



TOWN OF HARPERSVILLE SIGN REGULATIONS

**WITH REVISIONS THROUGH
AUGUST 20, 2007**



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ARTICLE I

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of these Sign Regulations are: to encourage the effective use of signs as a means of Communication within the Town of Harpersville, to maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment and the Town's ability to attract sources of economic development and growth, to improve pedestrian and traffic safety, to minimize the possible adverse effect of signs on nearby public and private property, and to enable the fair and consistent enforcement of these regulations. The regulations within this ordinance will supersede or coincide, as noted, with any previously established ordinance of the Town of Harpersville. This Sign Ordinance is adopted under the Planning and Zoning Board of the Town of Harpersville in furtherance of the more general purposes set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.



ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

Animated Sign – Any sign that uses movement of change in lighting to depict action or create a special effect of scheme.

Awning or Canopy Sign – A sign that is mounted, painted on or attached to an awning or canopy.

Banner – Any sign of lightweight fabric or similar material that is temporarily mounted to a pole or a building by a permanent frame of one (1) or more edges. National Flags, state and municipal Flags or Official Flags of any institution or business shall not be considered banners.

Bench Sign – Any sign located on any part of the surface of a bench or seat placed on or adjacent to a public right-of-way.

Billboard – A non-point of sale sign which directs attention to a business, commodity, service or activity sold or offered for sale at a location other than the premises upon which said billboard is located.

Building – A structure having a roof supported by columns or walls.

Building Wall Sign – A sign attached parallel to, supported by and not more than 14 fourteen inches from, the exterior wall of a building. The sign may be painted on the surface of the wall or erected and confined within the limits of said wall.

Changeable Copy Sign (Electronic) – A signboard that is designed so that the characters, letters or illustrations can be electronically changed or arranged without permanently altering the face of the surface of the sign.

Changeable Copy Sign (Manual) – A sign that is designed so that characters, letters or illustrations can be manually changed or arranged without permanently altering the face or surface of the sign.

Construction Sign – A sign pertaining only to the construction, alteration, rehabilitation or remodeling of buildings, identifying only those parties involved in construction on the premises and future activity for which the construction is needed.



Directory Sign – A sign upon which the name and location of the occupants or the use of a building is given.

Erect – To build, construct, attach, hang, place, mount, suspend or affix and shall include the painting of wall signs upon the exterior wall surface of buildings or structures.

Free-Standing Sign – A permanent sign supported by structures or supports that are placed on or anchored in the ground and that are independent from any building or structure.

Ground Sign – Any sign supported by structures or supports in or upon the ground and independent of support from any building.

Illuminated Sign – A sign lighted by or exposed to artificial lighting either by lights on or inside the sign face or directed towards the sign.

- a. **Indirect Light** – One reflecting light from a separate outside source aimed toward it, including silhouettes on a background or reflected light.
- b. **Direct Light** – One emitting light from a source within or affixed to the sign face and beaming outward from it.
- c. **Intermittent Light** – Any flashing, traveling light, including arrangements that spell messages, simulate motion or form various symbols or images.

Institution – A nonprofit or quasi-public use such as a church, library, public or private school, hospital, or publicly owned or operated building, structure or property used for public purpose.

Location – Any lot, premises, building, structure, wall or any place whatsoever upon which a sign is located.

Mixed Use Development – A development, which contains any combination of retail, office, institution or multi-family residential uses.

Non-conforming Sign – Any sign that does not conform to the requirements of this Ordinance.

Off-Premise Sign – A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, entertainment or activity conducted, sold or offered for sale at a location other than the premises upon which the sign is located.



On-Premise Sign – A sign which advertises only goods, services, facilities, events or attractions available on the premises where located or identifies the owner or occupant or directs traffic on the premises.

Permanent Sign – A sign which is originally designed, constructed or modified to be permanently affixed to a building, structure or to the ground.

Person – Any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, organization, singular or plural, of any kind.

