

# Sign Code

## Randolph County Area Plan Commission

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### A. Sign Standards.

#### 1. General.

- a. Repealer. This ordinance replaces the following sections of the current Zoning Ordinance that are in place on this date of passage:
  - i. Section 3.11 Signs in the Agricultural Limited District
  - ii. Section 3.I-11 Signs in the Agricultural Districts
  - iii. Section 4.11 Signs in the Residential Districts
  - iv. Section 5.13 Signs in the Commercial Districts
  - v. Section 6.13 Signs in the Industrial Districts
  - vi. Section 6.14 Additional Requirements and Standards
  - vii. Section 16.7.5 Signage for WECS
  - viii. The following terms within the Definitions section are deleted:
    - (a) Animated Sign
    - (b) Banner
    - (c) Beacon
    - (d) Billboard
    - (e) Building Marker
    - (f) Internal Lighting
    - (g) Sign
    - (h) Sign, Advertising
    - (i) Sign, Animated
    - (j) Sign, Announcement
    - (k) Sign Area
    - (l) Sign, Building
    - (m) Sign, Business Hours
    - (n) Sign, Canopy
    - (o) Sign, Changeable Copy
    - (p) Sign, Commercial or Industrial
    - (q) Sign, Deceptive

- (r) Sign, Display Surface
- (s) Sign, Electric
- (t) Sign, Electronic Message
- (u) Sign, Event Oriented
- (v) Sign, Flashing
- (w) Sign, Freestanding
- (x) Sign, Garage Sale, Yard Sale, and Auction
- (y) Sign, Gateway
- (z) Sign, Hanging
- (aa) Sign, Historic
- (bb) Sign, Historic Place
- (cc) Sign, Movable
- (dd) Sign, Neon
- (ee) Sign, Non-conforming
- (ff) Sign, Obsolete
- (gg) Sign, Official
- (hh) Sign, Off-premise
- (ii) Sign, Off-premise Advertising
- (jj) Sign, Obsolete Advertising
- (kk) Sign, On-premise
- (ll) Sign, "open" and "closed"
- (mm) Sign, Outdoor Advertising
- (nn) Sign, Parking
- (oo) Sign, Permanent
- (pp) Sign, Political Election
- (qq) Sign, Portable
- (rr) Sign, Prohibited
- (ss) Sign, Public
- (tt) Sign, Real Estate
- (uu) Sign, Roof
- (vv) Sign, Temporary
- (ww) Sign, Time and Temperature
- (xx) Sign, Two-sided

- (yy) Sign, Wall
- (zz) Sign, Window

- b. Application. These sign standards apply to uses that are permitted in each respective zoning district by right, special exception, or use variance.
- c. Intent of these Regulations. The intent of these sign standards is to:
  - i. accomplish the goals of the Comprehensive Plan;
  - ii. regulate time, place, and characteristics of signs;
  - iii. avoid the proliferation of signs;
  - iv. provide businesses with appropriate identification;
  - v. create a consistent streetscape;
  - vi. maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment of the jurisdiction;
  - vii. eliminate potential hazards to motorists and pedestrians resulting from sign clutter; and
  - viii. promote the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the jurisdiction.
- d. Sign Types. The different types of signs addressed in this ordinance are defined in *Section 7: Definitions*.
  - i. Permitted Signs. The types of signs specifically permitted in each in each zoning district and their respective regulations are listed in this chapter.
  - ii. Prohibited Signs. Unless specifically permitted, all other types of signs are prohibited in each zoning district. In addition, the following types of signs are prohibited in all districts:
    - (a) Animated Signs: Signs that gain attention through animation, including:
      - (1) Signs that utilize any motion picture, laser, or visual projection of images or copy.
      - (2) Signs that emit audible sound, odor or visible matter.
      - (3) Signs that have blinking, flashing, or fluttering lights or which has a changing light intensity, brightness or color, or give such illusion.
    - (b) Misleading Signs: Signs that are misleading include:
      - (1) Signs that purport to be or are in imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal or which bear the words "Stop", "Slow", "Caution", "Danger", "Warning", or similar words.
      - (2) Signs that may be construed as or have on it a light of an emergency or road equipment vehicle.
    - (c) Roof Signs: Signs to be placed on the roofs of structures and signs that extend above the roof line or parapet of a building.
    - (d) Vehicle Signs: Vehicle signs are prohibited when the vehicle is parked on public or private property for the primary purpose of displaying the sign.

