

8.1 PURPOSE

This chapter provides comprehensive regulations for signs within Missoula County to eliminate confusing, distracting, and unsafe signs while assuring:

- A. Reasonably efficient and safe transfer of information;
- B. Provision of accurate identification, information, and advertisement in an orderly manner; and,
- C. Enhancement and protection of the visual quality, integrity, character, and safety of gateways, corridors, and neighborhoods throughout the County.

8.2 ZONING COMPLIANCE PERMIT REQUIRED

Unless otherwise expressly exempted in this chapter, the construction, reconstruction, alteration, lighting, and relocation of all signs within Missoula County require the issuance of a Zoning Compliance Permit with the following exceptions:

- A. Painting, cleaning, or other normal maintenance and repair; and,
- B. Changing the message of an existing changeable copy sign, provided that no change is made to any sign's structural or electronic component.

8.3 GENERAL SIGN PROVISIONS

A. Placement

1. Signs must be located entirely on private property unless otherwise permitted by these regulations.
2. Wall-mounted signs shall not extend above the eave or parapet of any building or structure.
3. When permitted to extend over a sidewalk, all parts of a sign or supporting

structure shall be at least eight vertical feet above the sidewalk surface.

4. Signs, including structural components, shall not extend within ten vertical feet and two horizontal feet of a driveway or parking space open to customer use.
5. Unless otherwise indicated in these regulations, all ground-mounted signs must be located a minimum of five feet from all rights-of-way and property lines. When a project site includes multiple parcels, this standard only applies to the external project boundary and not internal property lines.

B. Construction Standards

1. All signs shall be constructed and installed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the State of Montana Building Code.
2. All signs, except for banners, flags, temporary signs, and window signs conforming to the standards established by these regulations, shall be constructed of permanent materials. They shall be permanently attached to the ground, a building, or another structure by direct attachment to a rigid wall, frame, or structure as approved by the County.

C. Electrical Standards.

1. All illuminated signs shall be installed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Montana State Electrical Code.
2. All freestanding signs that are illuminated shall connect to underground utilities.

D. Maintenance. All signs shall be maintained in a good state of repair, including, but not limited to, structural components, lighting, and surface features such as painting. Signs requiring the issuance of building or

electrical permits or approval of easements must remain compliant with those approvals.

E. Obstructions. No sign shall be placed where it obstructs the clear sight triangle at a street intersection or railroad crossing, the view of motorists entering or leaving an on-street or off-street parking area, or the free movement of people along sidewalks and trails. Refer to Section 4.7 for information on sight visibility triangle measurements.

F. Encroachment Permit Required.

Before installing any sign on, over, or in a right-of-way, the County or MDOT may require an encroachment permit.

G. Relationship to Other Building Elements.

1. Signs shall relate in their placement and size to other building elements without obscuring building elements such as windows, cornices, or decorative details, except that signs may be placed on the inside of windows.
2. Signs placed on the inside of window areas in storefront buildings, whether or not such signs are readable from outside the building, shall conceal no more than 25 percent of the window's area on which the signs are located.

COMMENT: Building and electrical permits can be obtained at the Missoula County Public Works Building Division.

H. Sign Lighting.

1. **External illumination.** When installed, the light source must be positioned so that light does not trespass onto any adjoining property or a right-of-way in accordance with the lighting provisions in Section 6.5. and the following standards specific to signs.
 - a. Signs may be illuminated from above, provided the light fixture is no taller than the top of the sign and fully shielded.
 - b. Signs less than six feet in height may be illuminated with ground-mounted lights that are fully shielded and designed and installed to shine directly on the sign with no light trespass.
 - c. Light from ground-mounted light fixtures shall not be visible from the opposite side of the sign.
 - d. Light fixture lamps that illuminate a sign externally shall not be visible from vehicular travel lanes, adjacent rights-of-way, or adjoining properties. In no case shall sign lighting shine directly into the eyes of motorists or pedestrians, and bare bulbs shall never be visible to passersby.