Portable Sign – Any sign which is not permanently affixed to the ground or other permanent structure or a sign designed to be transported, including, but not limited to signs designed to be transported by means of wheels, signs converted to “A” or “T” frames, menu and sandwich board signs, balloons used as signs, umbrellas used for advertising and signs attached to or painted on vehicles parked and visible from the public right-of-way, unless said vehicle is used in the day to day operation of a business.

Premises – A lot or tract of land upon which a sign is located or is to be located.

Projecting Sign – Any sign affixed to a building or wall in such a manner that its leading edge extends more than six inches (6”) beyond the surface of such building or wall.

Principal Building – The building in which is conducted the principal use of the zone lot on which it is located. Zone lots with multiple principal uses may have multiple principal buildings, but storage buildings, garages and other buildings which are clearly accessory in nature shall not be considered principal buildings.

Public Property – Property owned by a municipality, a county, the State of Alabama or the United States government, except property used for public utility purposes. All public street rights-of-way are public property.

Real Estate Sign – A sign indicating that the property on which the sign is located is for sale, lease or development, to announce an open-house event in connection with the sale or lease of a building, or to identify a model home.

Roof Sign – Any sign erected and constructed wholly on and over the roof of a building, supported by the roof structure.



Spacing of Signs – The distance between signs measured from points directly opposite the signs along the nearest edge of the pavement or roadway edge of the main thoroughfare or traveled way of the street or thoroughfare to which said signs are directed.

Temporary Sign – Any sign not originally designed, constructed or intended to permanently be affixed to any building, structure or the ground. Temporary signs shall be removed by the party or parties posting or erecting them and where stipulated, within the specified time period.

Temporary Subdivision Sign – A temporary sign advertising the sale of property in an approved subdivision within the Town.

Window Sign – Any sign, picture, symbol or combination thereof, designed to communicate information about an activity, business, commodity, product, service, event or sale that is placed inside a window or upon the window pane or glass and is visible from the exterior of the building.

Suggest a definition for: Snipe Sign

Snipe Sign - A sign made of any material when such sign is tacked, nailed, posted, pasted, glued or otherwise attached to trees, poles, fences or other objects, and the advertising matter appearing thereon is not applicable to the present use of the premises upon which such sign is located.



ARTICLE III GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 3.01 General Regulations

In any zoning district within the Town of Harpersville, the following regulations shall apply:

1. No sign shall be erected or maintained at any location where by reason of its position, working, illumination, shape, symbol, color, form or character, it may obstruct, impair, obscure, interfere with the view of or may be confused with any authorized traffic sign signal or device or interfere with, mislead, confuse or disrupt traffic flow of traffic safety.
2. Signs incorporating any noisy mechanical device (whistles, horns, noise-makers, sirens or any other noisy audible devices) are expressly prohibited within the Town of Harpersville.
3. No sign of any type or foundation or support thereof shall be placed in a public street right-of-way.
4. No sign having flashing, traveling or animated illumination shall be permitted in any zone district of the Town except for permanent signs located in commercial districts giving public service information such as, but not limited to: time, date, temperature, news or weather.
5. All portable and temporary signs shall be set back off the public right of way; and, be no closer than fifteen feet (15') from the adjoining property line. No portable or temporary sign of any type shall be permitted within thirty-five feet (35') of an intersection of the pavement edge lines of two (2) public streets or roads or of the edge of pavement line of a public street or road and the right-of-way line of a railroad.
6. No illuminated sign, other than a permanent subdivision identification sign shall be permitted within fifty feet (50') of any resident zone district of the Town.
7. The area around all signs shall be kept clean and free of trash and all vegetation, unless such is a part of the landscaping associated with the sign. In this case, such shall be well maintained. In addition, it shall be the responsibility of the sign owner/lessor or property owner to maintain all signs in a safe and proper operating manner at all times.



