

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT**

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SIGN-Any device designed to inform or attract the attention of persons not on the premises on which the sign is located; provided, however, that the following shall not be included in the application of the regulations herein:

- A. Signs not exceeding one (1) square foot in area and bearing only property numbers, names of occupants of premises or other identification of premises not having commercial connotations.
- B. Flags and insignia of any government, except when displayed in connection with commercial promotion,
- C. Legal notices, identification or informational or directional signs erected or required by government bodies.
- D. Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property but bearing no advertising matter.

SIGN, ACCESSORY-A sign whose subject matter relates to the premises on which it is located or to products, accommodations, services or activities on the premises.

SIGN, AREA OF – The entire area within a regular geometric form or combinations of regular geometric forms comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. One (1) side only of double-faced signs shall be counted. Frames and structural members not bearing advertising matter shall not be included in computation of “sign area”. **SIGN, AREA OF**-The entire area within a regular geometric form or combinations of regular geometric forms comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. One (1) side only of double-faced signs shall be counted. Frames and structural members not bearing advertising matter shall not be included in computation of “sign area”. § 185-20. Signs.

A. General sign prohibitions.

- 1) Signs, any part of which moves or flashes, or signs of the traveling light or animated type and all beacons and flashing devices, whether a part of, attached to or apart from a sign, are prohibited.
- 2) No sign shall be placed within or projecting over a public way or on a public property except with a permit from the Town Administrator. In no case shall a sign project above a parapet wall.
- 3) No non-accessory sign shall be erected or maintained except under lawful permit from the Outdoor Advertising Division of the Department of Public Works.
- 4) No illumination shall be permitted which casts glare onto any residential premises or onto any portion of a way so as to create a traffic hazard.
- 5) No part of any sign shall exceed the height limitations established in the Schedule of Lot, Area, Frontage, Yard and Height Requirements.
- 6) Portable platform-mounted, frame mounted or trailer-mounted signs are prohibited in all zone districts. [Added 1-10-1990 by Bylaw Amendment 89-172]

B. [Amended 3-18-1992 by Bylaw Amendment 91-222] Temporary freestanding signs shall be permitted on private property as follows:

- 1) Signs pertaining to the sale or lease of the premises upon which such signs are located.
- 2) Signs pertaining to a subdivision, while under development, only with permission of the Planning Board.
- 3) Signs pertaining to a candidate for an elected local, county, state or national government office or a ballot question that will appear on the ballot at any local, county, state or national election.
- 4) Signs indicating parties involved in construction on the premises.
- 5) Signs pertaining to yard sales and fundraising events.
- 6) Signs shall not be erected sooner than fourteen (14) days before the event to which they pertain (i.e., the offering for sale or lease of the premises, the commencement of construction or the election) and shall be removed within seven (7) days after the conclusion of the event to which they pertain.
- 7) No sign shall be lighted.
- 8) No sign shall exceed six (6) square feet in area, and it shall be placed at least ten (10) feet from the street property line. Signs shall not exceed forty (40) inches in length or thirty-six (36) inches in width, excluding supporting materials.
- 9) No mechanical or electrically powered signs or signs with moving parts shall be permitted.
- 10) No more than six (6) temporary signs per dwelling unit or per lot, whichever is greater, shall be erected at the same time.

C. Permanent accessory signs in residence districts shall be permitted as follow:

- 1) One (1) sign for each family residing on the premises, indicating the owner or occupant or pertaining to a permitted accessory use, provided that no sign shall exceed two (2) square feet in area.
- 2) One (1) sign not over nine (9) square feet in area pertaining to permitted buildings and uses of the premises other than dwellings and their accessory uses.
- 3) Unlighted directional signs not exceeding one (1) square foot each in area pertaining to permitted buildings and uses of premises other than dwellings and their accessory uses.

D. Permanent accessory signs in other districts shall be permitted as follows:

- 1) Signs attached to a building, provided that they aggregate not more than twenty percent (20%) of the wall area they area viewed with.
- 2) Freestanding signs provided that they aggregate not more than sixty (60) square feet in area.
- 3) The total area of all accessory signs, either attached to a building or freestanding, shall aggregate not more than tow (2) square feet per foot of lot frontage on the street toward which they are oriented.

E. Off-premises signs. Only signs pertaining exclusively to the premises on which they are located or to products, accommodations, services or activities on the premises shall be allowed, except that an off-premises directional sign designating the route to an establishment not on the street to which the sign is oriented may be erected and maintained within the public right-of-way at any intersection if authorized by the Town Administrator or on private property if granted a special permit by the Board of Appeals. Such signs shall be authorized only upon the authorizing agency's determination that such sign will promote the public interest, will not endanger the public safety and will be of such size, location and design as will not be detrimental to the neighborhood. At locations where directions to more than one (1) establishment are to be provided, all such directional information shall be incorporated into a single structure. All such directional signs shall be unlighted, and each shall be not over four (4) square feet in area.