2. **Internal illumination.** The average surface illumination of any sign face from dawn to dusk shall not exceed 1.0 foot-candles or ten lumens (lux). Additionally, the following internal illumination standards apply.
 - a. Outdoor internally illuminated advertising signs must either be constructed with an opaque background and translucent text and symbols or with a colored (not white, off-white, light gray, cream, or yellow) background and lighter text and symbols.
 - b. Neon signs shall be treated as internally illuminated signs within these regulations. Neon lighting extending beyond the area considered to be the sign area shall conform to all lighting provisions of Section 6.5. "Outdoor Lighting."

3. **Illumination curfew.** Illuminated signs shall be equipped with a sensor, timer, or

other devices to automatically adjust the day/night light intensity levels in accordance with these standards. Nighttime illumination shall not exceed 0.3 foot-candles over ambient lighting conditions.

4. Electronic message signs.

- a. Electronic copy shall be programmed so that no sign shall flash or blink.
- b. The image, message, or lighting pattern shall hold for a minimum of ten seconds between transitions.
- c. The transition from one image or display to the next must be accomplished in two seconds or less.
- d. Fading, scrolling, or dissolving effects may be used.
- e. Sign animation is not permitted.

I. Sign Face.

1. When a sign is permitted more than one sign face, the angle created by the two faces shall not exceed 15 degrees.
2. Within this section, different face of a building oriented in the same direction or within 45 degrees of one another are considered part of the same street façade.

J. Unlawful Removal of Vegetation.

No person may increase or enhance the visibility of any sign by damaging, trimming, destroying, or removing any trees, shrubs, or other vegetation located within:

1. Any right-of-way, unless the work is expressly authorized by the County or other agency having jurisdiction;
2. An established land area set aside in an approved Conservation Design Development in Section 9.3;
3. A required riparian resource buffer or protection area in Section 7.4;
4. Any required landscaped area, or buffer or screening area in Section 6.4.

8.4 SIGNS ALLOWED WITHOUT A PERMIT

The following signs shall be allowed without a Zoning Compliance Permit and shall not be included in the determination of the type, number, or area of permanent signs allowed within a zoning district, provided such signs comply with all other requirements of this chapter and are not otherwise prohibited in Section 8.5.

- A. A sign on a property that is for sale, rent or lease.
 1. When a property is being offered for sale, rent or lease, one temporary sign may be located on or off the property when the owner consents..
 2. In Residential districts, the sign may not exceed nine square feet in total area and may be no more than five feet high. In all other districts, the sign may not exceed 32 square feet in total area and may be no more than six feet high.
- B. Building marker signs, including addresses and private drive identification.
- C. Wayfinding signs, including street banner signs, traffic, utility, safety, railroad crossing, and other civic identification.
- D. Holiday and seasonal decorations.
- E. Emblems of a religious, civil, philanthropic, historical, or educational organization.
- F. Security and warning signs, not to exceed two per property.
- G. Flags not exceeding 60 square feet in area or 30 feet in height above ground.
- H. Seed or crop identification signs.
- I. Non-commercial temporary signs may be located in Residential districts when individual signs do not exceed nine square feet in total area and are no more than five feet in height, and the number of signs displayed at the same time per property cannot exceed a total sign area of more than

32 square feet. In all other districts, individual signs may not exceed 32 square feet in total area and may be no more than six feet high, and the number of signs displayed cannot exceed a total sign area of more than 64 square feet.

- J. Temporary window signs meeting all other requirements.
- K. Sponsorship signs for Big Sky Park partner organizations provided they conform to the Missoula County Parks, Trails and Recreation's *Sponsorship Sign Policy*.