8. No person shall park any vehicle or trailer on a public street or public parking area for the sole purpose of advertising.
9. Snipe signs shall not be permitted in any district, except as may be authorized by the Town Ordinance.
10. No permanent freestanding/pole mounted or ground sign of any type shall be permitted on the public right of way and within thirty five feet (35') of the intersection of the pavement edge lines of two (2) public roads, unless the same is mounted at a height of at least ten feet (10') from the ground level at the base of the sign and upon poles or other means of support which is adequately designed and constructed to support said sign.
11. No sign shall occupy any portion of a parking space or aisle.
12. All signs shall conform with a comprehensive set of construction standards for signs. These specifications include wind loads, vibration resistance, seismic loads, acceptable supports, allowable stresses and electrical wiring and components.
13. Professional signs for Home Occupations, where permitted, shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area. Such sign may be either a wall mounted sign or a ground sign. However, if such is a ground sign, it shall not be located on the public right-of-way; and located within fifteen feet (15') of the adjoining property line and, it shall not exceed six feet (6') in height, measured from the highest point of the sign to the ground.
14. Off-Premise Signs shall not be on the public right of way and within thirty-five feet (35') of the intersection of the pavement edge lines of two (2) public roads. Sign face area shall not exceed eight (8) square feet in area. The sign shall not exceed ten feet (10') in height from the ground to the top of the sign.



Section 3.02 Exempt Signs, Permit Exceptions

Except as may be otherwise provided for elsewhere in this Ordinance, the following signs are exempt from sign permit requirements and from the provisions of this Ordinance, subject, however, to meeting all applicable regulations and codes, as well as established Town Policies concerning any of these signs.

1. Permanent or temporary signs required to be posted by law.
2. Permanent or temporary warning signs and no trespassing signs. No Snipe Signs allowed.
3. Permanent or temporary signs established by or by order of, any government agency or official body.
4. Signs indicating the location of bus stops, taxi stands and similar transportation facilities.
5. Signs giving information concerning the location or use of accessory off-street parking facilities or loading or unloading facilities.
6. Permanent or temporary signs required for the control of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
7. Temporary holiday signs, banners, displays and decorations, subject to established Town policy.
8. Routine sign maintenance and repair, including the changing of copy on changeable copy signs.
9. Decorative flags and bunting for Town-wide celebrations, conventions and commemorations, when authorized by the Town for a specified time period.
10. One (1) construction sign per street frontage located on property where building is actually in progress under a current building permit. This shall be a ground sign not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area, be **non-illuminated** and may include the names of persons and firms performing such services, labor or supplying materials to the premises. Such sign must be removed before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued.
11. Flags, banners or insignias of a governmental, religious, charitable or fraternal organization, subject to established Town Policy.



12. Integral decorative or architectural features of buildings, except letters, trademarks or moving parts.
13. Directory signs located inside the buildings they serve.
14. Signs not exceeding three (3) square feet in area and bearing only property or post office box numbers or names of occupants of the premises to which the sign pertains.
15. Window signs located in commercial zone districts, which identify or advertise activities, services, goods or products available within the building and which collectively cover twenty percent (20%) or less of the window glass surface area.
16. Temporary political campaign posters, provided that they do not create traffic hazards as a result of poor or improper placement, and further provided that they are removed within seventy-two (72) hours after the general or run-off election or political event to which they pertain by the individual or individuals posting them. Such signs shall not be illuminated in any manner whatsoever. **No Snipe Signs allowed.**
17. Signs which advertise yard sales or garage sales, provided they are not located in such a manner so as to obstruct or otherwise interfere with motorists' vision and further provided that they are removed within twenty-four (24) hours following the end of such sale. The signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet in sign area nor shall such signs be illuminated in any manner whatsoever. **No Snipe Signs allowed.**
18. Temporary, non-illuminated signs, located in residential and agricultural districts, not to exceed four (4) square feet in sign area, pertaining to agricultural products raise on the premises. **No Snipe Signs allowed.**
19. Temporary, non-illuminated real estate signs which are used to offer for sale, lease or rent the property upon which said signs are located. **No Snipe Signs allowed.**
20. Fuel price informational signs, in any district in which gasoline sales are permitted and signs advertising the price of motor vehicle fuel sold from a fuel dispenser located on the premises, including logos and advertising signs attached to or painted onto, the fuel dispensers themselves.



