

CHAPTER 19

SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

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Part 1

Signs

§100. General. The following regulations shall be observed in all districts:

1. No sign shall be erected within the lines of a street right-of-way, except traffic signs and similar regulatory notices of a duly constituted governmental body.

2. No moving or flashing signs which may have the effect of distracting motorists on adjacent highways shall be permitted.

3. No sign which emits smoke, visible vapors or particles, sound, or odor shall be permitted.

4. No artificial light or reflecting device shall be used as a part of a sign where such light or device interferes with, competes for attention with, or may be mistaken for a traffic signal.

5. Flood lighting shall be arranged so that the source of light is not visible from any point off the lot and that only the sign is directly illuminated thereby.

6. No sign shall be erected containing information on it which states or implies that a property may be used for any purpose not permitted under the provisions of Chapter 27 in the zoning district in which the property to which the sign relates is located.

7. No sign shall be erected on a premises except one advertising a business or articles or merchandise for sale on the same premises.

8. Every sign permitted shall be constructed of durable material and kept in good condition, repair and safe from collapse. Any sign which is allowed to become dilapidated shall be removed by the Township at the expense of the owner or lessee of the property on which it is located.

9. All distances provided for in this Part 1 shall be measured along straight lines between signs and from the near edge to near edge of sign or sign structure. This Subsection (9) shall apply in all cases including locating new signs in relationship to currently existing nonconforming signs.

10. A permit shall be obtained before erecting any sign under these regulations except as hereinafter provided.

11. No sign, other than official street signs, shall be erected or maintained nearer to a street line than a distance equaling the height of the sign, unless attached to the building.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971, §1300)

§101. Exempt Signs. No permit shall be required before erecting any of the following signs. These signs, however, shall conform to all other regulations set forth in §100 of this Chapter 19.

1. Directional, informational or public service signs such as those advertising availability of rest rooms, telephone or similar public conveniences, and signs advertising meeting times and places of nonprofit service or charitable clubs and organizations may be erected or maintained, provided that such signs do not advertise any commercial establishment, activity, organization, product, goods, or services except those of public utilities. Directional and information signs provided for the guidance and convenience of the public within commercial establishments may also be erected. Such signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet in area.

2. Trespassing signs, or signs indicating the private nature of a road, driveway, or premises, and signs prohibiting or otherwise controlling hunting or fishing upon particular premises may be erected and maintained provided sign area does not exceed two (2) square feet in area.

3. Signs offering individual properties for sale or rent, or indicating that a property has been sold, provided that such signs shall be located entirely within the lot lines of the particular property to which they refer and shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971, §1301)

§102. Temporary Sign Regulations. Temporary signs, including signs advertising special events or temporary sale of products or goods such as Christmas trees, shall be permitted provided that:

- A. Permits shall run for a period of up to sixty (60) days.
- B. Signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
- C. Any free-standing sign shall be located at least ten (10) feet from any property line.
- D. Signs shall be removed immediately upon expiration of permit.
- E. The site or building on which the sign was erected shall be restored to its original condition upon removal of the sign.
- F. Only one (1) permit is permitted per lot or tax parcel.
- G. No sign shall be erected on a lot except one advertising products or goods for sale on the same lot
- H. A permit must be obtained before erecting a temporary sign. Permits may be reissued for one (1) successive sixty (60) day period.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971, §1302; as amended by Ord. 1-93, 1/6/1993; and by Ord. 4-2003, 7/9/2003)

§103. Business Signs. Business signs accessory to permitted commercial uses shall be permitted provided that:

1. Signs mounted on the front of a building shall not exceed ten (10) square feet in area for each five (5) lineal feet of front building wall and in no case shall exceed thirty (30) feet in width or eight (8) [feet] in height at the minimum allowable building setback. For each additional two (2) feet of setback the maximum height of the sign may be increased by one (1) foot, provided that no sign shall exceed twenty (20) feet in height and shall [not] exceed twenty (20) percent of face of building.

2. Signs mounted on a side wall exposed to public view from either a street or parking area shall not exceed ten (10) square feet of area for each lineal foot of such side building wall and in no case shall exceed thirty (30) feet in width.

3. Mounted signs shall be installed parallel to the supporting wall and project not more than ten (10) inches from the face of such wall. [Ord. 4-2003]

4. Free-standing signs (not mounted on a building) shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area, and shall stand no higher than thirty (30) feet from normal ground level. Signs larger than thirty-two (32) square feet in area and heights of up to forty-five (45) feet may be allowed if the criteria generally considered in conditional use procedures are met. In the event that only one free-standing sign is utilized, then the sign shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet in area, and stand no higher than thirty (30) feet from normal ground level. [Ord. 4-2003]

5. Free-standing signs shall be erected only within the limits of the front yard of the property to which they pertain.

[Text continued on the following page.]

