

SECTION 3.28 SIGNS

The purpose of regulating signs is to promote public safety, health and welfare by reducing visual distractions and obstructions of view which could divert the motorist's attention from the road. While there is a need for signs to inform, direct, identify, advertise and otherwise communicate information to the public, there is also a need to maintain the beauty of an area by addressing sign clutter and blight. This is in compliance with the Township's Master Plan objective of not sacrificing the rural character of the Township.

- A. It is not the intention of this ordinance to regulate the message or content of any sign.
- B. Any sign that can be displayed under this ordinance may contain a noncommercial message.
- C. Any sign not expressly permitted under this section is prohibited.
- D. The following signs are prohibited in all districts:
 - 1. A sign resembling the flashing lights customarily used in traffic signals or police, fire, ambulances or rescue vehicles or signs which imitate official traffic directional signs or devices;
 - 2. A sign using the words "Stop," "Danger," or any other words, phrases, symbols or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse a vehicle driver;
 - 3. Signs affixed to fences or utility poles or structural elements not capable of supporting such signs or not authorized for such.
- E. All signs and sign structures shall conform to all applicable codes adopted by the Township.
- F. Signs erected in the Township shall not obstruct the clear view of traffic nor be located or designed in a manner that conflicts with pedestrian or vehicular movement or circulation.
- G. Nonconforming signs in use on the effective date of this ordinance shall be permitted to remain provided they are properly maintained. Such maintenance is restricted to painting and minor repairs which cannot be considered to be a rebuilding of the sign.
- H. The light source for illuminating signs must be directed in a manner that will prevent light from shining onto traffic or neighboring properties.
- I. Signs shall not project above the roof line or cornice.

J. Signs shall be set back a minimum of 10 feet from side property lines.

UNLIT SIGNS

Sale of produce – up to 6 sq. ft. each.

Announcements such as no trespassing – up to 2 sq.ft.

Directional – up to 16 sq.ft.

Historic plaques and individual identification – up to 6 sq.ft.

Real estate – up to 6 sq.ft. with removal 30 days post sale.

Political – up to 16 sq.ft. with removal 30 days post election.

Home based business – up to 6 sq.ft.

Construction – up to 6 sq.ft. with removal 30 days after completion.

Special Land Use – one up to 32 sq.ft.

Wall sign – one up to 24 sq.ft.

Wall or awning – up to 15% of commercial portion of front building face.

Commercial/Business – one up to 32 sq.ft. and one wall sign up to 24 sq.ft.

ILLUMINATED SIGNS

One entrance - up to 48 sq.ft.

Other - up to 24 sq.ft.

This ordinance and its variance components, articles, sections, subsections, sentences and phrases are hereby declared to be severable.