ARTICLE IV

SIGNS PERMITTED FOR RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

Section 4.01 Signs Permitted for Single Family Dwellings

The following types of signs are permitted in Single Family Residential Zone Districts of the Town of Harpersville, subject to specified requirements, unless otherwise provided for elsewhere in this Ordinance.

1. For detached or attached single family dwelling Districts, nameplates not to exceed three (3) square feet in sign area shall be permitted for each dwelling unit. Such nameplates shall indicate nothing more than the name and address of the premises, the occupants thereof, announcements, etc. **If lighted, such nameplates may be lighted with indirect illumination only.**
2. Professional signs for Home Occupations, where permitted, shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area. Such signs may be either wall mounted or ground signs and shall not be illuminated in any manner, only the use of neutral colors, such as, earth tones, shall be permitted. If such sign is ground mounted, said sign shall not be located closer than twenty feet (20') from the street right-of-way; and, it shall not exceed six feet (6') in height, measured from the highest point of the sign to the ground.
3. **Temporary** ground signs, non-illuminated, advertising yard sales, garage sales or the sale of personal property. Such signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet in sign area and shall not be located any closer than twenty feet (20') from the street right-of-way. Such signs shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after such sale by the individual or individuals posting them.



4. **Permanent** subdivision identification signs. Such shall be ground signs, (which, if illuminated shall utilize only indirect illumination) which may include a masonry wall, landscaping and other similar materials or features, designed and intended to form a display for neighborhood or subdivision identification. Such signs shall be limited up to two (2) at each entrance street to the subdivision and located along the main street leading to the subdivision. Maximum height of the sign shall be six feet above the average elevation of the ground at the top of the sign. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a sign. Such sign shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet in sign area and shall not be located in such a manner so as to create a traffic safety hazard with respect to placement. Such sign shall not be located closer than fifteen feet (15') from the pavement edge of the street or thoroughfare to which it is directed.
5. **Temporary** ground subdivision signs, which are non-illuminated. Such signs shall be limited to one (1) each at the principal entrance to the subdivision and located along the main traffic thoroughfare leading into the subdivision. Such a sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in sign area and shall be displayed only during such time as some portion of the property is unsold. Such signs shall be located no closer than fifteen feet (15') from the property line of the street to which it is directed and shall not be used concurrently with the permanent subdivision sign referred to in (4) above.

NOTE: Billboards, portable signs, and signs containing animated, traveling or flashing lights are prohibited in all residential districts of the Town of Harpersville.



Section 4.02 Signs Permitted for Multiple Family Dwellings

Each complex or community of multiple family dwellings is permitted one freestanding sign per public street entrance.

1. Maximum height of the sign shall be six feet (6') above the average elevation of the ground at the base of the sign. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a freestanding sign.
2. The maximum sign face area of an internally illuminated sign shall be thirty-two (32) square feet.
3. The maximum sign face area of a non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated sign shall be forty-eight (48) square feet.
4. Signs shall be set back at least fifteen feet (15') from any property line.
5. All such signs shall be maintained perpetually by the developer, the owner of the sign, a pertinent homeowners association or some other person who is legally accountable. Such accountability is required before a permit shall be issued. If, following the issuance of a permit and subsequent erection of such signs, no accountable person accepts legal responsibility to maintain the signs and no other provision has been made for maintenance, the signs shall be removed by the developer or owner.



ARTICLE V SIGNS FOR RETAIL BUSINESS

Each building may have one free-standing sign; and one building wall sign or one canopy sign per facing street. Reader boards with moveable copy may be incorporated into the sign face area of a free-standing sign. Sign face area of a reader board shall be included as part of the maximum free-standing sign face area permitted by this Section.