Prohibited vehicle signs are not to be construed as vehicles with signs on them that:

- (1) are lawfully parked overnight or during nonbusiness hours for that operation, on public or private property;
- (2) are making deliveries, sales calls, or customary practices relating to doing business;
- (3) are making trips to transport persons or property; or
- (4) are in conjunction with customary construction operations on a construction site.

(e) Other Prohibited Signs:

- (1) Trailblazer or point of destination signs;
- (2) Search lights;
- (3) Pennants, streamers, and/or spinners;
- (4) Bench signs;
- (5) Signs with moving or movable parts; and
- (6) Obscene signs that contain profane language, male genitalia, and/or female genitalia.

iii. Devices Exempt from These Regulations. The following devices are not considered to be signs, do not require an ILP, are specifically exempt from these regulations, and their respective limitations include:

(a) Building Addresses.

(b) Directional Devices: Directional devices if installed as follows:

- (1) Use: Directional devices shall be used to indicate points of entry or exit for a business, public amenity, or off-street parking area.
- (2) Area: Directional devices are limited to a maximum of four (4) square feet in area per entrance.
- (3) Height: Directional devices are limited to a maximum of forty-two (42) inches in height above the ground.
- (4) Placement:
  - a. Directional devices shall not interfere with safe vehicular or pedestrian traffic circulations.
  - b. Directional devices shall not obstruct the view of drivers entering or exiting the lot or parcel.
  - c. Directional devices shall not be placed within a public right-of-way.
  - d. Directional devices shall be on the property to which it refers.
- (5) Quantity: No more than two (2) directional devices shall be used per street frontage, with a maximum of four (4) per lot or parcel.

- (6) Message: Directional devices without a logo may contain information such as "in", "enter", "entrance", "out", "exit", "do not enter" or directional arrows indicating desired traffic movement.
- (c) Flags: The flag, pennant, or insignia of any nation, state, city or other political unit are exempt, but shall not be mounted more than thirty-five (35) feet in height and be more than forty (40) square feet in area (e.g. a five (5) foot by eight (8) foot flag).
- (d) Holiday Decorations: Holiday decorations are exempt and may include window painting, trees, wreaths, decorative lighting, and similar seasonal displays that do not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising.
- (e) Murals: Murals are exempt provided that the mural does not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising. Murals with non-commercial messages require approval by the legislative body before being installed.
- (f) Scoreboards: Scoreboards are exempt from needing a permit as follows: (1) when used in conjunction with a legally established sport field, and (2) when not containing any commercial messages, and (3) when the scoreboard does not exceed twenty (20) feet in height above the ground, and (4) when the total scoreboard area does not exceed one hundred (100) square feet, and (5) when the scoreboards are single sided.
- (g) Wayfinding Structures: Wayfinding structures if erected by the municipality.
- e. Sign Permits. A sign permit is required for all permanent signs located, erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, and altered unless otherwise stated in the in this section.
- f. Installation. The ground shall not be raised or lowered to artificially change the point at which a sign height is measured.
- g. Location and Placement.
  - i. Signs may not be installed at any of the following locations:
    - (a) In any public right-of-way, unless specifically authorized by the legislative body or their designee;
    - (b) In any utility easement unless authorized by the legislative body or their designee;
    - (c) In any no-build or no-disturb zone;
    - (d) In any public park or other public property, with the exception of those signs specifically permitted in this ordinance;
    - (e) On any traffic control signs, highway construction signs, fences, utility poles, street signs, trees, or other natural objects;
    - (f) Obstructing any door, fire escape, stairway, or any opening intended to provide entrance or exit for any building or structure; or

