

**BURLINGTON, N. C.**  
**ZONING ORDINANCE**

**SECTION 32.12: SIGN REGULATIONS**

- A. Purpose: The purposes of these sign regulations are to minimize any detrimental effects of signs on adjacent properties; to prevent advertising, business and identification signs from conflicting with or obscuring signs relating to the public safety; and to insure that permitted signs do not become a public nuisance or hazard by reason of their size, number, placement or structural condition.
- B. Classification and Definition of Signs According to Purpose: Signs shall be classified according to their message content and use as follows:
1. Advertising Signs (Billboards): A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service or entertainment not conducted, sold or offered on the premises where the sign is located or which business, commodity, service or entertainment advertised forms only minor and incidental activity upon the premises where the sign is displayed.
  2. Business Sign: A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered on the premises where the sign is located but not a sign pertaining to the preceding if such activity is only minor and incidental to the principal use of the premises.
  3. Identification Sign: A sign that carries no advertising message and is limited to the following information concerning the premises:
    - a. The name of the building or buildings.
    - b. The address of the building or buildings.
    - c. The name of the business firm or firms or institution occupying the premises.
    - d. The nature of business or activity conducted on the premises.
  4. Incidental Sign: A sign carrying no advertising message but giving information for the convenience and necessity of the public, such as "Entrance," "Exit," "No Admittance," "Telephone," "Parking," etc.
- C. Classification and Definition of Signs According to Structural Type: Signs shall be classified according to structural type as follows:
1. Ground Sign: Any sign, other than a pole sign, that is attached directly to the ground by means of one or more upright pillars, braces or posts placed upon the ground and not to any part of a building.

2. Marquee Sign: A sign affixed to the front face or plane of a hood, canopy, marquee or projecting roof structure. **(Amendment adopted January 3, 1984)**
  3. Pole Sign: A sign, the bottom of which is not less than ten feet above the ground and which is attached to the ground by one or more poles or other upright supports. No sign language, copy, insignia, emblem, etc., may be placed within the space between the ground and 10 feet in height. **(Amendment adopted March 16, 2004)**
  4. Projecting Sign: A sign projecting out from and attached to the exterior wall of any building and forming an angle of 30 degrees or more to said wall.
  5. Roof Sign: A sign that is placed on or above the roof of any building to which it is attached.
  6. Suspended Sign: A sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal plane surface such as a canopy or marquee and is supported by such surface.
  7. Wall Sign: Any sign, other than a projecting sign, that is attached to or painted on any wall of any building.
  8. Awning Sign: A sign constructed of fabric-like, non-rigid material that is a part of a fabric or flexible plastic awning.
  9. Banner: Any sign made of a flexible, fabric-like material except an awning sign.
  10. Poster: Any sign made of a rigid or semi-rigid, non-durable material, such as paper or cardboard, other than billboard copy. Billboard copy is defined as a temporary message applied to a permanent sign structure which message is changed periodically.
  11. Temporary Sign: A sign not of a structural type as provided above (Section 32.12:C) and conforming with Section 32.12:L of this ordinance. The term temporary sign includes signs on wheels or on portable structures such as tent signs, A-frame or T-shaped signs and similar devices, and airborne signs. **(Amendment adopted July 10, 2001)**
- D. General Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all signs in all districts:

1. Compliance: No sign of any type shall be constructed, erected, painted, repainted, posted, placed, replaced or hung in any district except in compliance with this ordinance.
2. Sign Permit Required: A sign permit issued by the City Building Inspector shall be required for all signs except those signs listed in Sections 32.12:E. and 32.12:H. **(Amendment adopted November 16, 1976)**
3. Measurement of Area: Sign area shall be computed by means of the smallest square, circle, rectangle, triangle or combination thereof that will encompass the entire advertising copy of art designed to attract attention, including architectural embellishments, except that a masonry, metal or wood planter base not exceeding 24 inches in height measured from the ground and not exceeding 12 inches beyond the outer dimensions of the sign area shall not be included in the sign area calculation. No advertising or lettering of any type shall be permitted on such planter. 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 42 inches apart, the measurement of one such sign face shall constitute the measurement of both faces. **(Amendment adopted October 25, 1977)**
4. Building Code Compliance: All signs shall fully comply with the requirements of the City of Burlington and State of North Carolina building and electrical codes.
5. Permit Fees: An initial permit fee for permanent signs shall be paid at the time a sign permit is issued. Permit fees shall be based on schedules adopted from time to time by the City Council. **(Amendment adopted September 17, 1985)**
6. Maintenance Required: All signs, together with braces, guys and supports, shall at all times be kept in good repair. If at any time a sign should become unsafe or poorly maintained, the Building Inspector shall notify the owner of such condition, and upon failure of the owner to correct such condition, the Building Inspector shall take appropriate legal action to have such sign repaired or removed.
7. Removal of Obsolete Signs: Signs identifying business establishments no longer in existence, products no longer being sold and services no longer being rendered shall be removed from the premises within 180 days from the date of termination of such activities. Signs advertising events such as shows, displays, festivals, circuses, fairs, athletic contests, fund drives, elections, contests, exhibits, meetings, conventions, sales, performances, dances, paper drives and the like shall be removed within 30 days after the date of termination of such events. Upon failure of the owner to remove such signs within the prescribed time period, the Building Inspector shall take appropriate legal action to have such signs removed. **(Amendment adopted June 6, 2000; effective date of amendment, August 1, 2000.)**

8. Dilapidated Sign – Definition: An existing sign shall be considered dilapidated when it shows signs of being in disrepair, broken down, shabby or neglected, when it fails to be in the same form as originally constructed, or when it fails to perform its intended function of conveying a message. Conditions of dilapidation shall include, but not be limited to: **(Amendment adopted October 3, 1989)**

- a. Structural pole or support failure.
- b. Signs not being held vertically or as originally constructed.
- c. Borders falling off or already removed.
- d. Panels missing or falling off.
- e. Message falling off or in disrepair such that it cannot be interpreted by the motoring public.
- d. Signs that are overgrown by trees or other vegetation.

9. Sign Setbacks: All ground signs and pole signs in all zoning districts where permitted shall be set back a minimum of five feet from any right-of-way. **(Amendment adopted March 16, 2004)**

E. Signs Permitted in All Districts: The following signs shall be permitted in all districts, subject to the following provisions, and shall be excluded from the combined total sign area permitted per lot as specified in Sections 32.12:Y. through 32.12:DD. dealing with individual districts:

- 1. Public/Non-Profit Signs: Signs or notices posted by a governmental or non-profit agency relating to government business or announcing non-profit fundraising events, fund drives, special events, or activities of interest to the general public. Such signs shall be limited to 32 square feet in area.
- 2. Real Estate Signs: A sign located on the premises and offering said premises for sale, rent, lease or development. Such sign shall not exceed the following area per sign face:

<u>Distance From All Street Lines</u>	<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>
12 feet	12 square feet
50 feet	20 square feet
100 feet	40 square feet
150 feet	60 square feet

3. Bulletin Boards: Church or governmental bulletin boards not exceeding 50 square feet in area, including architectural embellishments and structural materials, provided however that the length to width or the width to length ratio shall not exceed four to one. All other required sign regulations for the district in which such sign shall be located shall be strictly observed. **(Amendment adopted October 16, 1973)**

