be erected until issuance of a permit by the Zoning Administrator.

- A. Wall Signs. One (1) wall sign may be allowed for each business in a non-residential district and such sign shall indicate the use established and/or goods sold or services rendered on the premises. Such sign shall be affixed to the structure.
 1. Display Surface.
 - a. The aggregate display surface of a wall sign shall not exceed one (1) square foot for every one (1) linear foot of the use's building street frontage not to exceed a maximum aggregate size of seventy (70) square feet. Street frontage is defined as the total width of that side of a building which faces the principal improved public right-of-way, excluding any extension of a building wall beyond the building itself.
 - b. In the case of a corner lot or other situation where the building site abuts more than one improved public right-of-way (not including alleys), the applicant shall specify which is the primary frontage which shall be the basis for the primary wall sign. The secondary building facade that fronts the secondary or other public right-of-way shall constitute a second frontage and a secondary wall sign may be allowed with display surface not to exceed one-half square foot per one lineal foot of street frontage as defined above not to exceed a maximum aggregate size of thirty-five (35) square feet.
 - c. For buildings that don't front an improved public right-of-way, as in shopping centers, the drives and parking areas adjacent to such building shall be considered as public streets for the purpose of this chapter, provided that where any such drive or parking area abuts a residential district, the frontage of the building on such drive or parking area shall not be considered as frontage for such purpose if the distance from such building to the nearest private property in said residential district is less than one-hundred and fifty (150) feet.
 2. Height. The maximum height of a wall sign shall not exceed twenty (20) feet and wall signs shall not project above the roof line or the cap of parapets of the building on which it is attached.
 3. Placement. Wall signs must be flat or flush on the face of any building or any architecturally designed extension thereof, and project not more than twelve (12) inches (except on mansard type facias, where as to obtain a level position, the top of the sign may cantilever out more than twelve inches). Signs may be installed on an attached canopy, roof or marquee which projects beyond the building over a walk or yard, provided that no part of such signs may extend above such canopy, roof, or marquee. Such signs shall face a street, parking lot, or service drive.
- B. Freestanding Signs. One (1) freestanding sign may be allowed for a single user of a commercial property or multiple users of a commercial property. No more than one (1) such sign shall be

permitted for each street on which the user(s) are located and such signs shall provide for shared or common usage. Such sign shall indicate the use established and/or goods sold or services rendered on the premises. Such sign shall indicate either a single tenant or group of tenants located on the property. Freestanding signs shall be supported by or suspended from posts, pillars, columns, or other structures meeting the requirements of this chapter. A ground-mounted freestanding sign shall be mounted on brick, masonry, concrete or other suitable base.

1. Display Surface. For a double-faced sign the aggregate display surface shall not exceed twice the permitted area on Table 13. For single-faced signs the display surface shall not exceed the permitted area on Table 13.
 2. Height. The height of a freestanding sign, other than ground-mounted, shall not exceed the height stipulated on Table 13. Ground-mounted freestanding signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and shall meet the sight triangle requirements of Sec. 203.09.
 3. Placement. No part of any such sign shall be closer to any public right-of-way than fifteen (15) feet, nor closer to any other property line than the applicable building setback line, if the adjoining property is in a residential zoning districts or residential area within a PUD. Ground-mounted signs shall not act as an obstruction to vehicular traffic, shall not inhibit or obstruct ingress-egress on the subject parcel and adjacent lots, and shall meet the sight triangle requirements of Sec. 203.09.
- C. Projecting Signs. One (1) projecting sign may be erected at each entrance to a building.
1. Display Surface. A projecting sign shall not exceed fifteen (15) inches in height and five (5) square feet in display surface area. The area of said signs shall be considered in the total aggregate sign area of the building permitted under this section.
 2. Height. The maximum height of a projecting sign shall not exceed ten (10) feet.
 3. Placement. A projecting sign shall project perpendicular from the building wall not more than four (4) feet.
- D. Comprehensive On-Site Signage. Multi-tenant nonresidential development may submit a sign permit application for comprehensive on-site signage as per the following standards.
1. Graphic Design Criteria. A comprehensive set of graphic design criteria regulations to control all future signage design requests at the development and an agreement to incorporate these criteria requirements in all future relationships, contractual or otherwise, with tenants and other parties desiring signage at the subject center.
 2. Submission Requirements. The comprehensive set of graphic design criteria requirements submitted shall include text and drawings, both to scale and dimension, as required to address at the very least:
 - a. Size range of signs permitted.
 - b. Colors permitted.
 - c. Materials permitted.
 - d. Illumination.
 - e. Typefaces permitted.
 - f. Type sizes permitted.
 - g. Graphic emblem sizes and locations, if permitted.
 - h. Miscellaneous graphic features unique to the application submitted.