Section 5.01 Signs Permitted for Retail Buildings

1. **A permanent, on premise, free-standing, pole mounted sign**, illuminated or non-illuminated, provided such sign shall not exceed fifty-five (55) square feet in sign face area. Such sign shall not exceed a maximum height of twenty feet (20') from the ground level to the highest point on the sign. In addition, such signs shall have a minimum clearance of the ten feet (10') from the ground level to the lowest point on the sign. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a free-standing sign. Such signs shall not be located closer than ten feet (10') from the edge of the property line. However, notwithstanding any of the above requirements, no such sign shall, at any time, be located on public right-of-way.
2. **A permanent, on premise, ground sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated which may include a masonry wall, landscaping and similar features or materials. Such sign shall not exceed sixty-six (66) square feet in sign face area and fifteen feet (15') in height measured from the ground level to the highest point of the sign. Such sign shall be located no closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. However, notwithstanding any of the above, ground signs shall at no time be placed on public right-of-way.
3. **Wall or fascia sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated. Such sign shall be limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage and limited to thirty percent (30%) of the building wall area, provided no other signs for such establishment are located on the same building wall. Such signs shall not extend above the roof line of the building upon which it is mounted and shall not project outward from the building more than twelve inches (12"). Wall signs may also be permitted which identify the rear entrance of the principal building, provided such sign is non-illuminated and does not exceed ten (10) square feet in sign area.



4. **Projecting sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated, which is attached to the wall of the establishment it serves, provided no other signs for such establishment are located on the same building wall. Such sign shall not project outward no more the thirty-six (36") from the face of the building upon which it is mounted and shall have a minimum clearance of ten feet (10') above the ground level or sidewalk to the lowest point on the sign. Such signs shall not project into public right-of-way nor exceed sixteen (16) square feet in sign area.
5. **Roof sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated, limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage, per establishment. Each roof sign shall be located within a selected signable area. Signable wall area for a roof sign shall not extend beyond the dimensions of a mansard roof, penthouse or architectural element on which the sign is located. See definition of Signable Wall Area. The vertical dimensions of signable wall area shall not exceed six feet (6'). The size of such signs shall not exceed forty percent (40%) of the signable wall area.

Section 5.02 Signs Permitted for a Shopping Center

There shall be an architectural harmony and unit of signs within a shopping center. Sign type, color scheme, size and illumination within the site shall be coordinated and compatible with the architecture.

1. Each tenant space may have one building wall sign or one canopy sign. T tenant space with more the 50,000 square feet of gross floor area may have one building wall sign or one canopy sign per facing street, if the tenant space is located at the end of the shopping center building which faces a public street intersection.
2. The building wall sign or canopy sign shall conform to the same regulations stated in Section 5.01.

Note: Canopy Sign Regulations are not mentioned in Section 5.01 as it is referred to in Paragraph 2 of Section 5.02.



Section 5.03 Shopping Center Identification Signs

Each shopping center may have one freestanding sign which identifies the name of the shopping center. Tenant signs are permitted, provided that the combined, total sign face area for both tenant signs and the shopping center identification sign does not exceed the maximum allowable sign face area shown in Section 5.03 c & d.

1. Freestanding Signs

- a) Maximum height of the sign shall be twenty feet (20') above the average elevation of the ground at the base of the sign, if the average grade is at or lower in elevation than the centerline of the nearest public street; or, ten feet (10') above the average elevation of the ground at the base of the sign, if the average grade is higher in elevation than the center line of the nearest public street. Said elevation shall be measured at the point on the centerline which is closest to the sign. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a freestanding sign.
- b) For shopping center with more than 300 continuous feet of public road frontage, maximum height of the sign shall be thirty feet (30') above the average elevation of the ground at the base of the sign if the average grade is at or lower in elevation than the center line of the nearest public street, or, eighteen feet (18') above the average elevation of the ground at the base of the sign, if the average grade is higher in elevation than the center line of the nearest public street. Said elevation shall be measured at the point on the center line which is closest to the sign. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a freestanding sign.
- c) The maximum sign face area of an internally illuminated sign shall be fifty-five (55) square feet. Sign face area may be increased one (1) square foot for every eight feet (8') of continuous public street frontage in excess of three hundred feet (300'), up to a maximum sign face area of ninety six (96) square feet.
- d) Signs shall be set back at least ten feet (10') from any property line.
- e) The maximum sign face area of a non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated sign shall be sixty-six (66) square feet. Sign face area may be increased one (1) square foot for every five feet (5') of continuous public street frontage in excess of three hundred (300'), up to a maximum sign face area of one hundred twenty (120) square feet.