8.5 PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following signs are prohibited in all zoning districts.

- A. Any sign not expressly permitted by this chapter.
- B. Abandoned and obsolete signs. The following are signs declared abandoned or obsolete:
 1. Any sign which advertises or pertains to a business, product, service, event, activity or purpose which is no longer conducted or publicly available, or which has not been in use or publicly available for 180 days, or which is no longer imminent within a period of 180 days;
 2. Any sign or structure that fails to display any sign copy for 12 months;
 3. Any sign which, for a period of 180 days, has unmanaged vegetation growing upon it, clinging to it, touching it or obscuring the sign face or sign parts;
 4. Any sign where the sign face is removed leaving only the supporting "shell" of a sign or the supporting braces, anchors, or similar components, and replacement hasn't begun within 90 days of notice; and,
 5. Any sign that, for a period of 180 days, has not been maintained free of peeling, chipping, rusting, wearing, and fading so as to be legible at all times or to be free of rusting, rotting, breaking, or other deterioration of the sign parts.
- C. Signs, other than those placed by agencies of government or a sign whose placement is authorized by such agencies, erected or placed on public property including parks, streets, poles, posts, bridges, natural features, and within any part of a public right-of-way. Any sign installed or placed on or over such prohibited locations shall be forfeited to the public and be subject to confiscation and disposal without notification. In addition to other remedies provided by these regulations, the County shall have the right to recover from the sign owner and/or installer the full costs of removal and disposal.
- D. Signs or sign structures which resemble, imitate, simulate, or conflict with traffic control signs or devices included in the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, which otherwise mislead or confuse persons traveling on streets, which create a traffic hazard, or which violate any county law or state statute.
- E. Signs which create a health or safety hazard by:
 1. Obstructing the clear view of pedestrians or vehicles;
 2. Obscuring official signs or signals;
 3. Obstructing any fire escape, window, door, stairway, ladder, or opening intended as a means of ingress or egress;
 4. Interfering with the minimum provision of light or air required by these or other regulations; or,
 5. Interfering with the function of gutters, downspouts, and other stormwater systems.
- F. Signs which contain lights, electronic copy, or transitions that flash, blink, rotate, or are otherwise animated. Spotlights, strobe lights, pogo, or zipsticks, not used for sign

illumination and intended solely for attracting attention, are likewise prohibited.

- G. Signs that are highly reflective and hamper the vision of motorists and pedestrians or cause light to be reflected above ambient levels onto adjacent properties.
- H. Signs that move, flutter, or contain parts that move by motorized or similar mechanical means. This prohibition shall not apply to flags that move and flutter with wind.
- I. Signs that rotate.
- J. Pennants, streamers, and wind-blown devices except when authorized by the County in conjunction with permits for temporary street closures, special events, going out of business sales, fairs, carnivals, and parades.
- K. Roof signs.
- L. Signs created or painted directly on the ground, including rocks, without a constructed support structure.
- M. Any vehicular sign, or sign attached to a trailer parked on public or private property unless:
 1. The primary purpose of such vehicle or trailer is not the display of signs;
 2. The signs are magnetic, decals or painted upon an integral part of the vehicle or trailer and do not break the silhouette of the vehicle; and,
 3. The vehicle or trailer is in operating condition, currently registered and licensed to operate on public streets (where applicable), and actively used or available for use in the daily function of the business to which the sign(s) relate.
- N. All billboards, including internally lit billboards and billboards with electronic/digital copy.

8.6 TEMPORARY SIGNS

Unless otherwise exempted by these regulations, temporary signs require the issuance of a Zoning

Compliance Permit and must meet the following requirements.

- A. Temporary signs may be located on-premises or off-premises.
- B. Temporary signs may be permitted for up to 30 consecutive days no more than four times per calendar year.
- C. Temporary signs shall be removed within seven days after an advertised event.
- D. No more than one temporary sign is permitted per property frontage, with the exception of blade signs.
- E. Temporary signs must be constructed of materials and inks capable of withstanding normal weather conditions.
- F. Temporary signs shall be anchored, attached, or otherwise affixed to a structure or support so that the sign cannot be easily dislodged by wind or rain.
- G. Temporary signs shall not be lighted.
- H. Temporary signs placed in, on, or over public property, right-of-way, or easement shall require approval of the Public Works Department, and MDOT if a state road is involved.
- I. Temporary signs shall not exceed eight square feet in total size when located in Residential district and 16 square feet in total size when located in all other districts except as provided in Section 8.8.A.1., unless otherwise approved by the Zoning Officer.

8.7 ALLOWABLE SIGN TYPES BY DISTRICT

A. **Sign Types Permitted by Zoning District.** The following table indicates which signs are permitted in each zoning district.