- (g) In a manner that obstructs or interferes with safe movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- h. Computations.
  - i. Area.
    - (a) Individual Sign. The area of a sign face (which is also the sign area of a wall sign or other sign with only one (1) face) shall be computed by means of the smallest rectangle that will encompass the extreme limits of the sign, but not including any supporting framework, bracing, or decorative fence or wall when such fence or wall otherwise meets the regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself.
    - (b) Multifaceted Sign. For purposes of calculating the permitted sign area, the average of the individual sign areas shall be used. *(For example, the average area of a two-faced sign with a cumulative total of 400sqft shall be 200sqft).* For purposes of calculating the permit fee for a multifaceted sign, the total cumulative area of the individual sign areas shall be used. *(For example, the permit fee of a two-faced sign with a cumulative total of 400sqft shall be based on 400sqft).*
  - ii. Height.
    - (a) 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 or structure supporting the sign.
    - (b) Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of (1) existing grade prior to construction or (2) the newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding, or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign. In cases in which the normal grade cannot reasonably be determined, sign height shall be computed on the assumption that the elevation of the normal grade at the base of the sign is equal to the elevation of the nearest point of the crown of a public street or the grade of the land at the principal entrance to the principal structure on the zone lot or parcel, whichever is lower.
  - iii. Maximum Total Permitted Sign Area for a Lot or Parcel. The permitted sum of the area of all individual signs on a lot or parcel shall be computed by applying the regulations for the road frontage, building frontage, or wall area for each respective sign and zoning district in which the lot or parcel is located.
- i. Maintenance. All signs and components thereof shall be kept in good repair and in safe, neat, clean, and working condition.
- j. Abandoned Signs and Uses. All signs, their mounting, and related components shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the day the business which it identifies is no longer conducted. When a permanent, multi-tenant sign exists that allows a "face-out/face-in" change to identify a new business, said sign may be left in place, but must be covered with a durable and attractive material. Under no circumstances shall any permanent sign be left in place for more than three (3)

months. The owner of the premise upon which the sign is located is responsible for its removal or covering.

- k. Non-conforming Signs. Signs existing prior to the adoption of these sign regulations shall be classified as follows:
  - i. Conforming: the sign meets the new regulations;
  - ii. Legally non-conforming: the sign met the old regulations and is allowed to remain, but cannot be expanded or replaced; or
  - iii. Illegal:
    - (a) The sign did not obtain an ILP prior to being erected, and/or
    - (b) The sign did not meet the old regulations and does not meet the new regulations.
- l. Violations and Penalties.
  - i. Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the provisions of this ordinance will result in notices, enforcement, and applicable penalties.
  - ii. Repeat Violation: A repeat violation means a violation of a specific provision of this section by a person or property owner who has been previously found to have violated the same provision within a period of five (5) years prior to a subsequent violation. If a repeat violation is found, the Administrator shall document the violation, but is not required to notify the violator of the repeat violation or required to give the violator time to correct the violation before proceeding with enforcement measures and penalties.
- m. Table Interpretation
  - i. Total Permanent Signs: This is the cumulative total number of permanent signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel. Furthermore, the quantity of sign by type may be limited by the respective standards for the subject district.
  - ii. Total Temporary Signs: This is the cumulative total number of temporary signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel. Furthermore, the quantity of signs by type may be limited by the respective standards for the subject district.
  - iii. Maximum Cumulative Area: This is the maximum cumulative area of permanent signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel, measured in square feet.
  - iv. Permitted Signs: These are the types of permanent and temporary signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel.
  - v. Prohibited Signs: These are the types of signs that are prohibited on the subject lot or parcel.