4. Community Signs: Signs identifying the City or recognized portions thereof and subdivisions, not to exceed 64 square feet exclusive of supporting structure, for any one location of a sign identifying the City or a recognized portion thereof, and not to exceed 64 square feet exclusive of supporting structure, for any on subdivision. The total permitted sign area footage may be divided for two or more signs at one or more entrances to a subdivision, but the total for any one subdivision shall not exceed 64 square feet. Subdivision signs shall be erected in full compliance with required setbacks and required corner visibility. **(Amendment adopted December 5, 1978)**
  5. Signs Required by Law: Signs that the owner is obligated to place on the premises to comply with federal, state or local government laws, regulations or ordinances. Such signs shall be limited to one in number and one and one-third square feet in surface area unless a greater number of signs or a larger surface area is specifically required by such laws, regulations or ordinances.
  6. Bus Stop Signs: Signs erected by a public transit company indicating bus stops.
  7. Historical Markers: Signs erected or placed by a bona fide historical association or by a governmental agency. Such signs shall be directly related to the premises on which they are placed.
  8. Construction Signs: Signs erected at construction projects. Such signs shall contain only the name of the project, the owner of the project, incidental information concerning the project and the name of contractors, subcontractors, developers, rental agents, architects, city planners, engineers and landscape architects directly related to the job.
  9. Direction Signs: Signs not exceeding one and one-third square feet in area, indicating the direction to community buildings, churches, institutions and other public, noncommercial facilities. Such direction signs shall not be placed in any public right-of-way nor in any location where traffic visibility will be obstructed.
  10. Political Signs: Political signs erected in connection with elections or political campaigns provided that: **(Amendment adopted June 6, 2000; effective date of amendment, August 1, 2000.)**
    - a. Such signs are prohibited on utility poles and may not obstruct drivers' vision clearances at an intersection.
    - b. Such signs shall not be posted earlier than 60 days prior to a primary, general or special election and are to be removed within 10 days after the election.
    - c. Such signs shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.
    - d. Signs found to be in violation of this section may be removed by Zoning Enforcement Officers.
- F. Signs Prohibited in All Districts: The following signs shall be prohibited in all districts:
1. Signs, beacons, rotating disks and other devices that resemble traffic signals, traffic signs or emergency vehicle flashing lights or that are likely to be misconstrued by the traveling public as being an official governmental sign or emergency warning or that by their distracting nature create a hazard to motorists.

2. Illuminated signs casting glare into a roadway to an extent that it creates a hazard to motorists.
  3. Flashing signs within 50 feet of a street intersection, measured to the intersection of the two nearest street lines, except in the B-3 Central Business District.
- G. Signs Permitted in Public Rights-of-Way: No sign, banner or poster shall be permitted in any public right-of-way except for the following, provided that only the signs described in 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 below may overhang the traveled vehicular way, and a vertical clearance at 14 feet or more from the vehicular way to the lowest part of such sign must be maintained:
1. Signs erected by the City.
  2. Signs erected by the State Highway Commission.
  3. Bus stop signs erected by a public transit company.
  4. Emergency warning signs erected by a governmental agency, a public utility company or a contractor doing work within the public right-of-way.
  5. Signs in B-3, Central Business District.
  6. Temporary banners, posters and portable signs for messages of a public service nature, such as announcements of charity fund campaigns and community festivals. All persons who place such signs may be required to comply with the indemnification and liability insurance requirements applicable to obstructions of public street. **(Amendment adopted October 15, 1985)**
  7. If subsequent alteration of a street alignment results in nonconformity with these regulations of a sign wholly or partially within or over a public right-of-way, then such sign shall be removed or relocated by its owner at their expense so that it is in conformity with these regulations.
- H. Signs Excluded from Regulations: The following signs are excluded from these regulations:
1. Signs attached to vending machines, gasoline pumps and display racks, when such signs direct attention to products dispensed therefrom and when such signs do not exceed three square feet in area.

2. Signs on the interior of buildings.
  3. Signs not visible from any public way or any adjoining property.
- I. Advertising Sign (Billboard) Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all advertising signs in all districts in which they are permitted: **(Amendment adopted October 3, 1989)**
1. The face of an advertising sign shall not be greater than 14 feet in vertical dimension nor greater than 48 feet in horizontal dimension and shall not contain more than two advertising signs per face nor more than two faces per structure. When two faces are placed on any one structure, they shall be identical in size and shape, shall be placed back to back and shall be aligned vertically and horizontally so that both faces cannot be viewed from any point at the same time. Multiple poles, pipes, girders or other features of an advertising sign structure shall be considered part of a single individual structure. Such signs shall have an open space of not less than ten feet between the lower edge of the sign and the ground level, which space shall be left open and kept free of obstruction of any kind.
  2. No advertising sign structure oriented toward a public right-of-way other than a limited access highway may be within 200 feet of any other advertising sign structure, unless there is an intersecting public street between such signs with a right-of-way not less than 40 feet in width. A painted advertising sign on a wall, roof or fence shall be considered an advertising sign structure.
  3. Outdoor advertising signs (billboards) located within 660 feet of a limited access highway right-of-way shall be governed by the following provisions:
    - a. Maximum height of signs shall be 40 feet from ground level or interstate grade, whichever is higher.
    - b. No sign shall be permitted within 500 linear feet of another outdoor advertising sign that is located on the same side of the interstate.
    - c. Outdoor advertising signs shall not be permitted within a 500-foot radius of the intersecting centerlines within an interchange on a limited access highway.