ARTICLE VI

OFFICES, INDUSTRIAL, INSTITUTIONAL SIGNS

Each office, industrial or institutional building may have one freestanding sign; and one building wall sign per facing street.

1. **Permanent, free-standing, on-premise pole or ground mounted signs**, limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage of a lot, regardless of the number of businesses on a lot. These may include either:
 - a) A permanent, on-premise, pole-mounted sign, either illuminated or non-illuminated, provided such sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet; eighty (80) square feet for office buildings with gross floor area greater than one hundred thousand (100,000) square feet which are not located in an office park and shall not exceed a maximum of twenty feet (20') from the ground level to the highest point on the sign. In addition, such signs shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') from the ground level to the lowest point on the sign face and shall be located no closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a freestanding sign. However, notwithstanding any of the above requirements, no such sign shall, at any time, be located, on public right-of-way.
 - b) A permanent, on-premise, ground sign, either illuminated or non-illuminated, which may include a masonry wall, landscaping and similar features or materials. Such sign shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet in sign face area and shall be located no closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. However, notwithstanding any of the above requirements, no ground sign shall be placed on public right-of-way.
2. **In addition to either a or b above, attached, permanent, on-premise signs, illuminated or non-illuminated*** Each business shall be limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage, which would consist of either of the following:

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- a) **Wall or Fascia Sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated. Such sign shall be limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage and limited to twenty percent (20%) of the building face, not including windows, doors and architectural ornaments on the wall surface, provided no other signs for such establishment are located on the same building wall. Such signs shall not extend above the roofline of the building upon which it is mounted and shall not project outward from the building upon which it is mounted more than twelve inches (12"). Wall signs may also be permitted which identify the rear entrance of the principal building, provided such signs do not exceed ten (10) square feet in sign area.
- b) **Projecting Sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated, which are attached to the wall of the establishment it serves, provided no other signs for such establishment are located on the same building wall. Such sign shall not project outward more than thirty-six inches (36") from the face of the building upon which it is mounted and shall have a minimum clearance of ten feet (10') above the ground level or sidewalk to the lowest point on the sign. Such signs shall not project into public right-of-way nor exceed sixteen (16) square feet in sign area.
- c) **Roof Sign**, illuminated or non-illuminated, limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage, per establishment. Each roof sign shall be located within a selected signable area. Signable wall area for a roof sign shall not extend beyond the dimensions of a mansard roof, penthouse or architectural element on which the sign is located. See definition of Signable Area. The vertical dimensions of signable wall area shall not exceed six feet (6'). The size of such signs shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the signable wall area.



ARTICLE VII OFFICE PARKS, INDUSTRIAL PARKS, INSTITUTIONAL CAMPUSES, MIXED USE RESIDENTIAL

Each office park, industrial park, institutional campus and mixed-use development, which contains more than two buildings, other than accessory buildings, may have one freestanding sign per public street entrance, which identifies the name of the park or campus.

There shall be an architectural harmony and unit of signs within a park or campus. Sign type, color scheme, size and illumination within the site shall be coordinated and shall be compatible with the architecture of the center.

Permanent, free-standing, on-premise, pole-mounted or ground signs, limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage of a lot, regardless of the number of businesses located on the lot. Unless otherwise stipulated, these may include either;

- a. **A permanent, on-premise, pole-mounted sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated, provided such sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in sign area and shall not exceed a maximum height of twenty feet (20') from the ground level to the highest point on the sign. In addition, such sign shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') from the ground level to the lowest point on the sign face. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a free-standing sign. Such sign shall be located no closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. However, notwithstanding any of the above requirements, no such sign shall at any time be located on public right-of-way.
- b. **A permanent, on-premise ground sign**, either illuminated or non-illuminated, which may include a masonry wall, landscaping and similar features or materials. Such sign shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet in sign face area and shall be located no closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. Berms shall not be used to increase the height of a freestanding sign. However, notwithstanding any of the above requirements, no ground sign shall at any time be placed on public right-of-way.



