

ARTICLE XI

SIGN REGULATIONS

SECTION 1100: INTENT

The intent of this article is to provide for a comprehensive and balance system of signs to facilitate communication between people and their environment; to avoid the visual clutter that is potentially harmful to community appearance; to protect the general public from damage and injury caused by the distractions, hazards, and obstructions caused by signs; to preserve the value of property by assuring that signs are appropriate and compatible with the use they represent and their surroundings and the community in general.

SECTION 1101: REQUIRED PERMITS

1. No person, corporation, or other entity shall erect, construct, reconstruct, renovate, enlarge or substantially alter any sign, except as provided herein, without first obtaining a permit from the Planning and Zoning Official(s) and paying an application fee in accordance with the fee schedule prescribed by the Board of Commissioners. The permit application shall be accompanied by site plans, sign plans and any such other information as the Planning and Zoning Official(s) may require to determine the location of a sign and to otherwise determine compliance with this Ordinance.
2. A sign permit shall become null and void if the sign for which the permit was issued has not been completed within a period of six (6) months after the date of issuance.

SECTION 1102: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Regulations and restrictions applying to all signs are as follows:

1102.1 Sign Area

1. The area of a sign shall be construed to be the area within a continuous perimeter enclosing the limits of lettering, wording, writing, design, representation, emblem, figure or similar character, together with any frame or other material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the background against which it is placed, excluding the necessary supports, uprights, or support structure on which the sign is placed, provided that such support structure does not extend more than one foot above or two feet beyond the ends of the sign, and further provided that any open space contained within the outer limits of the display face of a sign, or between any component, panel, strip, or fixture of any kind composing the display face, shall be included in the computation of the area of the sign whether this open space be enclosed or not by a frame or border.
2. The area of a sign painted upon or applied to a building shall be considered to include all lettering, wording, and accompanying designs or symbols together with any backing associated with the sign.
3. Where the sign consists of individual letters or symbols attached to or painted on a surface, buildings, wall, or window, the area shall be considered to be that of the smallest rectangle or other shape which encompasses all of the letters and symbols.
4. In computing square foot area of a double-face sign, only one side shall be considered, provided both faces are identical. In "V" type structures, the interior angle of which exceeds forty-five (45°) degrees, both sides shall be considered in calculating sign areas.

1102.2 Sign Height

The height of a sign shall be the overall measurement from the highest point of a sign, including all support structures, frames, and other architectural/decorative elements to the surface elevation of the adjacent public street or to the mean ground elevation at the base of the sign, whichever is higher, provided that any earthen berms or elevated foundations supporting signs, sign posts, or other sign supports shall be included in the height of the sign.

1102.3 General Sign Requirements:

1. Every sign constructed, erected or maintained for which a permit is required shall be plainly marked with the name of the person, firm or corporation erecting and maintaining such sign, and shall have the number of the permit issued for said sign by the Building Inspector affixed on the framework of the sign in such a manner that the information contained therein shall be readily accessible and durable.
2. All signs shall be constructed of durable materials in conformance with applicable building and electrical codes, state laws and sound engineering practices.
3. No sign or advertising shall be posted on any building, structure, or property belonging to another without the written consent of the owner thereof. Such consent shall be exhibited to the Zoning Official(s) on demand by the person erecting, constructing, or maintaining the sign.
4. Unless otherwise specified herein, no signs shall be located closer than five (5') feet from a public right-of-way, provided, however, that no sign shall violate the vision clearance requirements specified in *Section 608, Vision Clearance*, of this Ordinance. In no case shall any sign or sign structure of any kind extend into or above, or be anchored or placed in any portion of a public right-of-way (except official governmental and traffic signs).
5. Unless provided otherwise herein, all signs shall be subject to the side and rear yard setback requirements for accessory uses within the zoning district in which they are located.
6. No sign shall be erected or maintained where, by reason of its position, wording, illumination, size, shape or color, it may obstruct a motor vehicle operator's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic, or obscure or otherwise interfere with the effectiveness of any official traffic control sign, signal or device.
7. No sign shall be allowed within the county, except as provided herein.