J. Business Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all business signs in all districts in which they are permitted:

1. The maximum area and dimensions of all business signs on a lot shall be prescribed for the district in which the lot is located. (Sections 32.12:Y. through 32.12:DD.)
2. Not more than two single-face signs per street frontage of each lot shall be used to advertise any single product or service. Each repetition of a symbol trademark or brand name shall be considered as a separate sign.

K. Identification and Incidental Sign Regulations:

1. Identification Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all identification signs in all districts in which they are permitted:
  - a. The maximum area and dimensions of all identification signs on a lot shall be as prescribed for the district in which the lot is located (Sections 32.12:Y. through 32.12:DD).
  - b. The maximum number of identification signs shall be as prescribed for the district in which the lot is located (Sections 32.12:Y through 32.12:DD).
2. Incidental Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all incidental signs in all districts in which they are permitted:
  - a. Any number of incidental signs shall be permitted provided, however, that no such signs shall exceed one and one-half square feet in surface area, except as provided in subparagraphs b. and c. directly below.
  - b. Directional signs for parking or traffic control shall not exceed three square feet in surface below.
  - c. One sign with a maximum surface area of nine square feet shall be permitted for each parking or loading area. Said sign may identify such loading or parking area, state restrictions as to the use of such area and give the name and address of the owner.

- L. Temporary Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all temporary signs in all districts in which they are permitted, except signs described in 32.12:G.6. above: **(Amendment adopted June 6, 2000; effective date of amendment, August 1, 2000)**
1. Temporary signs shall be allowed for activities expressly permitted in the zoning district in which the business is located.
  2. Temporary signs shall not exceed 32 square feet in area. Surface calculations shall not count against minimum area requirements for any permanent business or identification sign.
  3. One temporary sign shall be allowed per business location address on individual lots and within unified business developments. **(Amendment adopted July 10, 2001)**
  4. Temporary signs may be placed in required front yards provided that the placement of such signs will not obstruct visual clearance from any direction; however, temporary signs shall be placed at least ten feet behind the curb or edge of pavement of any public street and shall not be placed on a public right-of-way or sight easement area except in conformance with Section 32.12:G of this ordinance. **(Amendment adopted July 10, 2001)**
  5. Temporary signs may be lighted in an indirect manner, that is by light sources not visible to the eye from any point when viewing the sign. Indirect lighting includes light sources concealed within plastic signs. No flashing lights or exposed light sources shall be permitted, and all electrical wires and connections shall be completely waterproof. Signs shall be grounded as required by the National Electrical Code and as recommended by the Chief Inspector of the City. **(Amendment adopted July 10, 2001)**
- M. Ground Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all ground signs in all districts in which they are permitted: **(Amendment adopted October 25, 1977)**
1. No ground sign shall exceed 20 feet in height above the ground level at the base of such sign or street grade level, whichever may be the higher. **(Amendment adopted March 16, 2004)**
  2. No ground sign shall be located closer than five feet from any street right-of-way provided they do not obstruct the view of traffic. The maximum square footage of a ground sign shall be 100 square feet. **(Amendment adopted March 16, 2004)**

3. Ground signs may be placed in a masonry, metal or wood planter base not exceeding 24 inches in height measured from the ground and not exceeding 12 inches beyond the outer dimensions of the sign area. Such planter base shall not be included in the sign area or height calculations; however, no advertising or lettering of any type shall be permitted on such planter.

N. Marquee Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all marquee signs in all districts in which they are permitted:

1. Marquee signs may extend over a required front yard or sidewalk, provided that a vertical clearance of eight feet or more is maintained beneath the sign.
2. No marquee sign shall be closer than two feet, measured in horizontal distance, from the curb line of any street.
3. The maximum height and width of marquee signs are determined as follows: **(Amendment adopted January 3, 1984)**

Height: A marquee sign shall not exceed an overall height of five feet.

A marquee sign shall not be attached to a surface or plane having a slope of less than 45 degrees with the horizontal.

No portion of a marquee sign that is attached to a surface or plane having a slope of greater than or equal to 45 degrees with the horizontal may extend above or below the plane to which it is attached.