6. Free-standing signs shall not be spaced closer to each other than a distance equal to ten (10) times the largest dimension (height or width) of the sign having the largest dimension. For the purpose of this Subsection (6), the height of a sign shall be measured from ground level to the top of the highest point of the structure supporting the sign or the sign itself, whichever is higher.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971, §1303; as amended by Ord. 3-2002, 6/12/2002; and by Ord. 4-2003, 7/9/2003)

§104. Off-Premises Signs. Off-premises signs, related to commercial business, shall be permitted under the following conditions:

A. Each commercial business may have one (1) off-premises sign located within the Township.

B. Said sign may be located in any zoning district.

C. Off-premises signs shall be limited to Old Baltimore Pike and Routes 10 and 472.

D. The owner of the business shall notify the property owner of the application to the Township for a permit to erect an off-premises sign.

E. Said sign shall be within the right-of-way of State or Township public streets.

F. Off-premises signs shall be permitted for the sole purpose of directing vehicles and/or pedestrians to a business located within the Township.

G. The message communicated by the off-premises signs shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) lines and shall be limited to the following information:

(1) The name of the commercial business.

(2) A brief description of the commercial business.

H. Off-premises signs shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the following specifications:

(1) The off-premises sign design shall conform to Figure 1. Figure 1 may be modified as necessary by resolution by the Board of Supervisors. The maximum height of the overall sign shall be ten (10) feet with the height of the individual panels not to exceed eighteen (18) inches. The individual panel width shall not exceed six (6) feet. [Ord. 3-2002]

(2) The Township shall construct or have constructed and erected the main sign structure for all off-premises signs.

(3) Individual sign panels shall be constructed and installed by the applicant. The sign panel design and layout shall be approved by the Township Code Enforcement Officer.

(4) The lettering shall be a maximum of seven (7) inches high. The type font shall be designated by the Township. [Ord. 3-2002]

I. General maintenance of off-premises signs shall be the responsibility of the individuals utilizing the sign. In the event an off-premises sign is in need of repair, the Code Enforcement Officer shall notify the individuals utilizing the sign in writing giving them thirty (30) days to make the necessary repairs. In the event the repairs are not made within the allotted time, the Township may remove the sign or have it repaired and bill the owner of the sign for any costs incurred.

J. No off-premises sign shall be erected without a permit issued by the Code Enforcement Officer. Applications for off-premises signs shall be made on a form provided by the Township and shall include a plan showing the sign layout. The fee for an off-premises sign shall be established by a resolution by the Board of Supervisors.

K. Signs advertising or identifying home occupations shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area. The sign may only include the name, occupation and logo or trademark, if applicable, of the practitioner.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971; as added by Ord. 6-93, 8/11/1993, \$1; and as amended by Ord. 3-2002, 6/12/2002)

§105. Sign Permits.

1. Applications for sign permits shall be filed in duplicate and on forms furnished by the Township and shall be accompanied by detailed plans and specifications and such other information deemed necessary by the Code Enforcement Officer to determine the location and details of construction of such sign. [Ord. 1-93]

