

SECTION 1502. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1502.1 PROHIBITED SIGNS.

The following signs are considered to be unsafe, dangerous, and hazardous or an attractive nuisance, therefore these signs shall not be permitted, erected or maintained in any zoning district.

- A. Any sign which by reason of its size, location, content, coloring, or manner of illumination constitutes a traffic hazard or detriment to traffic safety by obstructing the vision of drivers or obstructs or detracts from the visibility of any traffic control device on public street or roads.
- B. Signs which make use of words such as STOP, LOOK, DANGER or other words, phrases, symbols, or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse traffic.
- C. Signs and sign structures that are no longer in use as originally intended, have been abandoned, are not structurally sound, pose a hazard to health and safety, or not kept in good repair.
- D. Any sign which obstructs ingress or egress from any required door, window, fire or other required exit way.
- E. Any sign unlawfully installed, erected, or maintained after the effective date of this ordinance.
- F. Signs having flashing, blinking or running copy. However, signs of this type which present items such as time, temperature, date and public interest events may be permitted after review by the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- G. Any sign installed prior to the effective date of this ordinance without a permit, when in fact, the previous ordinance required a permit.
- H. Billboards (off-premise advertising) located within three hundred (300) feet of residential district lines for R-R, R-1, R-2, R-3 Districts or on any non-state highway located in the Township.

1502.2 PERMIT REQUIRED.

No sign or billboard shall be erected or altered until approved by the Zoning Administrator and a permit issued.

1502.3 PLACEMENT OF SIGNS WITHIN RIGHT OF WAY AND PUBLIC EASEMENTS.

Signs and billboards are prohibited from all public right-of-way and dedicated public easements. In addition, signs are also prohibited from encroachment or suspension over a public right-of-way or easement.

1502.4 MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF SIGN.

All signs and components thereof shall be kept in good repair and in safe, neat, clean and attractive condition.

- A. **Removal of Sign.** The Zoning Administrator may order the removal of any sign erected or maintained in violation of this code. Said order shall be made in writing, delivered personally or by certified mail, and shall allow the person receiving it thirty (30) days to remove the sign or to bring it into compliance. Said order shall be served upon the owner of such sign, or to the owner or manager of the building, structure, or premises on which such sign is located. The Zoning Administrator may remove a sign immediately and without notice, at cost to the owner or lessee, if it is the Enforcement Officer's opinion that the condition of the sign presents an immediate threat to the safety of the public.
- B. **Abandoned Signs.** A sign shall be removed by the owner or lessee of the premises upon which the sign is located when the business which it advertises is no longer conducted on the premises. If the owner or lessee fails to remove it within one hundred eighty (180) days of the termination of business, the Zoning Administrator, or a duly authorized representative, may remove the sign at the cost to the property owner. When a successor to a defunct business agrees to maintain the signs as provided in this code, this removal requirement shall not apply.
- C. **Traffic Safety.** No sign shall be placed so as to obstruct the view of approaching vehicular or pedestrian traffic from any direction or present a hazard to the safe flow of traffic. In the event that any sign violates this requirement, the Zoning Administrator may remove such sign to protect traffic. The owner of the property, or business operator where such sign is located, shall first be notified of its impending removal. The property owner or business operator shall be given opportunity to alter or replace such a sign within twenty-four (24) hours to make it comply with this Section.