

Jasper County Sign Permit Application

No signs will be permitted in any right of way

Permit # _____

Date Issued _____

Location _____

Tax Map/Parcel # _____ Zoning _____

Applicant _____

Address _____ City _____

Phone # _____ Phone # _____

Contractor _____ Phone # _____

Sign Type: Advertising Identification Point of business Portable

Brief Description _____

If the sign is on a property that is owned by someone other than yourself you will need a notarized signed statement stating that such sign will be allowed on their property.

Please attach a drawing of the sign (to scale with measurements) with the wording that will be on the sign. A photo will be acceptable for the wording.

We will also need to know the exact placement on the property in relation to the right of way. (Example; 40 feet from edge of road.)

I grant the right-of-entry onto this property, as described above, to the designated personnel of Jasper County for the purpose of inspecting and monitoring for compliance with the aforesaid Ordinance. **You are required to call the office for your final inspection when you are finished (706.468.4940).**

Signature of Applicant _____

Office Use

Drawing received Right of way requirements met

Fee \$ _____ Rec'd by _____ Cash Check # _____

Date: _____ Pass Fail: See notice Inspector _____

Date: _____ Pass Fail: See notice Inspector _____

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SIGNS

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 111-1. Jurisdiction.

This chapter applies to all land within the unincorporated limits of the county.

Sec. 111-2. Purpose.

(a) The purpose of this chapter is to seek to promote aesthetic conditions and reduce possible traffic hazards within the county along its streets and roads. The promotion of sound sign use patterns is intended to reduce or eliminate the occurrence of certain conditions which can threaten the general health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the county.

(b) This chapter shall provide for the following to:

- (1) Define certain terms used in this chapter.
- (2) Establish minimum standards for signs.
- (3) Provide procedures for administering this chapter.
- (4) Provide penalties for violation of this chapter.
- (5) Repeal conflicting ordinances.

Sec. 111-3. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning: Sign means any surface bearing lettered or pictorial matter designed to convey information visually and exposed to public view; or any structure designed to carry such visual information. Signs are classified into the following types:

- (1) Advertising separate use sign means a sign which directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment offered elsewhere than the premises where the sign is displayed.
- (2) Identification sign means a sign attached to a building which is used to identify only the name of the organization or enterprise occupying the premises.
- (3) Point of business sign means a freestanding sign which directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment offered upon the premises where the sign is displayed.
- (4) Portable sign means a sign, lighted or not, which is designed to be moved and advertising copy changed periodically.

Sec. 111-4. Prohibited signs.

The following signs are expressly prohibited in all zoning districts:

- (1) Signs imitating warning signals are prohibited. No sign shall display lights resembling the flashing lights customarily used in traffic signals or on police, fire, ambulance, or rescue vehicles; nor shall any signs use the words, slogans, dimensional shape or size of any governmental traffic sign.
- (2) No signs, except traffic signs and signals and informational signs erected or authorized by a public agency, are permitted within any street or highway right-of-way.
- (3) Signs painted or attached to natural features such as trees or rocks, utility poles, or fence posts are prohibited.
- (4) Fluttering ribbons and banners are prohibited.
- (5) Signs within 300 feet of any officially designated historical site or monument, except signs pertaining to that particular site or monument, are prohibited.

Sec. 111-5. General regulations.

- (a) Signs shall not exceed 35 feet in height.
- (b) No sign shall be located in a manner which will obstruct the view of traffic signals or the view at intersections.
- (c) All lighted signs must be erected and maintained to preclude light spill onto adjacent residential properties by being located not less than 50 feet from the nearest residential property line or residential district and being shielded if necessary.
- (d) All signs requiring a permit shall be set back from roads with deeded rights-of-way a minimum of 35 feet from the edge of the right-of-way; on county proscriptive roads with no deeded right-of-way, the front setback is 65 feet from the centerline of such road. Signs shall be a minimum of 20 feet from all property lines other than those abutting a road.

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(e) Advertising separate use signs shall meet the following requirements:

(1) They are allowed in agricultural districts by special exception (approval of the planning and zoning commission) and are permitted in commercial and manufacturing districts.

(2) The maximum size face for a freestanding sign is 125 square feet.

(3) In agricultural districts, there must be a minimum of 1,000 feet between signs, measured along the road right-of-way.

(4) In commercial or manufacturing districts only one per lot, or combinations of lots under one ownership at the time of passage of the ordinance from which this chapter is derived, unless separated by a minimum of 1,000 feet.

(f) Point of business signs (freestanding) shall meet the following requirements:

(1) They are allowed in agricultural, commercial and manufacturing districts only.

(2) Only one sign per use is allowed, or one per shopping center. If property fronts on two roads, one is allowed on second frontage also.

(3) The maximum area of sign face shall be 125 square feet, except shopping centers, where 300 square feet maximum is allowed.

(g) Identification signs, attached to a building, shall meet the following requirements:

(1) They are allowed in agricultural, commercial and manufacturing districts only.