ARTICLE VIII TEMPORARY SIGN

1. Each business, institution or public building may have one temporary banner affixed to the building wall, which advertises a sale or special event. However, each business, institution or public building shall be limited to not more than a total of 30 days each calendar year, during which such a temporary sign may be displayed, except that no such sign may be erected for a period of 10 days or more. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to erection of the sign.
2. Each new business may have one illuminated, temporary sign, which may be a banner, which shall not to exceed 32 square feet in sign face area and shall be attached to the building wall of the premises for a period not to exceed 30 days, or until a permanent sign is installed, whichever time period is shorter. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to erection of the sign.
3. Commercial property may have one, non-illuminated, freestanding, temporary identification sign per facing street, while the property is being developed, which shall not exceed 48 square feet of sign face area nor ten feet (10') in height. For single tenant project, the sign shall be removed when the project is complete, or the permanent sign has been erected, whichever occurs first. For multi-tenant projects, the sign shall be removed when 75 percent of the tenant spaces have been leased, or the permanent sign has been erected, whichever occurs first.
4. Residential subdivisions with five or more lots may have one free standing, on premises, temporary identification sign while the subdivision is being developed, which shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet of sign face area nor ten feet (10') in height. The sign shall not be illuminated and shall be removed within one hundred twenty (120) days after construction begins on the first dwelling in the subdivision, or the permanent subdivision identification sign has been erected, whichever occurs first.
5. Each premises may have one on-premise sign which does not exceed six (6) square feet of sign face area when located in a single-family residential zoning district, and twenty-four (24) square feet in all other zoning districts. The signs shall be removed upon the sale or lease of the premises.
6. Political campaign signs are permitted on private property.



7. Signs, which are not permanently attached to the ground or a building, including inflatable signs, banners and similar devices. Such signs may be put in place no more than fourteen (14) days in advance of the event and must be removed within seven days (7) of the conclusion of the event. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to the erection of the sign.
8. Signs with flashing, blinking, moving or intermittent light or with light, which varies in intensity or color, except time and temperature signs. Such signs may be put in place no more than fourteen (14) days in advance of the event and must be removed within seven (7) days of the conclusion of the event. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to the erection of the sign.
9. Wind driven signs including banners, flags, pennants, ribbons, spinners, streamers, captive balloons and similar device. Such signs be put in place no more than fourteen (14) days in advance of the event and must be removed within seven (7) days of the conclusion of the event. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to the erection of the sign.

Note:

April 14, 2008 P & Z meeting – Motion was made and approved to establish a \$25.00 application fee for Portable and Temporary signs. To my knowledge there was never a Public Hearing for this and it was never presented to the Town Council for approval.



ARTICLE IX PORTABLE SIGN REGULATIONS

Where permitted, portable signs shall conform with the following requirements and regulations:

1. No portable sign shall contain flashing or traveling lights.
2. No portable sign shall contain lights that consist of those colors used by fire department vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, emergency medical vehicles or other official vehicles. This shall include the following colors: Red, Blue, Orange and Yellow.
3. All portable signs shall be set back at least twenty feet (20') from the pavement edge of a public road or highway and in no case closer than ten feet (10') from the property line. Moreover, no portable sign shall be permitted within thirty-five feet (35') of the intersection of the pavement edge lines of two (2) roads, streets or right-of-way line of a railroad. Under no circumstances shall these signs be placed on public right-of-way.
4. Portable signs shall be situated in such a manner which will not impede with or interfere with motorists' vision at points of ingress and egress.
5. No portable sign shall exceed forty-eight (48) square feet in area.
6. All portable signs shall be UL listed, when illuminated.
7. No portable sign shall be permanently or temporarily mounted on any roof, pole, tree or other suspended structure.
8. All portable signs can only be used up to fourteen (14) days before an event and must be removed no later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the event. A temporary sign permit shall be obtained prior to the erection of the sign.

Note:

April 14, 2008 P & Z meeting – Motion was made and approved to establish a \$25.00 application fee for Portable and Temporary signs. To my knowledge there was never a Public Hearing for this and it was never presented to the Town Council for approval.

