

Springdale Township Signage Ordinance

§101. APPLICABILITY

The regulations contained in this Section shall apply to all signs in all zoning districts. Section

§102. TYPES AND CLASSES

Signs in all Zoning Districts shall be categorized according to the types and classes described herein and shall comply with the requirements for those types and classes described in this Section.

A. Classes: Signs are classified by physical attributes into the following categories:

B. Types: Signs are categorized by use, function or purpose into the following types:

§103. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The following regulations shall apply to signs in all Zoning Districts:

A. Restricted Signs: The following signs shall not be permitted in any Zoning District:

1. "A-Frame" or sandwich board signs;
2. Portable or Wheeled Signs;
3. Banners and Pennants, other than Temporary Special Event Displays authorized by this Ordinance;
4. Inflatable structures of any kind;
5. Moving or Flashing Signs, except for that portion of a permitted sign which indicates time or temperature;
6. Signs on trees, utility poles or official traffic control devices or signs;
7. Signs which imitate traffic control devices;
8. Signs painted on walls or chimneys of a building or on fences or walls;
9. Strings of lights, flashers, flags, pennants or other display paraphernalia, except those displays specifically authorized by this Section. Overhanging Signs, as defined herein;
10. Signs on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers which are parked on a public right-of-way, public property or private property, other than temporarily for overnight storage on the site of a business or for maintenance, repair, loading, unloading or rendering a service at any location, which are visible from the public right-of-way and where the apparent purpose is to advertise a product or direct people to a business or activity located on the same or nearby property.

B. Exempt Signs: The following signs shall be exempt from these regulations:

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1. Residential Identification Signs, as defined herein;
 2. Holiday decorations displayed for recognized Federal or State holidays, provided they do not interfere with traffic safety or do not, in any other way, become a public safety hazard;
 3. Memorial/Historical Plaques, as defined herein;
 4. Window Displays, as defined herein, provided they shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the gross surface area of all windows in an establishment;
 5. Signs erected by a governmental agency, including street signs and official traffic signs, but not including Off-Premises Direction Signs regulated by §804.4.
- C. Lots with Multiple Street Frontage: In all Zoning Districts, lots fronting on more than one (1) street shall be permitted to have one (1) sign which is authorized per lot on each street frontage.
- D. Temporary Signs: In all Zoning Districts where authorized by §804, real estate, construction and development signs shall be considered temporary signs which shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the completion of sales or construction.
- E. Notification Signs: In all Zoning Districts, the number, location and size of legal notification signs erected by public agencies shall be in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth. In all Zoning Districts, legal notification signs posted on private property by property owners such as "no trespassing", "no hunting" and the like shall be limited to a surface area not exceeding two (2) square feet. The placement and maximum number of signs permitted along road frontages shall be one (1) sign for every thirty (30) feet of road frontage.
- F. Visibility: No sign shall be located in such a position that it will cause a hazard by obstructing visibility for traffic on a street or obscuring a traffic signal or other traffic control device. No sign, other than official traffic signs and off-premises directional signs, shall hang over or be erected within the right-of-way of any street. No sign shall be located within the clear sight triangle defined by S603.D of this Ordinance.
- G. Illumination: Illumination, when authorized by this Ordinance, shall be directed upon the sign face and not towards adjoining properties or streets. Flashing or oscillating signs shall not be permitted. Internal illumination of signs shall be permitted only with accordance of the lighting performance standards established with this Ordinance. Lighting shall be stationary and constant in intensity and color at all times. The intensity of any source of illumination of any sign, whether indirect or internal., shall be shielded so as to not create glare and to be compatible with the intensity of ambient light and illumination on surrounding properties. Signage illuminations shall not exceed a luminance of one thousand five hundred (1,500) nits during daylight hours between sunrise and sunset and shall not exceed a luminance of one hundred fifty (150) nits at all other times.
- H. Maintenance and Inspection: All signs must be constructed of a durable material and

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maintained in good condition. Any sign found to be in an unsafe condition upon inspection shall be declared to be a public nuisance and the Zoning Officer shall give notice to the owner in writing to repair or remove the sign within ten (10) days. Upon failure of the owner to comply, the Township shall remove the sign at the owner's expense.

