

## Windber Borough Sign Regulations

### §1201 Intent.

The purpose of this Part is to promote and protect the public health, welfare, and safety by regulating existing and proposed outdoor advertising, outdoor advertising signs, and outdoor signs of all types. It is intended to protect property values, create a more attractive economic and business climate, enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, and preserve the scenic and natural beauty of designated areas. It is further intended to reduce sign or advertising distraction and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents, reduce hazards that may be caused by signs overhanging or projecting over public rights-of-way, provide more open space, curb the deterioration or the natural environment, and enhance community development. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1200)

### §1202 Governmental Signs Excluded.

For the purpose of this Chapter “sign” does not include signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by any law, ordinance, or governmental regulation. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1201)

### §1203 General Requirements for all Signs and Districts.

The regulations contained in this section shall apply to all signs and all districts.

A. Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall only employ light of constant intensity, and no sign shall be illuminated by or containing flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving light or lights. In no event shall an illuminated sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination there from to be directed or beamed upon a public thoroughfare, highway, sidewalk, or adjacent premises so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard or nuisance.

B. No sign shall employ any parts or elements which revolve, rotate, whirl, spin or otherwise make use of motion to attract attention.

Subsections (A) and (B) of this Section shall not apply to any sign performing a public service function indicating time, temperature, stock market quotation, upcoming events or similar services.

A. All wiring, fittings, and materials used in the construction, connection and operation of electrically illuminated signs shall be in accordance with the provisions of the local electric code in effect.

B. No projecting sign shall be erected or maintained from the front or face of a building a distance of more than two (2) feet, including those projecting from the face of any theater, hotel, or motel marquee.

C. No sign shall be placed on the roof of any building, except those signs whose supporting structure is screened so the sign appears to be a continuation of the face of the building.

D. No portable or temporary sign shall be placed on the front or face of a building or on any premises, except as provided in §1208, herein.

E. No sign or part thereof shall contain or consist of banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, or other similar moving devices. Such devices, as well as strings of lights, shall not be used for the purpose of advertising or attracting attention when not part of a sign.

F. No sign erected or maintained in the window of a building, visible from any public or private street or highway, shall occupy more than fifty (50%) percent of the window surface.

G. No sign of any classification shall be installed, erected, or attached in any form, shape, or manner to a fire escape or any door or window giving access to any fire escape.

H. All signs hung and erected shall be plainly marked with the name of the person, firm, or corporation responsible for maintaining the sign.

I. Should any sign be or become unsafe or be in danger of falling, the owner thereof or the person maintaining the same, shall upon receipt of written notice from the Zoning Officer proceed at once to put such sign in a safe and secure condition or remove the sign.

L. No sign shall be placed in any public right-of-way except publicly-owned signs, such as traffic control signs and directional signs. Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property but bearing no advertising matter shall be permitted on any property.

#### §1204 Measurement of Sign Area.

The surface area of a sign shall be computed as including the entire area within a regular, geometric form or combinations of regular, geometric forms comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. Frames and structural members not being advertising matter shall not be included in computation of surface area. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1203)

#### §1205 Signs Permitted in All Districts Not Requiring a Permit.

1. Signs advertising the sale, lease, or rental of the premises upon which the sign is located, shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area, except on all residential lots where the area of the sign shall not be more than six (6) square feet.

2. Professional name plates not to exceed four (4) square feet in area per professional.

3. Signs denoting the name and address of the occupants of the premises, not to exceed two (2) square feet in area. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1210)

§1206 Signs Permitted in Any District Requiring a Permit.

1. Signs or bulletin boards customarily incidental to places of worship, libraries, museums, social clubs, or societies, which signs or bulletin boards shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and which shall be located on the premises of such institution.

2. Any sign advertising a commercial enterprise, including real estate developers or sub-dividers, shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and shall advertise only the names of the owners, trade name, products sold and/or the business or activity conducted on the premises where such sign is located.  
(Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1202)

§1207 Signs Permitted in General Commercial and Industrial Districts Requiring a Permit.

The regulations set forth in this Section shall apply to signs on all commercial and industrial lots and such signs shall require a permit.