(2) Only one per occupant is allowed.

(3) The maximum area of the sign face shall be 30 percent of the total area of the front face of the building but no larger than 125 square feet.

(h) Portable signs shall meet the following requirements:

(1) They are allowed in agricultural, commercial and manufacturing districts only.

(2) Portable signs shall be used for on-premises advertising only.

(3) Portable signs may be lighted but must not flash.

(4) In commercial or manufacturing districts, only one per lot, or combinations of lots under one ownership at the time of passage of the ordinance from which this chapter is derived, unless separated by a minimum of 1,000 square feet.

(5) Maximum area of the sign face shall be 50 square feet.

Sec. 111-6. Unlawful signs.

The administrative officer may inspect at any time each sign regulated by the provisions of this chapter, whether permitted or not. Should any sign be installed or maintained improperly or should any violation of this chapter be noted, the administrative officer will notify the owner or lessee of such sign in writing of the reasons for noncompliance. The administrative officer is empowered to revoke any permit issued upon failure of a sign owner or lessee to comply with the provisions of this chapter. The owner or lessee shall have three business days from receipt of notice to bring a sign into compliance or it may be removed by the county at the expense of the owner or lessee.

Sec. 111-7. Nonconforming signs.

(a) Nonconforming signs must not be replaced by another nonconforming sign except for replacement of lettered or pictorial information.

(b) Minor repairs and maintenance are allowed but no structural repairs or changes in size are allowed except to make the sign comply with this chapter.

(c) New point of business or identification signs related to legally existing nonconforming uses are allowed provided they comply with sign regulations applicable to the district in which the use is permitted.

ARTICLE II. PERMITS

Sec. 111-33. Required.

All signs shall be erected or maintained in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and only those signs that are permitted by this chapter shall be erected. No sign, except those listed in section 111-34 as not requiring a permit, shall be placed without a permit from the administrative officer. Application for permits to erect, hang, or place a sign shall be submitted, accompanied by plans showing the area of the sign, the method of illumination, if any, the exact location proposed for such sign, the method of support, the vertical distance between such sign and the finished grade, and the

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horizontal distance between such sign and the street right-of-way line or centerline if no right-of-way. The application shall also include a photograph or line drawing of the face of the sign showing exactly what is to be portrayed. Each applicant shall, upon the request of the administrative officer, submit any additional information deemed necessary by such officer. The board of county commissioners may establish a fee schedule for sign permits.

Sec. 111-34. Exceptions.

The following signs do not require a permit and are allowed in any zoning district subject to the following provisions:

- (1) Traffic or other government signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, danger, and temporary, emergency or non-advertising signs.
- (2) Real estate signs not exceeding six square feet in residential areas which advertise the sale, rental or lease of the premises upon which the signs are located; only one sign is permitted for each street on which the building or property faces.
- (3) Warning signs and no trespassing signs.
- (4) Professional nameplates not exceeding one square foot in area.
- (5) Bulletin boards not over 32 square feet in area for public, civic, charitable or religious institutions when located on the premises of these institutions.
- (6) Signs denoting the architect, lender, engineer, or contractor when placed on work under construction and not exceeding 32 square feet in area.
- (7) Occupational signs denoting only the name and profession of an occupant in a commercial building and not exceeding two square feet in area.
- (8) Signs not exceeding 12 square feet in area giving information concerning the location or use of off-street parking facilities or loading and unloading facilities.
- (9) Signs indicating bus stops, taxistands, and similar transportation facilities.
- (10) Political signs not to exceed 12 square feet in area, but not to be located permission of the property owner. Political signs shall be removed by the candidate, on utility poles, trees or natural objects. Signs are to be located on public or private property only with property owner or occupier of the property where such sign is located within three days after such candidate has been finally elected or defeated.
- (11) Garage or yard sale signs not to exceed four square feet in area when mounted on a substantial frame and erected on private property with the owner's approval.
- (12) Memorial signs, historical signs or tablets, names of buildings and date of erection when cut into any masonry surface or when constructed of bronze or other noncombustible material.
- (13) Residential development (or subdivision) name signs not exceeding 50 square feet.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Sec. 105-28. General definitions.

Street/road.

- (1) **County street/road** means a road, paved or unpaved, which is maintained by the county.
- (2) **Local street/road** means a street used primarily for access to the abutting properties and serves travel demands in the immediate area, and designated as such on the county street classification system map.
- (3) **Collector street/road** means a street which usually serves to either provide direct access to lots or distribute traffic from individual lots to major streets. It may also connect neighborhoods with one another. It should be designed to discourage excessive speeds and through traffic. It is designated as such on the county street classification system map.
- (4) **Arterial street/road** means a primary road connecting distant cities, towns, or regions exhibiting higher speeds, greater volumes, and fewer direct access points than collector streets.
- (5) **Dead-end street (cul-de-sac)** means a local street designed to have one end permanently closed.