Table 1 Permitted Sign Types By District ■ = Permitted " - " = Not Permitted

SIGN TYPE	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Banner	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■
Billboard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blade Sign	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■
Building marker	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Canopy/awning	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Directional (non-governmental)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Drive-through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	-	■	■
Entry Signs	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-
Hanging	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Monument	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Pole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■
Post (single and double)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Projecting	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Sidewalk	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-
Temporary	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Wall	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Window	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

*except blade and banner signs, which are subject to their own standards. (Asterisk next to Temporary Sign row)

B. **Maximum Number of Signs per Parcel or Project Site.** The following table indicates the number of signs permitted by parcel or project site in each zoning district.

Table 2 Maximum Number of Signs by Zoning District

SIGN TYPE	OPEN LAND AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Maximum # of signs per parcel	Under 5 acres – 3 per parcel 5 acres+ – 1 per 100 feet of frontage					2		1	2	4			5	

8.8 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY SIGN TYPE

A. Banners

1. The following standards apply to banners:



Table 3 Banner Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)*	6	6	6	6	-	-	-	-	6	6	10	6	10	10
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum projection (ft.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	32	32	32	32	-	-	-	-	32	32	32	32	32	32

* Building-mounted banners must maintain a clearance of 8 feet above any pedestrian way and may not exceed the height of the eave.

**Applies to ground-mounted signs only.

2. General Provisions

- a. A banner sign is a temporary sign used as an interim measure for:
 - i. New businesses awaiting permanent sign approval, or
 - ii. Additional signage announcing an event or activity.

B. Billboards

1. The following standards apply to billboards
 - a. New billboards may not be installed after (date of adoption), within any zoning district in Missoula County.
 - b. Any lawfully established billboard may remain in place, subject to the provisions of Section 10.6 Nonconforming Signs.
2. General Provisions
 - a. Billboards shall not be internally lit and shall not include electronic/digital copy. Existing electronic message display billboards shall be subject to Section 10.6 Nonconforming Signs. External lighting of billboards shall be continuous, stationery, shielded light sources directed solely at the sign.
 - b. Billboards on unzoned land in Missoula County are regulated under the legacy district "Corridor Advertising Zone," adopted through Resolution #1995-071.

C. Blade Signs

- The following standards apply to blade signs:



Table 5 Blade Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	3
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	12	12
Minimum clearance (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	n/a	n/a
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	32	32

*Per street frontage.

- General Provisions

- A blade sign is a temporary sign used as additional signage announcing an event or activity.
- Blade signs must be set back from the edge of rights-of-way by no less than the height of the blade sign.
- Blade signs must be securely anchored into the ground or secured in a portable base designed for such function.

D. Building Markers

- The following standards apply to building marker signs:



Table 6 Building Markers

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
Max. number of sign faces	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum height (ft.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Minimum clearance (ft.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum projection (in.)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	10	2	6	10	10	10	10

E. Canopy and Awning Signs

- The following standards apply to canopy and awning signs:



Table 7 Canopy and Awning Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	4	2	1	1
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	10	10	12	12	12	12
Minimum clearance (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*	10/6*

*Per canopy/awning.

2. General Provisions

- A canopy sign may not extend outside the overall length or width of the canopy or below the canopy. However, a canopy sign may extend up to 12 inches above a canopy.
- A canopy sign may encroach over a sidewalk but not over a street or alley. The sign must be a minimum of two feet inside the curb line or edge of pavement, whichever results in greater setback.

F. Directional Signs (non-governmental)

- The following standards apply to non-governmental directional signs:



Table 8 Directional Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	5	5	5
Max. number of sign faces	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)*	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	6	6
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum projection (ft.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

*Building-mounted signs may not exceed the height of the eave.

**Applies to ground-mounted signs only.

2. General Provisions

- In Residential districts, directional signs are limited to neighborhood and amenity signs only.
- Directional signs may provide the activity's name and a brief description of goods and services offered.
- Directional signs may not devote more than 40 percent of the sign face area to advertising, including logos.

G. Drive-Through Signs

- The following standards apply to drive-through signs:



Table 9 Drive-Through Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	-	12	12
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	-	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	-	10	10
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	36	-	36	36

*Per lane.

**Applies to any portion of the sign over a travel lane. Signs placed adjacent to lanes have no minimum clearance requirement.

