Temporary Signs
Effective June, 2011

(X) Temporary Signs

Temporary signs are those signs which relate to such events as elections, auctions, yard sales, agricultural production sales, annual charitable, civic or fraternal events, bona fide grand openings and home show openings.

(Y) Wall Sign

A sign which is attached to a wall or facade of a building or canopy.

(Z) Warning Sign

Any sign with no commercial message that displays information pertinent to the safety or legal responsibilities of the public such as signs warning of ‘high voltage’, ‘no trespassing,’ and similar directives.

SIGN STANDARDS

(A) Sufficient documentation shall be submitted to the Zoning Inspector for review to assure that wind and stress requirements have been met prior to any permit being issued for any sign containing over 100 square feet in area. Such documentation shall be signed and sealed by a registered North Carolina Architect or Engineer.

(B) All signs shall be installed and maintained in compliance with the North Carolina State Building Code and the National Electrical Code and shall have appropriate permits and inspections. Electrical signs and fixtures shall bear labels of a nationally accepted testing laboratory.

(C) All signs shall be maintained in a state of good repair and shall present a neat, well-kept appearance.

(D) All lights used for the illumination of a sign shall be shielded so that the light will not shine directly on surrounding areas or create a traffic hazard or distraction to operators of motor vehicles on the public thoroughfares. The Zoning Inspector shall have the power to order a change in the illumination of any sign that becomes a hazard or a nuisance.

(E) No illuminated sign, other than professional or occupational signs or nameplates, on-premises signs, incidental signs, or identification signs shall be permitted within 100 feet of any residential zoning district. Illuminated signs other than those listed above which are located within 300 feet of a residence or residentially zoned district shall not be illuminated between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 a.m.

(F) The Zoning Inspector or his authorized representative shall have the authority to order the painting, repair, alteration or removal of a sign, at the expense of the owner of such sign, which shall constitute a hazard to safety, health or public welfare by reasons of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation or obsolescence. The existence of a sign or its support structure with no message display for a period of 90 days, shall be justification to declare the sign abandoned and require its removal.

December 1, 1997; amended through June 14, 2011
Any sign erected without proper permits or in violation of this Ordinance shall be brought into compliance within 30 days of notification by the Zoning inspector or said sign shall be removed immediately.

EXEMPT SIGNS

The following listed signs are subject to all placement and dimensional requirements of this Section and shall comply with the North Carolina Department of Transportation sight distance and street rights-of-way clearances. The following listed signs shall, however, be exempt from permit and fee requirements. Exempt signs shall be maintained in good condition and shall not constitute a hazard to safety, health or public welfare. Exempt signs which are found to be in violation shall be ordered corrected or removed.

(A) Any warning signs; utility signs; signs for public use; and no trespassing, no hunting, or neighborhood watch signs shall contain no commercial message.

(B) Any sign that is required by law or erected at the direction of a governmental agency.

(C) Signs erected to regulate traffic.

(D) Mailboxes, house numbers, nameplates, and building markers not exceeding 4 square feet in area.

(E) Religious symbols at a place of worship or at a church-owned or operated facility. Such symbols must meet all setbacks and lighting requirements for signs.

(F) Construction signs having a maximum area of 32 square feet and a maximum height of 6 feet and limited to one sign per construction site per street frontage. Exempt construction signs must be removed within 15 days following the completion of the project.

(G) Real estate signs having a maximum area of 4 square feet in residential zoning districts and 32 square feet in area and a height minimum of 6 feet in nonresidential districts. Real estate signs are limited to one per site or one per 300' of street frontage.

Temporary real estate signs associated with the marketing of a subdivision shall be limited to one sign per subdivision entrance and 32 square feet in area and 6 feet in height. This type of sign must be set back a minimum of 2 feet from all exterior property lines of the subdivision and shall remain clear of the street sight distance easement. An additional directory-type sign of the same dimension, height and setback requirements may be located within the interior of a subdivision. Real estate signs must be removed within 30 days following completion of the project or transaction.

(H) Temporary signs shall not be placed more than 30 days prior to the event, election or grand opening and must be removed within 7 days following the event, election or grand opening. Such signs are limited to 32 square feet in area and 6 feet maximum height.