1102.4 Maintenance and Removal

1. All signs, together with their supports, braces, guys and anchors, shall be kept in good repair and, unless constructed of galvanized or noncorroding metal, shall be given a protective coating as necessary to maintain a clean appearance and safe condition. Defective or broken parts shall be repaired immediately.
2. Any sign for products, services, or uses relating to a business or other use located on the same lot shall be removed by the owner within thirty (30) days after vacating the premises. A sign for products, services, or uses which no longer exist on the property, or a sign which is allowed to become dilapidated, or is not adequately maintained as specified herein, shall be repaired or removed by the owner of record of the property upon which the sign is located or by the person, firm or corporation on record as responsible for erecting and maintaining such sign within thirty (30) days after receipt of written notice from proper county officials, provided however, that county officials may cause the removal of any sign which is deemed to constitute an immediate peril to persons or property, following notice of twenty-four (24) hours to the owner(s) thereof and at the expense of said owner(s)
3. Every sign for which a permit is required may be subject to periodic inspection by proper county officials to determine compliance with this Ordinance.

1102.5 Specific Sign Requirements

1. **Canopy, Mansard, Marquee and Awning Signs** - Signs imposed, mounted, or painted on an awning or canopy, or front edge of a mansard or marquee shall be no less than eight (8) feet above the ground when erected over pedestrian walkways at the lowest extremity of the sign.

2. **Exempt Signs**, as specified herein, are those signs which require no permit, however, all other applicable regulations shall apply.
3. **Freestanding Signs** shall be securely affixed to a substantial support structure that is permanently attached to the ground, and wholly independent of building support.
4. **Identification Signs** – A Permanent on-site freestanding sign erected for the purpose of identifying the name of an individual business or use on the site. Such sign may also include a street address, but shall not include advertising.
5. **Identification Signs, Subdivision/Development** - A permanent on-site freestanding sign located at the entrance to a subdivision, apartment complex or other multi-family development, business park, office park, industrial park, shopping center, commercial center or other real estate development containing multiple lots, buildings, or businesses erected for the purpose of identifying the name and/or logo of said development, and street address number shall be located at the project entrance, on private lands, and where applicable on an appropriate sign easements, and no closer than ten (10') feet from a public right-of-way. Such signs shall not include advertising.

When used at the entrance to a shopping center or commercial center with multiple buildings or uses, such sign may include the names of the individual uses within in addition to the name of the development. The purpose of this type sign is to provide the general public with a safe method of determining the location of various entities within such a development that may not be safely visible from the public right-of-way.

6. **Instructional Signs** – On-site signs used to give directions or specific instruction to the public such as, but not limited to, "enter", "exit", "no parking", "drive through", "rest rooms", and so forth, shall contain instructional information only and shall not contain advertising.
7. **Lighted Signs**
 - a. No lighted sign shall be constructed or maintained within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use, with the exception of residential subdivision/development identification signs, which shall not be within two hundred (200') of any individual residence. Such residential subdivision/development identification signs shall have external/indirect lighting, only.
 - b. The light from externally lighted signs shall be established in such a way that no direct view of the light source, glare, or direct light is cast upon adjacent properties and roadways and that adjacent properties and roadways are not adversely affected.
 - c. All internally lighted signs shall have an opaque background with lighted letters and/or emblems.
8. **Outdoor Advertising Signs (Billboards)** – In districts where outdoor advertising signs (Billboards) are permitted as a conditional use, following conditions shall apply:
 - a. The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed twenty (20') feet, with a minimum of ten (10') feet of clearance between the bottommost edge of the sign and the surface elevation of the adjacent highway or of the actual ground elevation at the base, whichever is higher;
 - b. The maximum area of the sign shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet, with or without trim.