The restrictions on height of a marquee sign that is attached to a curved surface shall be governed by the slope of the plane that connects the lowest and highest points on the curved surface.

Width: No portion of a marquee sign shall extend beyond either end of the hood, canopy, marquee or projecting roof structure to which it is attached.

4. The entire face of any marquee sign shall be parallel to the edge of the marquee to which it is attached at the point of attachment, except for motion picture theaters and public auditoriums.
- O. Pole Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all pole signs in all districts in which they are permitted: **(Amendment adopted October 25, 1977)**
1. No pole sign that is an advertising sign or an incidental sign shall be more than 28 feet in height above the ground level at the base of such sign or street grade level, whichever is higher.
  2. No pole sign that is a business sign or identification sign shall be more than 40 feet in height above the ground at the base of such sign or street grade level, whichever may be the higher, except as follows:
    - a. The maximum permitted height of a pole sign in a Commercial or Industrial District, when such sign is within 150 feet of the right-of-way of a controlled or limited access highway, shall be 80 feet, measured from the top of the sign to the ground at the base of the sign or street grade level, whichever may be higher.

- b. The maximum permitted height of a pole sign in a Commercial or Industrial District, when such sign is within 400 feet of the right-of-way of a limited access highway and when such sign is within 150 feet of the right-of-way of a street intersecting with and having direct access to a limited access highway, shall be 80 feet, measured from the top of the sign to the ground at the base of the sign or street grade, whichever may be higher.
      - c. Any pole sign exceeding 40 feet in height shall only direct attention to a highway-oriented business establishment, such as a gasoline station, restaurant or lodging facility, and shall not be more than 400 feet from the premises of such establishment. Not more than one single-face or double-face sign exceeding 40 feet in height will be permitted per establishment.
      - d. The total area of any pole sign exceeding 40 feet in height shall not be more than 250 feet square feet per sign face. The maximum vertical dimension of such sign face shall not exceed 30 feet, and the maximum horizontal dimension of such sign face shall not exceed 25 feet.
3. Notwithstanding any restriction noted in 1 or 2 above, pole signs may be erected in a masonry, metal or wood planter base which shall not be calculated in determining sign area or height but which shall not exceed 24 inches above ground level nor exceed 12 inches beyond the outer dimensions of the sign area.
4. Pedestals for supporting members shall not be higher than two and one-half feet above the ground except as noted in 3 above.
5. All structural and ornamental members other than the vertical supports or pedestals shall not exceed two percent of the total space beneath the sign structure and shall not obstruct the view from one side of the sign structure to the other.
6. Pole signs may be erected in required front yards or required side yards adjoining a public street, provided they are at least five feet from any public right-of-way; do not obstruct the view of traffic; and, do not exceed the following limitations: **(Amendment adopted March 16, 2004)**
  - a. For lots with a continuous frontage on a single street of 100 feet or less, the maximum permitted area per sign face on that frontage shall not exceed 150 square feet.

- b. For lots with a continuous frontage on a single street of more than 100 feet, the maximum permitted area per sign face on that frontage shall not exceed 150 square feet plus one additional square foot of frontage exceeding 100 feet, provided that the total sign area per face does not exceed 250 square feet.
    - c. In any case, pole sign areas shall be calculated as part of the total sign area permitted on any lot.
  - 7. No pole sign shall be permitted inside any public right-of-way, except in B-3, Central Business District, where a pole sign with no moving parts and not exceeding 100 square feet of area per face and maintaining a vertical clearance of nine feet or more above the ground level may project 18 inches over a sidewalk area, but shall in no case be nearer than two feet measured in horizontal distance from the curb line of any street. No supports or pedestals for any pole sign may be placed inside any public right-of-way.
- P. Projecting Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all projecting signs in all districts in which they are permitted:

1. A projecting sign may not extend above the top of the wall to which it is attached.
  2. A projecting sign may not extend into a required front yard by more than six feet or into a public right-of-way by more than 18 inches, provided that any projecting sign that is less than 10 feet above the street grade shall not extend into a public right-of-way more than six inches.
  3. Any projecting sign over a public right-of-way shall have a vertical clearance of not less than nine feet above the ground level, and it shall not be nearer than two feet measured in horizontal distance from the curb line of any street.
- Q. Roof Sign Regulations: Roof signs are not permitted within the Affected Territory, as defined in Section 32.2, Paragraph A.
- R. Suspended Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all suspended signs in all districts in which they are permitted:
1. Suspended signs shall maintain a vertical clearance of not less than eight feet above any sidewalk or pedestrian way.
  2. Suspended signs shall not be larger than three square feet in area, except those in the Central Business District Urban Redevelopment Area. The City Council may permit a theme-type system of suspended signs specifically designed for the CBD Redevelopment Area, except no sign shall exceed a total of six square feet in area. **(Amendment adopted August 2, 1977)**
  3. Suspended signs shall not be nearer than two feet measured in horizontal distance to the curb line of any street.
  4. Suspended signs shall not extend beyond the surface from which they are suspended.
- S. Wall Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all wall signs in all districts in which they are permitted:
1. A wall sign shall not extend beyond the building line more than six inches.
  2. A wall sign shall not extend into any public right-of-way, except that a sign with a vertical clearance of not less than nine feet above the ground level may extend six inches into a public right-of-way.
  3. A wall sign shall not extend beyond the ends of the wall to which it is attached.

4. No wall sign or sign structure shall extend above the top of the wall to which it is attached.
  5. No wall sign shall be so erected as to cover the doors or windows of any building or otherwise prevent free ingress and egress to or from any window, door or fire escape.
- T. Awning Sign Regulations: The following regulations shall apply to all awning signs in all districts in which they are permitted:
1. All awning signs shall be flat against the surface of such awning.
  2. All awning signs within a public right-of-way or required front yard shall maintain a vertical clearance of eight feet or more above the ground or sidewalk level and shall not be closer than two feet measured in horizontal distance from the curb line of any street nor shall they extend more than five feet into a public right-of-way.
- U. Banner Sign Regulations: All banners except for flags which hoisted and removed daily shall be subject to regulations applying to temporary signs.
- V. Poster Regulations: All posters shall be subject to regulations applying to temporary signs.
- W. Portable Sign Regulations: All portable signs shall be subject to regulations applying to temporary signs.
- X. Non-Conforming Signs: Non-conforming signs existing on the effective date of this ordinance may remain in place and be maintained for three years after the effective date of this ordinance, except that no non-conforming sign shall be altered to 50 percent or more of its current value unless it is made to conform to the requirements of this section. Within three years after the effective date of this ordinance, non-conforming signs shall be removed.
- Y. Signs Permitted in R-30, R-15, R-12, R-9, R-6, R-M, MF-A and MF-B Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in R-30, R-15, R-12, R-9, R-6, R-M, MF-A and MF-B Districts:
1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose: **(Amendment adopted November 6, 2001, eliminating business signs in Unified Business Developments only)**

Identification Signs  
Incidental Signs

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type, except as noted below in 3.a: **(Amendment adopted October 25, 1977)**

Awning Signs and Banners in Unified Business Developments only  
Ground Signs  
Marquee Signs  
Posters in Unified Business Developments only  
Projecting Signs in Unified Business Developments only  
Wall Signs  
Suspended Signs

3. Maximum Size Signs Permitted:

- a. Signs permitted for the following uses shall not exceed one square foot in surface area and shall be wall-type signs only:

Accessory Buildings  
Boarding House, Rooming House  
Dwellings  
Child Care Facilities  
Home Occupations  
Home Professional Offices

- b. Signs permitted for the following uses shall not exceed nine square feet in area:

Agricultural uses  
Churches and other places of worship  
Clubs and lodges  
Nursing homes, convalescent homes, homes for the aged, rest homes  
Public utilities  
Swimming pools  
Tourist homes

- c. Signs permitted for the following uses shall not exceed 25 square feet in area:

Airports  
Athletic fields, recreation buildings, playgrounds  
Cemeteries  
Colleges, universities  
Community buildings  
Golf courses  
Governmental buildings  
Helistops  
Hospitals  
Philanthropic and eleemosynary institutions  
Parks and Recreation areas  
Public buildings  
Schools  
Transportation terminals

d. Identification Signs for Public Schools:

Identification signs for public schools shall not exceed 50 square feet in area, including architectural embellishments and structural materials provided, however, that the length to width or the width to length ratio shall not exceed four to one (4:1). All other sign regulations for the district in which such sign shall be located shall be strictly observed.