## 2. Agricultural Sign Standards for Districts: AG-L, AG-I

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wall sign</li> <li>• free-standing sign</li> </ul>	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Permitted Temporary Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wall sign</li> <li>• free-standing sign</li> </ul>	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	25 feet above curb level	15 feet	
Setback	NA	20 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>• No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-Standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	25' Above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>• No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			



### 3. Residential Sign Standards for Districts: A-R, R-1, R-2, R-3

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wall sign</li> <li>free-standing sign</li> </ul>	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Permitted Temporary Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wall sign</li> <li>free-standing sign</li> </ul>	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-Standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	15 feet above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	15 feet above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			

#### 4. Commercial Sign Standards for Districts: C-1, C-2, and C-3

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wall sign</li> <li>free-standing sign</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 wall signs</li> <li>1 free-standing sign</li> </ul>	120 sqft
Permitted Temporary Signs	free-standing sign	1	per regulations by sign type in tables below
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family or Two-family Residential Use: 1 per dwelling unit</li> <li>Multi-family Residential Use: 1 per primary structure</li> <li>Non-residential Use: 1 per primary structure</li> <li>Corner lot or parcel: 1 per street frontage, maximum 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family or Two-family Residential Use: 1</li> <li>Multi-family Residential Use: 1</li> <li>Non-residential Use: 1</li> <li>Corner lot or parcel: 1</li> </ul>	
Maximum Area	10 sqft	1 sqft per 10 linear feet of street frontage of the lot or parcel.	
Maximum Height*	15 feet above curb level	15 feet	
Setback	NA	5 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signs may have constant internal or external illumination. External illumination shall be shielded from residences and the street.</li> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Free-standing Signs		
Maximum Quantity	1 per lot or parcel or business		
Maximum Area	15 sqft		
Maximum Height*	10 feet		
Setback	5 feet		
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> <li>Signs may only be displayed during hours of operation</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			

## 5. Industrial Sign Standards for Districts: M-1 and M-2

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wall sign</li> <li>free-standing sign</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 wall sign</li> <li>1 free-standing sign</li> </ul>	500 sqft
Permitted Temporary Signs	free-standing sign	2	per regulations by sign type in tables below
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Quantity	1	1	
Maximum Area	100 sqft	10 sqft per 10 linear feet of street frontage of the lot or parcel.	
Maximum Height*	30 feet above curb level	30 feet	
Setback	NA	5 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signs may have constant internal or external illumination. External illumination shall be shielded from residences and the street.</li> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Free-standing Signs		
Maximum Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 per lot or parcel or business</li> <li>Corner lot or parcel: 1 per street frontage, maximum 2</li> </ul>		
Maximum Area	15 sqft		
Maximum Height*	10 feet		
Setback	5 feet		
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business</li> <li>No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way</li> </ul>		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			

## 6. Definitions

### a. General.

- i. Terms. The terms and words defined in this Section shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them.
- ii. Undefined Terms. Any words not defined in this Section shall be construed as defined in the current Zoning Ordinance. If not defined in the current Zoning Ordinance, then the definition shall be as established for normal dictionary usage.
- iii. Tense and Form. Words used or defined in one tense or form shall include other tenses and derivative forms.
- iv. Number. Words in the singular number shall include the plural number, and words in the plural number shall include the singular number.
- v. Gender. The masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter. The feminine gender shall include the masculine and neuter. The neuter gender shall include the masculine and feminine.
- vi. Person. The word "person" includes individuals, firms, partnerships, joint ventures, trusts, trustees, estates, corporations, associations, and any other similar entities.
- vii. Captions, Illustrations, and Tables. In case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this ordinance and any caption, illustration, or table, the text shall control and no caption, illustration, or table shall be construed to limit the scope or intent of the text of this ordinance.

**ADMINISTRATOR**

The APC or a person designated by the APC to provide staff support to the APC and BZA and to enforce this ordinance under the supervision of the APC.

**INTERNAL ILLUMINATION**

A means of sign illumination in which the characters, letters, fixtures, designs or outlines are illuminated from the inside or behind the sign by electric lights or tubes.