- c. The minimum required setback from public or private roads, driveways, sidewalks, parking areas or buildings shall equal the actual physical height of the sign, as measured from its highest point, including all support structures, frames, and other architectural/decorative elements, to the mean ground elevation at the base of the sign, provided, however, that in no case shall such sign be located closer than twenty-five (25') feet from the street right-of-way line.
 - d. Such signs shall be located no closer than one thousand (1000') feet in any direction from any Residential District/Use, Scenic Preservation District or other identified significant scenic or historic site, district or area, any school, church or other place of worship, cemetery, public park, public recreation area, wildlife or forest preserve.
 - e. Such signs shall be located no closer than two thousand six hundred forty (2640') feet in any direction from any other existing Outdoor Advertising Sign on the same roadway.
 - f. Such signs shall be located so as not to interfere with the normal growth patterns of existing trees or existing treed areas.
 - g. Only one such sign shall be permitted per location. Said sign shall have a total of no more than two faces. Back-to-back or double faced structures shall be permitted, provided they are joined by a mutual or attached frame. Installation of two signs angled in a winged or v-shape shall be prohibited. Installation of two or more signs facing the same direction, whether mounted horizontally or vertically to each other, shall be prohibited.
 - h. Extrusions beyond the face of the sign, excluding aprons, shall be prohibited.
 - i. If lighted, such signs shall only be externally/indirectly illuminated and the light shall be established in such a way that no direct view of the light source, glare, or direct light is cast upon adjacent properties and roadways and that adjacent properties and roadways are not adversely affected.
 - j. The erection of such signs shall not create any vested right to continue such sign in the event of a change in the zoning ordinance or district classification so as to classify such signs as a non-conforming use.
9. **Portable Signs** shall be permitted in certain districts, as specified herein, provided said signs comply with the following requirements:
- a. A business, firm or corporation may be allowed one (1) portable on-premises sign, provided that prior to erection or placement of said sign, all required fees and taxes shall be paid.
 - b. The sign shall be displayed for the opening of a new business, for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days and shall thereafter be removed.
 - c. The maximum size allowance for portable signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet, however, the square footage of said portable sign, when combined with other signs on the same lot, shall not exceed the total square footage for signs authorized for the use in the zoning district in which it is located.
 - d. Portable signs shall not have arrows, directional arrows, or flashing lights.

- e. The sign must be placed on the site in such a manner as to be at least ten (10') feet from the right-of-way and shall not be an obstruction for traffic or visibility. The sighting of the sign is subject to approval of the Zoning Official(s).
 - f. To prevent wind damage to the sign or other property, the sign must be securely anchored to the site in an acceptable manner.
 - g. All electrical connections to the sign must be in compliance with the electrical codes as adopted by the county, and must be inspected prior to use.
10. **Prohibited Signs**, as specified herein, shall be prohibited in all zoning districts of the county.
 11. **Projecting Signs** are a type of wall sign. Such signs shall be securely fastened to the building surface. Projecting signs shall project perpendicularly from the flat surface of the wall at an angle of ninety (90) degrees and may extend no more than five (5') feet from the building face. Such signs shall be limited to no more than five (5') feet in height, but in no case shall such sign extend above the bottom edge of the roofline. The bottom edge or lowest extremity of a projecting sign must be no less than eight (8) feet above the level of the ground or pavement below said sign.
 12. **Temporary Signs** – Except for certain signs specified in *Section 1104, Exempt Signs*, herein, a temporary use permit, as specified in *Article XII, Section 1203, Temporary Uses*, in this Ordinance, shall be required for all temporary signs erected in the county.
 13. **Vehicular Signs** - Signs painted, placed, mounted or affixed to vehicles, freight, flatbed or storage trailers, or other conveyances shall not be placed or parked in a conspicuous location in a manner intended to be viewed from public rights-of-way by the traveling public. Such restriction shall not apply to signs on conveyances when such vehicles are parked in an inconspicuous location, or when the vehicles are actively being used to transport persons, goods, or services in the normal course of business, or when such conveyances are actively being used for storage of construction materials for, and on the same lot with a construction project for which building and other applicable permits have been issued and where construction is underway, provided said conveyances are located within designated storage areas.
 14. **Wall Signs** shall be painted directly upon or be securely fastened to and in the same plane as the building surface. Such signs shall extend no more than twelve (12") inches from any building surface and in no case shall such sign extend above the roofline.