- I. Removal of Signs: Whenever any business is discontinued or vacated, all signs relating to the discontinued or vacated business shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the vacation or discontinuance of the business. Upon failure of the owner to comply, the Township may remove the sign at the owner's expense.
- J. Permits Required: No permit shall be required for the following types of signs as described herein: Notification, Real Estate, Political, Construction Signs and Off-Premises Direction Signs erected by a governmental agency. Permits shall be required for all other signs. The Zoning Officer shall issue the required permits upon submission of an application which complies with all applicable provisions of this Ordinance and payment of the required fee established from time to time by Resolution of the Township Commissioners.
- K. Expiration of Permits: Any permit issued by the Zoning Officer for erection, alteration, replacement or relocation of any sign shall expire automatically within six (6) months of the date of issuance if work authorized by the permit has not been initiated and diligently pursued.
- L. Sign Location: Except for Billboards, Political Signs and Off-Premises Directional Signs, as defined herein, where authorized by this Ordinance, all signs shall be located on the premises which they are intended to serve.

§104. SIGNS AUTHORIZED IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS

The following signs are authorized in all Zoning Districts:

- A. Bulletin Sign: One (1) bulletin sign which is non-illuminated or indirectly or internally illuminated and which does not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in surface area, shall be permitted in connection with any church, school, library or similar public or semi-public building.
- B. Real Estate Sign: One (1) non-illuminated temporary real estate sign shall be permitted on each lot provided the surface area of the sign shall not exceed six (6) feet in height. The real estate sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in surface area when located in any residential zoning district and shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in any other Zoning District. Such sign shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the sale or rental of the property on which it is located.
- C. Development Sign: One (1) non-illuminated temporary development sign shall be permitted on each lot provided the surface area of the sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in surface area. The development signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height when located in any residential zoning district and shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height in any

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other Zoning District. Such sign shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the sale or rental of the last lot or completion of the proposed construction in the development.

- D. Construction Sign: One (1) non-illuminated temporary construction sign announcing the names of contractors, mechanics or artisans engaged in performing work on the premises shall be permitted on a lot, provided the sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the completion of the work.
- E. Temporary Special Event Sign: One (1) non-illuminated temporary special event display sign, as defined by this Ordinance, shall be permitted to be erected on the face of a public building, church or building housing a non profit organization, provided that the area of the signs shall not exceed forty (40) square feet and provided the sign is displayed for a period no longer than thirty (30) days and is removed within five (5) days following the event that it is erected to promote.
- F. Home Occupation Identification Sign: One (1) non-illuminated home occupation identification sign shall be permitted for an approved home occupation, provided that the surface area of the sign does not exceed two (2) square feet and the sign shall contain only the name, address and occupation of the resident and shall not contain any logo or other advertising.
- G. Political Signs: Non-illuminated temporary political signs erected during a political campaign shall be permitted, provided that they are not of a type restricted by this Section. The signs shall not be erected before thirty-five (35) days prior to the election and shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election for which they were erected.
- H. Off-Premises Directional Signs: A maximum of four (4) off-premises directional signs shall be permitted to be erected along an arterial or collector street, as defined by this ordinance by any agency or business other than a governmental agency, except that home occupations shall not be permitted to have any off-premises directional Signs.
 - 1. The off-premises directional signs shall be located within one hundred (100) feet of an intersection of an arterial or collector street with any other arterial or collector street and the maximum number of signs located at any intersection shall be four (4) signs.
 - 2. The off-premises directional signs shall be non-illuminated and shall not exceed two (2) square feet in surface area. Such signs shall be permitted in the public right-of-way only if permission is granted by the owner of the right-of-way. Evidence of permission from the landowner shall be required for signs that are proposed to be erected on property owned by an owner other than the owner of the building or use the sign is intended to serve. Signs located outside the public right-of-way shall be located no more than ten (10) feet from the edge of the right-of-way or no more than fifteen (15) feet from the edge of the cartway, if the right-of-way is not contiguous with the front lot line.
- I. On-Premises Directional Signs: On any lot which contains two (2) or more multi-family or nonresidential buildings and/or on any lot which provides more than one hundred (100)

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parking spaces, on-premises directional signs shall be permitted, provided that the surface area of any one (1) sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet.

1. On lots with areas less than one (1) acre, a maximum of four (4) non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated on-premises directional signs shall be permitted.
2. On lots with areas of one (1) acre or more, a maximum of six (6) non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated on-premises directional signs shall be permitted on the first acre.
3. For each additional acre or fraction thereof over one (1) acre, two (2) additional on-premises directional signs shall be permitted.

§105. SIGNS AUTHORIZED IN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS

The following signs shall be permitted in all Residential Zoning Districts:

- A. Residential Plan Identification Sign: One (1) non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated permanent wall or free-standing ground residential plan identification sign containing only the street address and/or name of a residential subdivision plan or multi-family building or development which shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in area. A sign identifying the name of a residential subdivision may be affixed to a free-standing decorative wall, rather than to a building wall, provided that the decorative wall meets all applicable ordinance requirements and does not obstruct visibility for traffic entering or leaving the plan.
- B. Business Identification Sign: One (1) non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated wall or free-standing ground identification sign for any business use, other than a home occupation, which is a legal nonconforming use or which is authorized as a Conditional Use in a residential zoning district which shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area.

