

DIVISION 2. - SIGN REGULATIONS

Sec. 32-250.23. - Sign permits—Generally.

7. *Permit not required.* The following signs shall be subject to the standards of this Division but shall not require a sign permit. Unless otherwise expressly required by the proffers or conditions of a rezoning, proffer amendment, or special use permit, the following signs may be erected, constructed, posted, painted, altered, or relocated without a sign permit:

- (a) Displays of letters and numbers indicating a property's address located on a building or structure not exceeding a sign area of six (6) square feet.
- (b) Changes to the sign face where there is no change to the sign structure, including no change in the sign face area, height, location, or alteration of the sign cabinet, if applicable. An example includes, but is not limited to, the replacement or repainting of a sign face.
- (c) Changes of copy on changeable copy signs and electronic message board signs.
- (d) A-frame (portable). Signs located 50 feet or more from the nearest public street, with a maximum sign area of 12 square feet and a maximum height of four (4) feet.

Example provided below:



- (e) Pavement markings, which include signs applied directly and entirely to and flush with an asphalt, concrete, or similar paved surface.
- (f) Window signs. All window signs shall meet the following standards:
  - i) Window signs shall be permitted in commercial, office, and industrial districts, and shall not occupy more than 25 percent of the aggregate area on each window or glass door.

- ii) Window signs are those visible outside the window that are attached to or located within 18 inches in front of or behind the surface of a window or glass door.

(g) Developments permitted the following signage:

- i) Development that is marketed for sale, rent, or lease: The total maximum size permitted for signage shall not exceed more than one-tenth ( 0.1) square feet of signage per linear foot of street frontage up to a total maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet. For lots or developments with one hundred-sixty (160) feet or less of linear street frontage, the total maximum size of the sign shall be sixteen (16) square feet. All freestanding signs shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height. All sign(s) shall be removed within fourteen (14) days of settlement, rental, or lease of the property.
- ii) Development that is actively under a site plan for construction, remodeling, or renovation: The total maximum size permitted for the signage shall not exceed more than one-tenth (0.1) square feet of signage per linear foot frontage up to a total maximum of sixty-four (64) square feet. For lots or developments with one hundred sixty (160) linear feet or less of street frontage, the total maximum size of the signage shall be sixteen (16) square feet. All freestanding signs shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height. All sign(s) shall be removed within fourteen (14) days after issuance of the final Building Certificate of Occupancy, acceptance of all roads by VDOT and/or the County, or expiration or revocation of a building permit, whichever comes first.
- iii) Single-family or duplex dwellings or lots that are marketed for sale, rent, or lease: The total maximum size permitted for signage shall not exceed more than one-tenth (0.1) square feet of signage per linear foot of street frontage up to a total maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet. For lots with eighty (80) feet or less of linear street frontage, the total maximum size of the sign shall be eight (8) square feet. There shall not be more than one (1) free-standing sign per property and the freestanding sign shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height. All sign(s) shall be removed within fourteen (14) days of settlement, rental, or lease of the property.
- iv) Single-family dwelling lots that is under construction, remodeling, or renovation: Regardless of the preceding Sections 32-250.23.7.(g) i) through Section 32-250.23.7.(g) iii, the total maximum size for signage shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area. All free-standing signs shall not exceed five (5) feet in height. All sign(s) shall be removed within seven (7) days after issuance of the final Building Certificate of Occupancy, or expiration or revocation of a building permit.

(h-g) Yard Signs: A residential use or residential project shall be permitted three (3) yard signs per 1,000 linear feet of road frontage, separated by a minimum of 250 feet. Each sign shall have a maximum sign area of six (6) square feet and shall have a maximum height of five (5) feet.

These signs are intended to be temporary in use, and shall be the responsibility of the property owner for maintenance in accordance with County Code section 32-250.26. Examples of yard signs provided below:



~~(i)~~ A clearance sign which indicates only the maximum height allowable to safely navigate a drive-in lane or travelway shall be permitted. The clearance sign shall not exceed three (3) square feet and shall be excluded from the allowable sign area permitted on the property.

~~(j)~~ General maintenance, painting, repainting, cleaning and other normal maintenance and repair of a sign or any sign structure, unless a structural change is made.

~~(k)~~ Signs associated with a public institution installed on public property.

~~(l)~~ Any sign that is required to be constructed, placed or maintained by the federal government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or Prince William County.

~~(m)~~ ~~(k)~~ A display of less than two square feet in area shall be considered a sign, however, does not require a sign permit.