1102.6 Nonconforming Signs

Nonconforming signs in compliance with applicable regulations in effect at the time of their construction shall be authorized to remain in accordance with *Article XII, Section 1200, Non Conforming Uses/Structures/Lots of Record*, in this Ordinance, except as provided below:

1. A nonconforming sign shall not be replaced by another nonconforming sign except that the substitution or interchange of poster panels, painted boards or demountable material on nonconforming signs shall be permitted as specified in *Article XII, Section 1200, Nonconforming Uses/Structures/Lots of Record*, in this Ordinance.
2. In all zoning districts, no nonconforming signs shall be expanded, relocated or substantially renovated except in such a manner as to comply with the provisions of this and other applicable sections, laws, ordinances and rules. Minor repairs and maintenance such as repainting, electrical repairs, etc., shall be permitted, however, no structural repairs or changes in the size or shape of the sign shall be permitted except as shall bring the sign into compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
3. If a nonconforming sign must be removed due to a county or state road improvement project, the relocation of said sign should be such as to make the sign more conforming, where feasible, provided, however, the Maxeys Town Council may authorize the relocation of said sign even though the new location may not meet the setbacks, location and/or spacing or other provisions of this Ordinance.

4. Portable signs as defined by this section shall be brought into compliance with this section or removed within thirty (30) days from the adoption date of this section.
5. Any signs located within a public right-of-way or on public lands (other than official signs of a governmental body, governmental agency or public authority, including but not limited to traffic signs, signals, or regulatory devices or warnings, official emblems, public notices, official instruments, off-site directional signs, signs of historical interest or other similar signs or devices) that have not been specifically permitted or authorized by said governmental bodies, agencies or public authorities, are illegal not non-conforming, and shall be handled in accordance with *Article XIII, Administration, Enforcement, and Appeals*, in this Ordinance.

SECTION 1103: REGULATIONS BY DISTRICT

No sign shall be permitted within a zoning district except as specified herein unless a variance shall have been granted as set out in this Ordinance.

1. A-1 Intensive Agricultural and A-2 General Agricultural Districts

- a. One (1) non-illuminated wall or permanent, on-site free-standing sign identifying a home occupation, not to exceed six hundred (600) square inches in area or twenty-four (24") inches in height, is authorized per principal residential use.
- b. Agricultural uses may have one (1) permanent, on-site free-standing identification sign, up to sixteen (16) square feet in area and not to exceed five (5') feet in height, per drive entrance, provided that there shall be no more than two (2) such signs per one thousand (1000') of frontage. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use.
- c. For churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, non-profit clubs or fraternal organizations, or recreational developments and other similar permitted uses, one (1) permanent on-site freestanding sign, which may be a manual changeable copy sign, not larger than sixteen (16) square feet in area and not to exceed five (5') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.
- d. For permitted agricultural related businesses, either one (1) permanent on-site free-standing identification sign, up to sixteen (16) square feet and not to exceed five (5') feet in height, per drive entrance, provided that there shall be no more than two (2) such signs per one thousand (1000') of frontage, or one (1) permanent wall sign up to twenty-five (25) square feet. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.
- e. Except as otherwise specified herein, lighted signs shall be prohibited.

2. **R-1 Single-Family Residential, R-2 Two-Family Residential, and AR Agricultural-Residential Districts**

- a. One (1) non-illuminated wall or permanent, on-site free-standing sign identifying a home occupation, not to exceed three hundred (600) square inches in area or twenty-four (24") inches in height, is authorized per principal residential use.
- b. One permanent on-site, landscaped, free-standing "subdivision/development identification sign" is authorized per entrance into residential subdivision developments. These signs shall not exceed a maximum area of twenty-five (25) square feet and a maximum height of four (4') feet. All such signs shall be erected on property owned by the developer and/or homeowners association or on an appropriate sign easement over private lands. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use that is not a part of the subdivision or development.
- c. For churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, non-profit clubs or fraternal organizations, or recreational developments and other similar permitted uses, one (1) permanent freestanding sign, which may be a manual changeable copy sign, not larger than sixteen (16) square feet and not to exceed four (4') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.
- d. Except as otherwise specified herein, lighted signs shall be prohibited.