§106. SIGNS AUTHORIZED IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

The following signs shall be permitted in all nonresidential Zoning Districts:

- A. Temporary Special Event Display: Temporary special event displays, as defined by this Ordinance, shall be permitted provided that:
 1. No more than two (2) signs or banners shall be permitted on any establishment at any one time;
 2. The temporary special event display signs shall be securely attached to the building or to the supporting structure of a free-standing pole business identification sign;
 3. Temporary Special Event Display signs shall be displayed for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days, either consecutively or cumulatively, in any twelve (12) month period;
 4. The aggregate surface area of all temporary special event display signs shall not exceed

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forty (40) square feet per establishment. In the event that there is more than one (1) establishment on a site, the maximum aggregate surface area of all temporary special event display signs on the site at any one time shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet;

5. Portable signs shall not be considered temporary special event display signs; and
 6. Temporary special event display signs shall be non-illuminated.
- B. Changeable Copy Signs: In addition to the authorized business identification signs, one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated changeable copy sign shall be permitted per lot, regardless of the number of businesses on the lot, which shall not exceed thirty (30) square feet in area and which shall be permanently affixed to the wall of the building or to the supporting structure of an authorized free-standing sign on the lot.
- C. Business Identification Signs:
1. Wall Signs: Each business establishment shall be permitted to have wall signs which may be illuminated or non-illuminated. The aggregate area of all wall signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet for each lineal foot of width of the front wall of the building, or portion of the building, occupied by the business or a maximum of one hundred (100) square feet, whichever is less. The wall identification sign shall not be located on the roof nor extend above the height of the building.
 2. Ground Signs: In addition to the wall signs, one (1) free-standing ground sign shall be permitted per lot, regardless of the number of businesses on the lot, provided that:
 - a. No free-standing pole sign exists or is proposed to be erected on the lot.
 - b. The maximum surface area of the ground sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in the C District and shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in the I LI and CO Districts.
 - c. The height and location of the sign shall be designed so as to not interfere with visibility for vehicular traffic entering or leaving the lot or traveling on any street and in no case shall the total height exceed six (6) feet.
 - d. Ground signs shall be non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated only. Internally illuminated ground signs shall not be permitted.
 - e. All free-standing ground signs shall be located at least ten (10) feet from any property line, except where property abuts on a public right-of-way, the ground sign shall be set back at least ten (10) feet from the right-of-way or at least fifteen (15) feet from the edge of the cartway if the right-of-way is not contiguous with the front lot line.
 3. Pole Signs: In addition to the authorized wall signs, one (1) free standing pole sign shall be permitted per lot, regardless of the number of businesses on the lot, provided that:

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- a. No free-standing ground sign exists or is proposed to be erected on the lot.
 - b. The pole sign shall be non-illuminated, indirectly illuminated or internally illuminated.
 - c. The maximum height of the top of the pole sign shall be twenty (20) feet;
 - d. The minimum height of the bottom edge of the sign shall be eight (8) feet;
 - e. The maximum surface area of the free-standing pole sign shall not exceed forty (40) square feet if there is only one (1) business on the lot and shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet if there is more than one (1) business on the lot. Neither dimension of such sign shall be less than five (5) feet.
 - f. No portion of any sign shall project over any public right-of-way nor shall it be located within the clear sight triangle of any street intersection as defined by §603.D of this Ordinance.
 - g. All free-standing pole signs shall be set back at least ten (10) feet from every property line, except where property abuts on a public right-of-way, the sign shall be set back at Least ten (10) feet from the right of way or at least fifteen (15) feet from the edge of the cartway if the right-of-way is not contiguous with the front lot line.
- D. Roof Signs: Roof signs may be illuminated or non-illuminated. Roof signs shall be permitted only in place of a wall sign in the I Industrial District. The surface area of a roof sign shall not exceed two (2) square foot for each lineal foot of width of the front wall of the building or a maximum of two hundred (200) square feet, whichever is Less. Roof signs shall not project more than six (6) feet above the highest point of the roof on which they are erected.
- E. Arcade Signs: In shopping centers or office complexes which have pedestrian access ways covered by a roof, marquee or exterior arcade, one (1) arcade sign, as defined herein, shall be permitted for each business in the building, provided that the maximum surface area of each sign shall not exceed eight (8) square feet.