- General Provisions
 - Drive-through signs may only be internally illuminated.

H. Entry Signs

- The following standards apply to entry signs:



Table 10 Entry Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	6	6	6	6	6	6	-	-	-	-	-
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	-	-
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	-	-
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	24	24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-

* Per entrance.

** There is no minimum clearance, but the maximum clearance permitted between the ground and the bottom of the sign is 12 inches if supported by a frame or structure other than a pole.

- General Provisions

- An entry sign is a specific type of monument sign associated with a residential development or neighborhood.
- An entry sign may only be externally illuminated.

I. Hanging Signs

- The following standards apply to hanging signs:



Table 11 Hanging Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	-	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	12	12	12	12
Minimum clearance (ft.)	-	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

**Per public entrance.

2. General Provisions

- A hanging sign must be located within five feet of an accessible building entrance.
- A hanging sign may not be internally or externally illuminated.
- A hanging sign may encroach over a sidewalk but not over a street or alley. The sign must be a minimum of two feet inside the curb line or edge of pavement, whichever results in greater setback.

J. Monument Signs

- The following standards apply to monument signs:



Table 12 Monument Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces*	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	8	6	8	8
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	8	8	8	8	8	16	16	24	16	24	24

*Per primary street frontage.

** There is no minimum clearance, but the maximum clearance permitted between the ground and the bottom of the sign is 12 inches if supported by a frame or structure other than a pole.

2. General Provisions

- No portion of the monument sign may encroach into the right-of-way.
- The monument sign may be externally or internally illuminated in Mixed-use or Industrial districts. Monument signs in Residential or Open Lands and Agricultural districts may only be externally illuminated.

K. Pole Signs

- The following standards apply to pole signs:



Table 13 Pole Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	18	12	18	18
Minimum clearance (ft.)**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	8	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	36	24	36	36

*Per frontage.

**Clearance may be lowered to six feet if the sign obstructs a sight triangle required by Section 4.7.

- General Provisions
 - Pole signs must be located at least 15 feet from another structure on the same parcel.
 - Pole signs must not extend into or over a right-of-way.

L. Post Signs (single and double)

- The following standards apply to post signs:



Table 14 Post Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces*	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	8	8	8	8	4	4	4	4	4	6	8	6	8	8
Minimum clearance (ft.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum projection (ft.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	24	24	24	24	6	6	6	6	6	12	24	16	24	24

*Per primary street frontage, except that one additional freestanding sign is allowed for properties with 400 linear feet or more of primary street frontage.

2. General Provisions

- Post signs may only be externally illuminated.
- Post signs must not extend into or over a right-of-way.

M. Projecting Signs

- The following standards apply to projecting signs:



Table 15 Projecting Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
Max. number of sign faces	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Maximum height (ft.)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	12	12	12
Minimum clearance (ft.)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	8	8	8	8	4	4	4	4	6	8	10	10	4	4

*Per public entrance.

- General Provisions

- A projecting sign must be located within five feet of an accessible building entrance.
- A projecting sign may be internally or externally illuminated. Projecting signs in Live/Make (LM) districts shall not be illuminated.
- A projecting sign may encroach over a sidewalk but not over a street or alley. The sign must be a minimum of two feet inside the curb line or edge of pavement, whichever results in greater setback.

N. Sidewalk Signs

- The following standards apply to sidewalk signs:



Table 16 Sidewalk Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RBS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	-
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	3	4	4	-	-
Minimum clearance (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	9	9	12	12	-	-

2. General Provisions

- Sidewalk signs must be placed to accommodate a minimum six-foot pedestrian clear zone on a sidewalk.
- Sidewalk signs may not be placed in locations that obstruct the sight visibility triangle required in Section 4.7.
- Sidewalk signs may only be displayed during business hours.
- Sidewalk signs must be properly anchored for stability.
- The location, style, color, and design of sidewalk signs must be sensitive to the visually and mobility impaired.

O. Wall Signs

- The following standards apply to wall signs:



Table 17 Wall Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum height (ft.)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Minimum clearance (ft.)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	25	25	50	25	50	50

*Attached signs may not exceed the height of the eave.