3. **R-3 Multi-Family District:**

- a. For apartment buildings, and other multi-family residences, one building identification wall sign (i.e. building number, apartment number) not exceeding four (4) square feet is authorized on each building. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face; and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use that is not a part of the subdivision or development.
- b. One permanent on-site, landscaped, free-standing "subdivision/development identification sign" is authorized per entrance into residential subdivision developments. These signs shall not exceed a maximum area of twenty-five (25) square feet and a maximum height of four (4') feet. All such signs shall be erected on property owned by the developer and/or homeowners association or on an appropriate sign easement over private lands. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use that is not a part of the subdivision or development.
- c. For churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, non-profit clubs or fraternal organizations, recreational developments, or day care centers and other similar permitted uses, one (1) permanent freestanding sign, which may be a manual changeable copy sign, not larger than sixteen (16) square feet and not to exceed five (5') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so

that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.

d. Except as otherwise specified herein, lighted signs shall be prohibited.

4. **B-1 Local Business District:**

a. Permitted businesses in the B-1 District may have a total of one (1) sign, which may be selected from the following types:

1. A permanent wall sign, not exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet; or
2. A projecting wall sign not exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet, projecting no more than five (5') feet from the wall surface and not to exceed five (5') in height; or
3. An awning, canopy, mansard, or marquee sign not exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet; or
4. A permanent, on-site free-standing identification sign not exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet and not exceeding five (5') feet in height.

b. For churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, non-profit clubs or fraternal organizations, or recreational developments and other similar permitted uses, one (1) permanent on-site freestanding sign, which may be a manual changeable copy sign, not larger than twenty-five (25) square feet in area and not to exceed five (5') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.

c. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.

5. **B-2 Highway, B-3 General Business, OIP Office/Institutional/Professional, LI Light Industrial, and HI Heavy Industrial Districts:**

a. Each business, professional, institutional, or industrial use on an individual "stand-alone" lot which is not part of a planned development or conventional shopping/business center shall be permitted one (1) permanent, on-site free-standing identification sign, not exceeding thirty-six (36) square feet, nor exceeding six (6') feet in height; and

Each such use may also contain one (1) sign as an awning, mansard, marquee, or wall sign, not exceeding the **LESSER** of:

1. Twenty (20%) percent of the total area of the exterior wall face to which it will be attached; or
2. One hundred (100) square feet, provided that if the floor area of the individual use exceeds fifty thousand (50,000) square feet, two (2) such signs shall be permitted.

b. Conventional shopping centers, business centers, or similar developments which contain multiple uses platted as one lot, shall be permitted one (1) permanent, on-site free-standing identification sign for

the development which may list the individual businesses within. For such developments containing fewer than five (5) individual uses, the free-standing development identification sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet nor exceed six (6') in height. For such developments containing five (5) or more individual uses, the free-standing development identification sign shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet nor exceed ten (10') feet in height. Each individual use within the development shall **NOT** be permitted an individual free-standing sign; **and**

Each individual use within the development may contain one (1) sign as an awning, mansard, marquee, or wall sign, not exceeding the **LESSER** of:

1. Twenty (20%) percent of the total area of the exterior wall face to which it will be attached; or
 2. One hundred (100) square feet, provided that if the floor area of the individual use exceeds fifty thousand (50,000) square feet, two (2) such signs shall be permitted.
- c. Planned developments, commercial subdivisions, office parks, industrial parks, or similar developments which contain multiple individual uses, each on its own individual lot, shall be permitted one permanent, landscaped, on-site, free-standing identification sign for the development, not exceeding fifty (50) square feet nor exceeding six (6') feet in height; **and**

Each individual use within the development shall be permitted one permanent on-site, landscaped, free-standing identification sign, not exceeding thirty-six (36) square feet nor exceeding five (5') feet in height; **and**

Each individual use may also contain one (1) sign as an awning, mansard, marquee, or wall sign, not exceeding the **LESSER** of:

1. Twenty (20%) percent of the total area of the exterior wall face to which it will be attached; or
 2. One hundred (100) square feet, provided that if the floor area of the individual use exceeds fifty thousand (50,000) square feet, two (2) such signs shall be permitted.
- d. Portable Signs shall be permitted in the B-2 Highway Business and B-3 General Business Districts, as specified herein.
- e. Outdoor Advertising Signs (Billboards) as specified herein, as a Conditional Use within the B-2 Highway Business District, adjacent to a state or federal highway.
- f. Churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, non-profit clubs or fraternal organizations, cultural or recreational facilities and other similar permitted uses, one (1) permanent on-site freestanding sign, which may be a manual changeable copy sign, not larger than fifty (50) square feet in area and not to exceed six (6') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot. Said sign may be illuminated by means of a low wattage external, ground mounted spot or flood light, installed so that the light source is not directly visible and illuminates only the sign face(s); and does not produce an excessive amount of light, or shine or glare onto public rights-of-way or neighboring properties, provided a lighted sign shall not be installed within two hundred (200') feet of any residential district or use. "Instructional signs" as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height shall also be permitted for such uses, as necessary.
- g. Instructional signs as defined herein not exceeding four (4) square feet in area and not more than thirty-six (36) inches in height are authorized.