**LOT**

A designated parcel of land established by plat, subdivision, or as otherwise permitted by law, to be separately owned, used, developed, or built upon.

**PARCEL**

Any area of land formally described and recorded with block and lot numbers, by metes and bounds, by ownership, or in any other such a manner as to specifically identify the dimensions and/or boundaries.

**SIGN**

Any name, number, symbol, identification, description, display, graphic, or illustration which is affixed to, painted on, or is represented directly or indirectly upon a structure or lot/parcel, visible from any public right-of-way which directs attention to an object, product, place, activity, person, institution, organization, or business. Religious symbols on places of worship or structures owned and operated by religious organizations shall not be considered a sign unless

accompanied with text. This definition includes backlit plastic panels or strip lighting affixed to any wall or roof where any such panels or lighting serve to identify a business and attract attention rather than to illuminate space for human activity. For purposes of this ordinance, the following signs are defined:

- Animated Sign – Any sign that uses movement or change of artificial and natural lighting or noise to depict action or create a special effect or scene. This includes any directly or indirectly illuminated sign that exhibits changing natural or artificial light or color effects by any means whatsoever. Different from an “electronic sign”, an animated sign produces the illusion of movement by means of electronic, electrical, or electro-mechanical input and/or illumination capable of simulating movement through using the characteristics of one (1) or both of the following classifications:
  - flashing, animated, or animated portions of a sign where the cyclical period between on-off phases of illumination is less than four (4) seconds; and/or
  - patterned illusionary movement in which animated signs or portions of signs whose illumination is characterized by simulated movement.
- Awning - A sign that is attached to an awning, canopy, or other fabric that serves as a structural protective cover over a door, entrance, window, or outdoor service area.
- Banner - A non-rigid cloth, plastic, paper, flag, or canvas sign typically related to a special event or promotion that is cultural, educational, charitable, or recreational in its function, under the sponsorship of a for-profit establishment or business, or a public, private non-profit, or religious organization. Banners also include streamers or ribbon-shaped or cord-like rope which may have pennants and/or banners attached and which is stretched or hung between two (2) or more points of support intended to attract attention.
- Bench Sign - Any sign painted on, located on, or attached to any part of the surface of a bench, seat, or chair placed on or adjacent to a public street.
- Billboard - A sign, at least 300 square feet in area, that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located.
- Changeable Copy - A sign or portion thereof with characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged by mechanical, electronic or manual means without altering the face or surface of the sign.
- Electronic - A sign activated by or illuminated by means of electrical energy whose variable message capability can be electronically programmed.
- Free-standing – A sign that is detached from a building and having a support structure.
- Hanging Sign - A sign that is suspended from the underside of a

horizontal plane surface and is supported by such surface.

- Inflatable - Any device which is capable of being expanded by any gas and used on a permanent or temporary basis to attract attention to a product or event. This definition includes both hot and cold-air balloons tethered or otherwise anchored to the ground.
- Informational - Any on-premise sign which contains no commercial message of any sort and which provides, for example, directions for control of traffic, enter/exit, hours of operation, no smoking, beware of dog, no trespassing, security system present, or other necessary regulatory information. Informational signs shall not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising for products or services offered on site.
- Marker - A sign that:
  - indicates the name of a structure, date, or other incidental information about its construction that is cut into a masonry surface, cast in bronze, or made of other material; or
  - identifies a product in agricultural areas, typically used to identify seed types used in agricultural fields.
- Monument - A type of free-standing sign in which the bottom edge of the sign face is permanently affixed to the ground.
- Pole Sign – A type of free-standing sign that is supported by structures or supports that are placed on and anchored in the ground and that are independent from any structure. A pole sign uses said structures to raise the sign face above the ground more than four (4) inches.
- Portable Sign - Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, structure, or other permanent element. This includes signs that are designed to be:
  - moved/transported by means of wheels or other mechanisms;
  - trailer signs that are attached to, supported by, or part of a structure which is designed to move on trailer wheels, skids, or other similar devices, or transported, pushed, or pulled by a motor vehicle;
  - converted to A-frames or T-frames such as menu or sandwich board signs;
  - balloons used as signs;
  - umbrellas used for advertising; and/or other portable devices or structures used for signage.
- Projecting Sign - A sign that is wholly or partly dependent upon a structure for support or suspended from a pole attached to a structure. Such signs must be perpendicular to the structure face upon which they are attached.
- Roof Sign - Any sign partially or fully erected on or above the roof line of a structure.
- Trailblazer Sign - A series of signs directing the motoring public to a specific location on private property.