2. General Provisions

- Wall signs are limited to the first floor of a building or structure.
- A wall sign may be internally or externally illuminated.

P. Window Signs

- The following standards apply to window signs:



Table 18 Window Signs

	OPEN LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL					RESIDENTIAL				MIXED-USE			INDUSTRIAL & MANUFACTURING	
	RO	AGR	AGW	AGRR	RRS	R	RM	LM	NR	NC	CC	CEC	ICL	ICH
Max. number allowed	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	5	5	5
Max. number of sign faces	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum height (ft.)	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Minimum clearance (ft.)	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum projection (ft.)	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Max. sign face area (sq. ft.)	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	4	4	30% coverage of total window area				

- General Provisions
 - Window signs are limited to the first floor of a building.

8.9 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

A. Iconic and Heritage Signs.

The Zoning Officer may determine that an existing sign makes a significant artistic or heritage contribution to the County or the neighborhood in which it is located. This declaration, which may be made only at the request of the owner or lessee of the sign, entitles its owner or lessee to continue using the sign subject to the maintenance requirements of this chapter.

B. Creative Sign Program.

The purpose of the Creative Sign Program is to encourage signs of unique design that exhibit a high degree of thoughtfulness, imagination, inventiveness, spirit, and sense of place that make a positive visual contribution to the overall image of the County. Creative signs shall be considered through the minor waiver process established in Chapter 11. In addition to any other conditions imposed, creative

signs must use or enhance the architectural elements of the building and be placed in a logical location in relation to the overall composition of the building's façade or surrounding structures or uses and not covering any key architectural features.

8.10 METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

A. Sign Face Area.

1. Sign face area includes the entire area within the perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of one side of a sign, excluding any structure essential for support or service of the sign and architectural elements of the building.
2. The sign face area for ground signs and monument signs is calculated as the area enclosing the extreme limits of copy only (see Figure 1 for detail).
3. In the case of individual letters or unique-shaped emblems mounted to a wall, the area of extreme limits of the copy/shape is considered to be the sign face area (see Figures 2 and 3 for detail).

B. Sign Height. The height of a sign is measured from the average grade level below the sign to the topmost point of the sign or structure (see Figure 4 for detail).

C. Sign Setback. The setback of a sign is measured from the property line or right-of-way, whichever is closer, to the line projected to the ground plan of the nearest portion of the sign.

FIG. 1 Sign Face Area

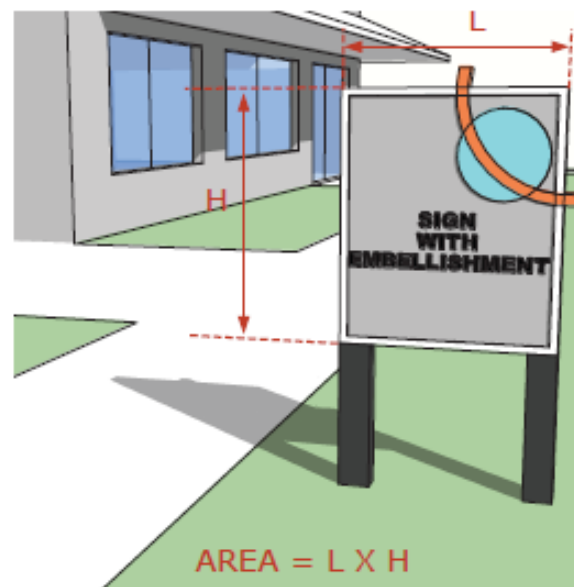


FIG. 2 Sign Face Area—Emblems

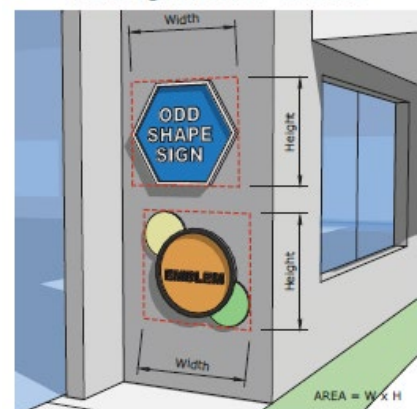


FIG. 3 Sign Face Area—Letters



FIG. 4 Sign Height