3. Contractual Agreement. A copy of a standard contractual signage agreement to be used at the center, incorporating the comprehensive graphic design criteria regulations developed in Subsec. 2 above, to be made a part of all future relationships with tenants and other parties desiring signage at the subject center.
 4. Future Changes. Any changes to the design criteria or standard contractual signage agreement must be approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals as a conditional use.
 5. Freestanding Signage. Only one (1) freestanding sign shall be permitted for each multi-tenant development as per Sec. 306.07(B).
- E. Subdivision or Multi-Family Signs. A subdivision or multi-family sign is defined as an on-premise ground-mounted sign that graphically identifies a subdivision and/or multi-family development. Only one (1) subdivision and multi-family sign is permitted at each entrance to a development up to a maximum of two (2) signs.
1. Permitted Display Surface and Height. The maximum display surface shall not exceed forty (40) square feet in area. A subdivision or multi-family sign shall be mounted on brick, masonry, concrete or other suitable base.
 2. Height. The maximum height of a subdivision or multi-family sign shall not exceed six (6) feet.
 3. Placement. No part of any such sign shall be closer to any public right-of-way than ten (10) feet, not closer to any other property line than the applicable building setback line, if the adjoining property is in a residential zoning district or a residential area in a PUD. Ground-mounted signs shall not act as an obstruction to vehicular traffic, shall not inhibit or obstruct ingress-egress on the subject parcel and adjacent lots, and shall meet the sight triangle requirements of Sec. 203.09.
- F. Billboards. Billboards, may be located in commercial or industrial zoning districts in accordance with the development standards of the zoning district in which the billboard location is sought.

In addition to the other provisions of this section governing the erection and maintenance of billboards, the following standards for the location, illumination and size of such signs are required in all zoning districts in which billboards are permitted.

1. Location of Billboards. All billboards shall be located in accordance with the following provisions:
 - a. Billboards shall not be located closer than fifteen (15) feet of a public right-of-way and shall not be located in front of a required building line.
 - b. Billboards shall not be located within required yards.
 - c. Billboards shall not be located so as to interfere with visibility and safe operation of vehicles entering or leaving a premises or within a minimum of five hundred (500) feet from intersecting streets or highways and cross walkaways.
 - d. Billboards shall be located so as to be completely visible at a distance of one hundred fifty (150) feet by a motorist traveling in the direction for which the display is designed.
 - e. Billboards shall be located no closer than one thousand (1,000) feet between billboards and no closer than one thousand (1,000) feet from any building, structure or residential zoning district or residential portion of a PUD.

2. Illumination of Billboards. Illuminated billboards shall be constructed and maintained so that the source of illumination is shielded or otherwise prevented from beaming into adjacent lots or streets. The flashing or illusion of flashing or turning on and off of the billboard illumination of any bulb or component part thereof is prohibited. In no case shall any billboard illumination exceed a level of illumination of eight hundredth (.08) foot candles, and a luminaire brightness of twenty-four hundred (2400) foot lamberts, when measured from the nearest or adjacent residential zoned property.
3. Display Area. The maximum permitted size of any one (1) billboard display area, shall not be larger than three hundred (300) square feet including embellishments. The maximum aggregate total display area shall not exceed six hundred (600) square feet for a double-faced billboard.
4. Height. The maximum height of a billboard shall be thirty-five (35) feet.
5. Maintenance of Billboards. No billboard shall be permitted to corrode, rust peel, fade, break-up or otherwise reach a state of disrepair that creates an unsightly or dangerous condition, and any such billboard shall be repaired or removed within thirty (30) days after written notice thereof.

306.08 TEMPORARY SIGNS REQUIRING A PERMIT

- A. Subdivision Signs. Subdivisions or tracts of land with six or more dwelling units may display one (1) temporary sign at only one entrance to the subdivision or tract, or at such other location as may be approved by the Zoning Administrator during construction. Each temporary sign shall not exceed forty (40) square feet in total area, shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height, and no part of any such sign shall be closer to any public right-of-way than fifteen (15) feet, nor closer to any other property line than the applicable building setback line, if the adjoining property is in a residential district. These signs shall not remain erected in any subdivision or tract after ninety (90) percent of all construction in the subdivision or tract is completed.

Table 13 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS FOR FREESTANDING SIGNS					
Jackson Township Zoning Resolution					
ABUTTING ROAD		SINGLE-USER SIGNS		MULTIPLE-USER SIGNS	
Lanes	Posted Speed (mph)	Area Per Face (square feet)	Height (feet)	Area Per Face (square feet)	Height (feet)
2	15	8	8	28	12
	25	15	10	35	14
	35	30	12	50	16
	45	45	14	65	18
	50	60	16	80	20
4	15	10	12	30	16
	25	25	14	45	18
	35	30	16	60	20
	45	55	18	75	22
	50	70	20	90	24

Lanes and speeds not specifically noted shall be assigned to the next lowest specified value. The calculation of lane width shall not include turning lanes. Height is measured at the grade at the abutting right-of-way line.