- Unified Development Sign - A sign that representing a shopping center, office park, industrial park, or other development that contains three (3) or more uses within a single development. A unified development sign is allowed in addition to the permitted signs of the individual tenants.
- Vehicle Sign - A sign that is permanently affixed to the body of, an integral part of, or a fixture of a motor vehicle that is parked or left standing so that it is visible from a public street for a period of more than seventy-two (72) continuous hours for the intent of being used as advertisement. For the purpose of this definition, "permanently affixed" shall mean any of the following:
  - painted directly on the body of a vehicle; applied as a decal on the body of a vehicle; and/or
  - placed in a location on the body of the vehicle that was specifically designed by a vehicle manufacturer.
- Wall Sign - Any sign attached to or erected against the inside or outside wall of a structure with the exposed display surface of the sign in a plane parallel (or relatively parallel) to the plane of the structure.
- Wayfinding Sign - A sign erected by the municipality or a multi-tenant development that displays necessary identification information for the convenience and safety of residents and visitors, and containing no advertising. This includes government-erected signs found along major streets that display company logos for lodging, gasoline stations, restaurants, and other such establishments. Also includes directional signs that provide information regarding location, instructions for use, or functional/directional information.
- Window Sign - Any sign, poster, symbol, or other type of identification or information about the use or premises directly attached to the window of a structure or erected on the inside or outside of the window, which is legible from any part of a public right-of-way or adjacent property. For purposes of this definition, a "window" is defined as an opening in the wall or roof of a structure or vehicle that is fitted with glass or other transparent material in a frame to admit light or air and allow people to see out.

**SIGN AREA**

The entire face of a sign, including the advertising surface and any framing, trim, or molding, but not including the supporting structure.

**SIGN FACE**

The surface intended for the display of information on the sign.

**SIGN HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND**

The vertical measurement from the ground to the top of the sign. The height of all signs shall be measured from the established grade line to the highest point of the sign or its frame/support.

**SIGN STRUCTURE**

The supporting unit of a sign face, including but not limited to frames, braces cabinets, and poles.

**SIGN, ABANDONED**

A sign that is:

- 1) associated with an abandoned use; and/or
- 2) remains after the termination of the business; and/or
- 3) on its immediate premises but not adequately maintained or repaired.

**SIGN, ILLUMINATED**

Any sign lighted by or exposed to artificial lighting either by light on or in the sign or directed toward the sign.

**SIGN, LEGAL NON-CONFORMING**

A pre-existing, legally permitted sign, or portion thereof, which was designed, erected, or structurally altered such that it does not conform to the regulations of the zoning district in which it is located.

**SIGN, PERMANENT**

A sign attached to a permanent structure, foundation, or mounted in the ground in a manner that enables the sign to resist environmental loads, such as wind, and precludes ready removal or movement of the sign. The use of anchor bolts, ropes, stakes, chains, glue, or similar anchoring are not methods recognized by this ordinance as a permanent foundation.

**SIGN, TEMPORARY**

Any sign that is temporarily used for a specific duration of time and is not affixed to a permanent foundation or structure.

**USE, PRIMARY**

The predominant use of any lot or parcel or as determined by the primary structure. In the absence of a primary structure, the primary activity occurring on the property is the primary use.