**A. On a General, Commercial, or Industrial lot, each business shall be permitted one (1) flat or wall on-premises sign.** Projection of wall signs shall not exceed two (2) feet measured from the face of the main building. The area of all permanent on-premises signs for any single business enterprise may have a **one square foot area for each lineal foot of building width**, or part of a building, occupied by such enterprise but shall not exceed a **maximum area of one hundred (100) square feet.**

**B.** Two (2) off-premises signs with a total area not exceeding six hundred (600) square feet may be permitted on a GC Commercial or Industrial lot. No single off-premises sign shall exceed six hundred (600) square feet, nor shall off-premises signs visible to approaching traffic have a minimum spacing of less than two hundred (200) feet. Off-premises signs shall conform to all applicable yard and height regulations for the

appropriate zoning district, except that such signs intended to be viewed from an elevated highway shall be not more than twenty (20) feet above the level of the roadway at its nearest point. Off-premises wall signs shall have all structural and supporting members concealed from view. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1202)

§1208 Temporary Signs.

Temporary signs not exceeding fifty (50) square feet in area, announcing special public or institutional events, the erection of a building, the architect, the builders, or contractors may be erected for a period of sixty (60) days plus the construction period. Such temporary signs shall conform to the general requirements listed in §1203, the setback requirements I §§1212-1215 and, in addition, such other standards deemed necessary to accomplish the intent of this Part as stated in §1201. Temporary signs shall be removed upon completion of the project. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1220)

§1209 Free Standing Signs.

Free-standing on-premises signs not over thirty (30) feet in height, having a maximum total sign area of one hundred (100) square feet per display area and located not closer than ten (10) feet to any street right-of-way line and not closer than thirty (30) feet to any adjoining lot line may be erected to serve a group of business establishments. There shall be only one (1) freestanding sign for each building, regardless of the number of businesses conducted in said building. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1221)

§1210 Wall Signs Pertaining to Non-Conforming Uses.

On-premises wall signs pertaining to a nonconforming use shall be permitted on the same premises of such use, provided the area of such sign does not exceed twelve (12) square feet. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1222)

§1211 Political Signs.

No political sign shall be posted in any place or in any manner that is destructive to public property upon posting or removal. No political sign shall be posted in a public right-of-way nor shall any such sign be posted on a utility pole. No political sign shall be posted more than sixty (60) days before an election. All candidates for public office, their campaign committees, or other person responsible for the posting on public property of campaign material shall remove such material within two (2) weeks following Election Day. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1230)

§1212 Sign Setback Requirements.

Except as modified in §§1213-1215, and subject to the visibility requirement of §911, on-premises signs, where permitted, shall be set back from the established right-of-way line of any thoroughfare at least ten (10) feet. No off-premises sign shall be erected in front of the required setback line for the appropriate zoning district. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1240)

§1213 Increased Setback.

For every square foot by which any on-premises sign exceeds fifty (50) square feet, the setback shall be increased by one-half (1/2) foot but need not exceed one hundred (100) feet.

(Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1241)

§1214 Setbacks for Off-Premises Signs.

If a setback line is not established for the appropriate zoning district, off-premises signs shall be set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way line.

(Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1242)

§1215 Setbacks for Public and Quasi-Public Signs.

Real Estate signs and bulletin boards for a church, school or any other public, religious or educational institution may be erected not less than ten (10) feet from the established right-of-way line of any street or highway provided such sign or bulletin board does not obstruct traffic visibility at street or highway intersections.

(Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1243)

§1216 Special Yard Provisions.

On-premises signs, where permitted, shall be erected or placed in conformity with the side and rear yard requirements of the district in which located, except that on any residential lot, on-premises signs shall not be erected or placed within twelve (12) feet of a side or rear lot line. If the requirement for a single side yard in the appropriate zoning district is more than twelve (12) feet, the latter shall apply. (Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1244)

§1217 Limitations.

For the purposes of this Part, outdoor advertising off-premises signs shall be classified as a business use and be permitted in all districts zoned for manufacturing or business or lands used for agricultural purposes. In addition, regulation of signs along interstate and primary highways shall conform to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

(Ord. 079-4, 10/31/1979, §1244)

§1218 Violations.

In any case any sign shall be installed, erected, constructed, or maintained in violation of any of the terms of this Chapter, the Zoning Officer shall notify in writing the owner or lessee thereof to alter such sign so as to comply with this Part. Failure to comply with this Part shall be deemed a violation and shall be punishable under §311 of this Chapter. Political signs posted in violation of §1211 of this Part are subject to removal by the Zoning Officer five (5) days after written notice of violation of §1211 has been given. (Ord.079-4,10/31/1979, §1260)