4. Number of Signs Permitted: Only one sign per lot for each use shall be permitted except for the following uses for which the number of signs permitted is indicated:

<b>USE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SIGNS PERMITTED</b>
Multifamily Developments (including townhouse developments)	one identification sign per abutting street (12 square feet)  one identification sign per building (three square feet)  any number of incidental signs
Athletic Fields	one identification sign at each entrance  two scoreboards  any number of incidental signs
Cemeteries	one identification sign at each entrance  any number of incidental signs
Churches and other places of worship	one identification signs for each street frontage  one bulletin board  any number of incidental signs

<b>USE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SIGNS PERMITTED</b>
Colleges, Universities	one identification sign per entrance one identification sign per building one temporary sign per 1,000 feet of street frontage any number of incidental signs
Community Buildings, Recreation Buildings, Playgrounds	one identification sign per street frontage one bulletin board one temporary sign any number of incidental signs
Hospitals	one identification sign per entrance one identification sign per building any number of incidental signs
Mobile Home Parks	one identification sign per abutting street (12 square feet) any number of incidental signs
Public Buildings	one identification sign for each street frontage or major entrance one temporary sign any number of incidental signs

5. Illumination and Movement: All permitted signs shall be non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated, except that signs identifying emergency entrances to hospitals may be directly illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining properties. No moving signs or flashing illuminating devices shall be permitted.
6. Projection of Signs Over Public Right-Of-Way: No sign in an R-M, R-6, R-9, R-12, R-15, R-30, MF-A or MF-B District shall be permitted to project over or into the public right-of-way.

Z. Signs Permitted in Office-Institutional Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in Office-Institutional Districts:

1. Uses Permitted in Residential and Multifamily Districts: Sign regulations for all uses in Office-Institutional Districts that are permitted in R-M, R-6, R-9, R-12, R-15, R-30, MF-A and MF-B Districts shall be the same as the sign regulations for said R-M, R-6, R-9, R-12, R-15, R-30, MF-A and MF-B Districts.

2. Other Uses Permitted in Office-Institutional Districts: The requirements of Subparagraphs three through seven directly below shall apply to signs for all uses permitted in Office-Institutional Districts that are not permitted in Residential and Multifamily Districts.

3. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

Identification Signs

Incidental Signs

4. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

Ground Signs

Projecting Signs

Marquee Signs

Suspended Signs

Pole Signs

Wall Signs

5. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: No sign face shall be larger than 32 square feet in area. The total aggregate area of all faces of all identification signs shall not exceed two square feet per lineal foot of street frontage. **(Amendment adopted June 7, 2011)**

6. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) one wall sign and/or one marquee sign; or (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs except incidental signs shall not exceed the maximum area permitted in Subparagraph 5 directly above. **(Amendment adopted June 7, 2011)**

7. Illumination and Movement: All permitted signs shall be non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining properties. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

AA. Signs Permitted in B-1 Neighborhood Business Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in B-1 Districts:

1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

Business Signs  
Incidental Signs

Identification Signs

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

Ground Signs  
Marquee Signs  
Pole Signs  
Projecting Signs  
Posters

Suspended Signs  
Wall Signs  
Awning Signs  
Banners

3. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: The maximum total area of all business and identification signs shall not exceed three square feet per lineal foot of street frontage. For each sign in addition to one, however, the total maximum sign area shall be reduced by five percent, provided, however, that the total permitted sign area shall not be reduced to less than 50 percent of the maximum allowable, regardless of the number of signs. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

4. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) one wall sign and/or one marquee sign; (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs except incidental signs shall not exceed the maximum area permitted. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

5. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining residential properties. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

BB. Signs Permitted in B-2 Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in B-2 Districts:

1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose: **(Amendment adopted August 30, 1977)**

All types except advertising signs; however, advertising signs are also permitted in B-2, General Business Districts, that are within 100 feet of a limited access highway when such signs are used for the purpose of advertising a business located within 1,000 feet of a limited access highway.

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

All types except roof signs, which are **not** permitted.

3. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: The maximum total area of all business signs, all identification signs and all advertising signs shall not exceed four square feet per lineal foot of street frontage. For each sign in addition to one, however, the total maximum sign area shall be reduced by five percent, provided, however, that the total permitted sign area shall not be reduced to less than 50 percent of the maximum allowable, regardless of the number of signs. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

4. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) one wall sign and/or one marquee sign; (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs except incidental signs shall not exceed the maximum area permitted. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

5. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining residential properties. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

CC. Signs Permitted in B-3, Central Business District: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in B-3 Districts:

1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

Business Signs  
Incidental Signs

Identification Signs

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

All types **except** roof signs, which are **not** permitted.

3. Maximum Sign Area: The total area of all business and identification signs shall not exceed three square feet per lineal foot of street frontage. For each sign in addition to one, however, the total maximum sign area shall be reduced by five percent, provided, however, that the total permitted sign area shall not be reduced to less than 50 percent of the maximum allowable, regardless of the number of signs. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

4. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) Two wall signs and/or one marquee sign; (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs, except incidental signs, shall not exceed the maximum area permitted. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

5. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

DD. Signs Permitted in I-1 and I-1A, Planned Industrial Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in I-1 and I-1A Districts: **(Amendment adopted November 21, 1989)**

1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

Business signs  
Incidental Signs

Identification Signs

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

All types

3. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: The maximum total sign area of all business signs and identification signs shall not exceed one square foot per lineal foot of street frontage.
4. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) one wall sign and/or one marquee sign; (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs except incidental signs shall not exceed the maximum area permitted. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**
5. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining properties. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

EE. Signs Permitted in I-2 and I-3 Districts: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in I-2 and I-3 Districts:

1. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

All types

2. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

All types **except** roof signs, which are **not** permitted.

3. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: The maximum total area of all business signs, all identification signs and all advertising signs shall not exceed four square feet per lineal foot of street frontage. For each sign in addition to one, however, the total maximum sign area shall be reduced by five percent, provided, however, that the total permitted sign area shall not be reduced to less than 50 percent of the maximum allowable, regardless of the number of signs. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

4. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted: The following signs may be placed upon any wall or marquee of a building in one of the following combinations: (1) one wall sign and/or one marquee sign; (2) one projecting sign and/or one marquee sign. The total area of all signs except incidental signs shall not exceed the maximum area permitted. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

5. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. However, signs placed upon the walls or marquee of a building coincident with or facing residentially zoned property or property in residential use shall be non-illuminated. Illuminating devices shall be shielded so as not to cast direct light on adjoining residential properties. Flashing signs and moving signs shall not be permitted except emergency warning signals. **(Amendment adopted November 15, 2005)**

FF. Signs Permitted in Unified Business Developments: The following regulations shall apply to all signs that are located in a Unified Business Development: **(Amendment adopted November 6, 2001)**

1. Master Signage Plan: When more than one use or business is located within a Unified Business Development, the overall signage plan for the lot shall be a master signage plan that shall provide for consistency among signs on the premises with regard to location of a pole sign, location of each sign on the buildings and lighting. The master signage plan shall be approved by the Inspection Director or designee prior to the issuance of any sign permits on the lot.
2. Signs Permitted According to Purpose: The following signs shall be permitted according to purpose:

All types **except** advertising (billboard) signs, which are **not** permitted.
3. Signs Permitted According to Structural Type: The following signs shall be permitted according to structural type:

All types **except** roof signs, which are **not** permitted.
4. Maximum Sign Area Permitted: Same sign regulations as for B-1 Districts. And, in addition, the maximum size of each individual business sign and/or identification sign shall not exceed 150 square feet in surface area.
5. Maximum Number of Signs Permitted:
  - a. Within a Unified Business Development, pole signs shall be limited to one per development.
  - b. Out-Parcel Lots: When an out-parcel lot is developed in conjunction with or subsequent to the development of a Unified Business Development, no pole sign shall be permitted on the out-parcel lot. Ground signs and/or wall signs may be permitted. However, the square footage will be counted against the overall sign allowance for the Unified Business Development.
6. Illumination and Movement: Signs may be directly illuminated, indirectly illuminated or non-illuminated. Flashing signs and moving signs are not permitted. Illuminated devices shall be shielded so as not to cast light on adjoining residential properties.