6. **SP Scenic Preservation and RCP River Corridor Protection District:**

1. Any non-official sign desired in the SP Scenic Preservation or River Corridor Protection District must be part of the zoning, use, or permit application and must be authorized as part of the zoning, use, or permit approval. Such signs shall be no larger than sixteen (16) square feet or more than four (4') feet in height, and shall be compatible with the historic, natural, archaeological or scenic area in which it is located.

SECTION 1104: EXEMPT SIGNS

No sign permit shall be required for any of the following signs to be displayed in any zoning classification, unless otherwise specified herein, provided, however, that all other applicable requirements shall apply to such signs and that no such sign shall be illuminated.

No more than a combined total of two (2) of the following types of exempt signs shall be placed on any one lot, tract or parcel at any given time. This shall not be construed to mean 2 of each type is allowed but rather a combined total of two (2) signs regardless of type: real estate sales/rent sign, real estate directional sign, construction sign, private & public recreational sign, temporary sign, or weekend directional sign.

1. **Temporary signs, pertaining to local, state, or federal elections or referendums**, shall be authorized in all zoning districts for a period beginning with the qualification of candidates or the notification of a referendum, provided that:
 - a. These signs shall be removed within five (5) working days following the authorized general election date or within five (5) working days of the candidate's or issue's election or defeat, whichever comes first. Primary and general election dates shall be established by applicable federal, state or local law.
 - b. Said signs must otherwise be in compliance with applicable state law.
 - c. On single-family residential lots, political signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area.
 - d. On other than single-family residential lots, political signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet, except as larger signs are authorized elsewhere in this ordinance.
 - e. No part of any such sign shall be allowed on, over or within any part of a public right-of-way.
 - f. Such signs shall be placed only with the express permission of the landowner.
2. **Real estate sales and rental signs** erected temporarily and advertising the sale, rent or lease of property on which it is located, and which may contain names of owners agents, phone numbers, pricing, and similar information, shall be permitted as follows:
 - a. One (1) temporary on-site real estate sign per single-family or two-family residential lot not exceeding six (6) square feet is authorized, but, shall be removed within ten (10) days of the closing or consummation of an agreement for the sale, rental or lease of the property advertised.
 - b. One (1) temporary on-site real estate sign per non-residential or multi-family lot or development, not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet, provided that two (2) such signs shall be permitted for double frontage lots or for lots with road frontage in excess of five hundred (500') feet. Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) days of the closing or consummation of sale, rental, or lease of the property advertised.
 - c. No part of any such sign shall be located on, over or within a public right-of-way.
3. **Construction signs**, temporarily erected and maintained on premises during construction to identify a construction project for which a building, land disturbance or other permit has been issued, shall be permitted as follows:

- a. For construction on or development of a lot in all districts except single-family and two-family residential, one (1) on-site construction sign shall be allowed per contractor of not more than sixteen (16) square feet in area and no more than five (5') feet in height each, with a maximum of two (2) such signs per lot; or a total of one (1) sign per development, not exceeding fifty (50) square feet in area and six (6') feet in height, giving the names of the contractors, engineers, architects or financial institutions, and any supplemental information. In single-family and two-family residential districts, one (1) such on-site construction sign, which shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in area and four (4') feet in height, shall be permitted per lot.
 - b. Such signs shall be placed on the lot no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to commencement of construction, and shall be removed no later than thirty (30) days following substantial completion of the initial development.
 - c. No part of any sign shall be located within five (5') feet of a public right-of-way.
4. **Official signs** of a governmental body, governmental agency or public authority, including but not limited to traffic signs, signals, or regulatory devices or warnings, official emblems, public notices, official instruments, off-site directional signs, signs of historical interest or other similar signs or devices are authorized in all zones,
 5. **Weekend signs** shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, garage sale signs and yard sale signs, located on the property where the event will take place. Such signs shall be permitted as follows:
 - a. Such signs shall be allowed in all zoning classifications only on weekends from Friday 5:00 p.m. to Sunday 8:00 p.m. and must be removed by the end of that period.
 - b. Signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area.
 - c. No part of any sign shall be located within five (5) feet of a public right-of-way or in any other location or manner prohibited herein.
 6. **Temporary signs for civic, religious and school organizations or special events** are non-permanent signs lasting for a limited time. Such signs shall not include portable signs or vehicular signs. Such temporary signs shall be permitted in any district as follows:
 - a. Temporary signs for civic, religious and school organizations or other special events of a public or non-profit nature shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, special events notices, temporary meeting location notices, or signs promoting the activities of the organization. Said activities shall be nonprofit activities.
 - b. Such signs shall be allowed in all zoning classifications except R1 for a period of fourteen (14) days prior to the event and must be removed within five (5) business days after the event.
 - c. Such signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area and shall be at least five (5) feet from the right-of-way.
 - d. No part of any sign shall be located within five (5') feet of a public right-of way or within the side yard setback requirement for the district in which it is located.
 - e. To prevent wind damage to the sign or other property, the sign must be securely anchored to the site in a satisfactory manner.
 - f. Such signs shall be placed only with the express permission of the landowner upon which they are posted.
 7. **Home occupation sign**, limited to one (1) wall or permanent, on-site free-standing sign, identifying a home occupation, per dwelling, where home occupations are permitted by this Ordinance, and provided such sign is

no larger than three hundred (300) square inches in area or twenty-four (24") inches in height, is not illuminated, and no part of any such sign shall be located closer than five (5') feet of a public right-of-way or twenty (20') feet of any side lot line.

8. **Occupant/Address Identification** – Personal names of occupants and/or addresses normally displayed on mailboxes or at individual entrances, provided that such signs shall not exceed one (1) square foot in area; a list of building occupants and unit numbers normally displayed on a wall at the main entrance to buildings housing multi-family dwellings or multiple businesses, provided that such display shall not exceed four (4) square feet; building identification Numbers or letters identifying individual buildings within a business or multi-family complex containing multiple buildings provided that such signs do not exceed four (4) square feet in area.
9. **Incidental signs** include, but are not limited to, a small sign, emblem, or decal, informing the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, e.g., a credit card sign or a sign indicating hours of business. Such signs are normally located on doors, windows, and gas pumps, are intended for viewing by persons on the premises, and are not readily visible from the public right-of-way. Such signs shall be no larger than one (1) square foot.

SECTION 1105: PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following signs shall be prohibited in all zoning districts of the county:

1. Any sign which has more than one face visible from the same direction from the adjacent public roadway.
2. Roof signs.
3. Off-site signs, except as otherwise specified herein.
4. Signs attached to, drawn, or painted upon utility poles, street markers, trees, rocks, natural features, stand pipes, or public utilities.
5. Signs that are erected, located or maintained in such a manner as to interfere with safe and free ingress and egress of any door, emergency exit, fire escape, driveway, street or roadway.
6. Signs which are dilapidated or in such condition as to create a hazard, nuisance or to be unsafe or fail to comply with any provision of the building code of the county or other state and local laws.
7. Animated signs which use movement or changing lighting to depict action or to create special effects or scenes, whether electrical or wind-actuated devices, including but not limited to flags, spinners, aerial devices, and other attention-getting devices.
8. Signs which simulate or contain a simulation of an official traffic control or warning signal, sign, light, or device, or emergency vehicle device, or public service sign.
9. Signs which emit or utilize in any manner any sound capable of being detected on any traveled road or highways or on any residential, recreational or institutional lands by a person with normal hearing.
10. Signs that omit visible smoke, vapor, particles or odors.
11. Signs which would constitute a violation of O.C.G.A. §16-12-80.
12. "A" Frame, sandwich type, and other loose signs.
13. Fluttering banners, pennants, streamers, and twirlers
14. Inflatable signs.

15. Festoons.