



## A Citizens' Guide to Signs

Last Revised April 4, 2013

### **Business Signs in Non-Residential Zones:**

**General Regulations:** Be aware that you:

- Need a [Zoning Permit](#) in order to have a sign
- Are allowed a maximum of 2 signs for a given use, with a total maximum area of one square foot per one linear foot of building frontage
- Cannot utilize animated or flashing signs
- Cannot use roof signs or billboards

**Free-Standing Signs:** Keep in mind that you:

- Are only allowed 1 sign per property
- Cannot exceed surface area of 32 square feet
- Cannot exceed a height of 20 feet and no less than 4 feet

**Temporary Signs:** Please note that:

- Every business is allowed one A-Frame (i.e. sandwich board)
  - A-Frames must be on private property
  - Cannot block walkways or plantings on public property
- Signs cannot exceed 50% of the area of a window or door
- Signs cannot be in place for more than 30 days

### **Signs in Primarily Residential Zones:**

- You are allowed a name plate or sign that is no larger than 1.5 square feet in area (typically for home occupations)
- Religious institutions, schools and similar non-profit institutions may have a sign of up to 16 square feet in area
- Other Special Permit uses may also have a sign of up to 16 square feet in area

**Note:**

Sign regulations depend on the zone. Please see the [Zoning Regulations, Section 550-550.3.2](#) for zone-specific signage requirements.

Any further questions, call the Planning and Zoning Department at **(203) 287-7070**