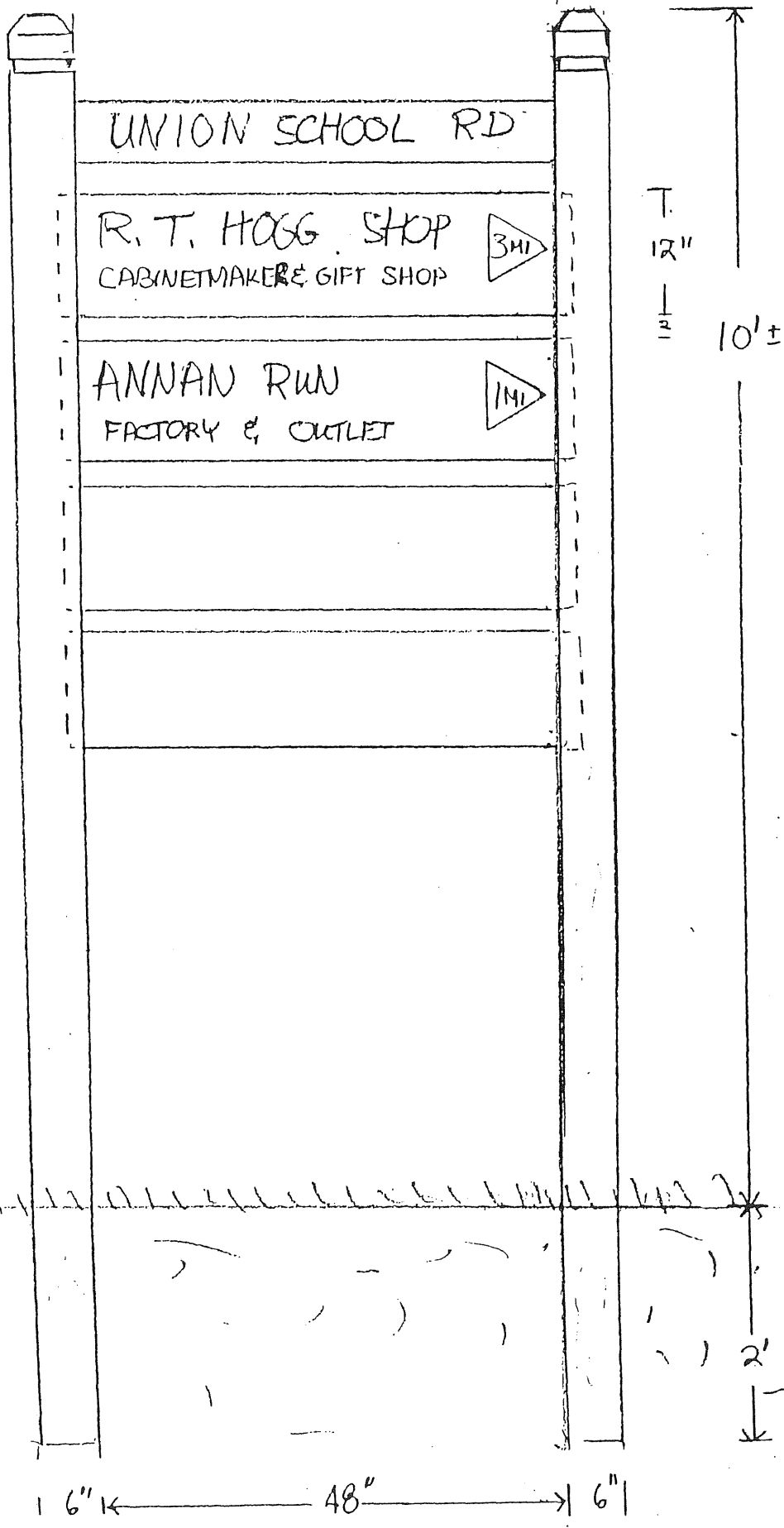
2. Permit Fees. No permit to erect shall be issued until a fee, as established by resolution of the Board of Supervisors, has been paid.

(Ord. 1-71, 3/2/1971, §1304; as amended by Ord. 1-93, 1/6/1993)

DIRECTORY SIGN (PRELIMINARY)

NOTES

- (1) WOOD - PRESURETREATED
- (2) FINISH: TO BE DETERMINED
- (3) LETTER SIZE OF NAME
6" HIGH



Part 2

Placement of Overhead Banners

§201. Overhead Signs and Banners. The provisions of this Part shall apply to all overhead signs and banners in Lower Oxford Township and duly issued permits shall constitute the inclusion of the permitted sign under the provisions of this Part. (Res. 4-98, 3/11/1998, §1)

§202. Permits. Permits for overhead signs and banners shall be issued by the Township Zoning Officer only in accord with this Part and all applicable zoning requirements. (Res. 4-98, 3/11/1998, §2)

§203. Requirements. As required by Department policy, overhead signs and banners shall conform to the following, and permits for such signs shall include the information necessary to document compliance with the same:

- A. Location - SR number and segment/offset.
- B. Vertical clearance above the roadway - minimum of seventeen (17) feet and six (6) inches.
- C. Size of banner - as specified on permit.
- D. Description of activity - must constitute a national, state, regional or local function or nonprofit activity sponsored by a political subdivision or agency thereof, or nonprofit organization recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- E. Message - no more than twenty (20) percent of the message shall relate to naming or advertising a commercial product, enterprise, business or company regardless of whether such entity is sponsoring the activity or banner installation.
- F. Duration of display - approximate dates of installation or removal - not to exceed twenty-one (21) days.
- G. The banner will be removed within five (5) days or less from the ending date of the event for which the banner was displayed.
- H. The banner shall be installed under the supervision and control of the Township on permanent cables at locations approved by, and in accord with, specifications provided by the Township.
- I. Traffic control - shall be performed in accord with the most current Department Publication 203.

(Res. 4-98, 3/11/1998, §3)

§204. Installation, Duration and Removal. The dates of installation, duration and removal, as well as the size, the message, event and/or organization will vary, but in all cases the requirements of this Part will be satisfied. (Res. 4-98, 3/11/1998, §4)

§205. Zoning Officer. Upon the issuance of any permit to this Part, the Township Zoning Officer shall promptly forward a copy of the permit to the District Office of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. (Res. 4-98, 3/11/1998, §5)

