

TOWN ZONING REGULATIONS AMENDMENT
Adopted by the Select Board
July 16, 2015

SECTION 526 SIGNS

A. Exempt Signs

A permit is not required under the following circumstances:

1. Contractors: one 4 square foot sign during construction;
2. Commercial establishments: one 1 square foot “open/closed” sign and one 12 square foot “open” banner;
3. Real Estate For Sale: one 4 square foot sign, one additional six inch wide insert, placed within the frame is allowed.
4. Temporary current events (garage sales, auctions, fairs, etc.): one 12 square foot temporary sign on display for no longer than 7 consecutive days;
5. In rural and residential districts: affixed signs, not exceeding one square foot, noting such items as house dates and names;
6. One 12 square foot sandwich board sign per parcel may be placed at retail establishments in a Commercial/Light Industrial zone providing it is removed at nightfall, and does not block one’s vision entering and exiting the premises.

B. Prohibited Signs

1. Flashing or moving signs;
2. Neon type signs;
3. Illuminated signs outlining any part of the building (e.g., gable, roof, sidewalk, corner);
4. Internally illuminated signs;
5. All other signs not specifically allowed are prohibited;
6. No sign shall be placed within the state or town highway right-of-way.

C. General Rules

1. An outdoor sign pertaining directly to the use of the premises on which it is to be located shall be considered incidental to such primary use and subject to the following requirements.
2. Unless specifically exempted or restricted, any new sign and any change in size or location of an existing sign requires an Administrative permit.
3. No outdoor sign shall be permitted which does not pertain to the use of the premises on which it is located, except a temporary sign giving notice of current events.
4. All defunct signs shall be removed within 30 days of cessation or abandonment of business.
5. Nonconforming signs shall be brought into conformance if removed for a period of more than one year.
6. Signs shall not block motorist or pedestrian line of sight.
7. Illumination:
 - a. Excessive lighting (constituting a nuisance) is prohibited.
 - b. Illumination shall be shielded and focused only on the sign to protect the night sky and traffic. Downlighting of signs is encouraged.
 - c. Signs shall not be illuminated after 11:00 PM except hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, restaurants (while open) and emergency facilities.

D. Commercial Districts and Uses

Each establishment or enterprise is entitled to two main outdoor advertising signs, except for the exemption of D.2.e., and is subject to the following conditions:

1. Placement:
 - a. Setback: With the exception of instructional signs, all signs shall be set back at least one-half the required setback distance or equal to the existing setback if the commercial building is nonconforming.
 - b. Freestanding signs shall be located between 3 feet and 10 feet above ground level.
 - c. Projecting signs shall be at least 9 feet and no more than 20 feet above ground level and shall not project more than one-half the width of a public walkway.
 - d. Affixed signs shall not exceed the highest point of the building.