TOWN OF HARPERSVILLE

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ARTICLE X BILLBOARD SIGNS

All Billboard Signs shall conform to the regulations set forth in Ordinance # 00-0925 of the Town of Harpersville adopted and approved on September 25, 2000.

The Ordinance reads as follows:

No Billboards are to be allowed in the Corporate City Limits.

#00-0925

TOWN OF HARPERSVILLE

COUNCILPERSON/MAYOR Blaine Tate introduced
the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
HARPERSVILLE, AS FOLLOWS:

On this the 25 day of September 2000, that the Town of
HARPERSVILLE ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING ADMENTMENT to
ORDINANCE #97-0313 to read:

NO billboards will be allowed in the corporate limits of the TOWN OF
HARPERSVILLE.

BILLBOARD SIGN: A nonpoint of sale sign which directs attention to a
business, commodity, service or entertainment, sold or offered for sale at
a location other than the premises on which said sign is located.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 25 DAY of September
2000.

Blaine Tate
MAYOR

James Robertson
CLERK



ARTICLE XI

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS

All signs shall comply with the following construction and maintenance requirements and regulations:

1. All signs shall conform to Town Building and Technical Codes, which provide a comprehensive set of construction standards for signs. These specifications include wind loads, vibration resistance, seismic loads, acceptable supports, allowable stresses, materials and electrical wiring and components.
2. All signs and all components thereof, including structural supports, shall be kept in a state of good repair.
3. The area surrounding the base of any freestanding sign shall be kept clean of all trash, debris and undergrowth.
4. No person may, for the purpose of increasing or enhancing the visibility of any sign, damage, trim, destroy or remove any trees, shrubs or other vegetation within any right-of-way (unless express written authorization is obtained from the agency having jurisdiction over the right-of-way) or on any area where landscaping is required by Town regulations.



ARTICLE XII

REQUIRED PERMITS, FEES, AND INSPECTIONS

Except where this article explicitly exempts a sign, all signs, whether they be permanent temporary, or portable, erected shall require a sign permit.

Whether a sign is exempt or not, an electrical permit shall be required for all illuminated signs.

All outdoor advertising signs to be located within six hundred sixty feet (660') of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a highway on the Interstate or National Highway System – Urban and Rural Routes shall file an application for a permit with the State of Alabama Highway Department as required by the *Highway Beautification Act – Outdoor Advertising*.

Application: Each application for a sign permit shall include the following:

Name, signature and address of the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner, if any, and sign contractor.

Address of the property owner where the sign is to be erected.

Lot area, sign district, zoning district and principal land use(s) on the lot subject to the erection of the sign.

A complete description of the sign(s) to be erected, including, but not limited to: number, type, method of illumination, size, height, etc.

A scaled drawing of the lot and all sign(s) and the location of each sign on the lot.

Other details sufficient for the Building Inspector to determine compliance with the requirements of this article, which may include a building elevation, survey or other drawings or documentation satisfactory to assess a permit for the sign.

Application fees are \$100.00 and are non-refundable.



Inspection Fees

Payment of inspection fees shall be filed with the Town Clerk together with an application fee, for each sign in accordance with this Ordinance. The Town shall determine Sign fees for signs in the same manner as other permits issued by the Town.

Inspection of Signs

The person erecting, altering, relocation, enlarging or converting any sign shall notify the Building Inspector at the appropriate stage of construction for which inspections are required. All illuminated signs must exhibit a UL listed sticker for an electrical inspection to be approved.



ARTICLE XIII ABANDONED SIGNS

Except as may otherwise be provided for in the Article, any sign that is located on property which becomes vacant and is unoccupied for a time period of four (4) months or more or any sign which pertains to a time event or purpose which no longer applies, shall be deemed to have been abandoned. Permanent signs applicable to a business temporarily suspended because of a change in ownership or management of such business shall not be deemed abandoned unless the property remains vacant for a period of nine (9) months or more. An abandoned sign is prohibited and shall be removed by the owner of the sign or owner of the premise.



ARTICLE XIV NOTIFICATIONS

All notices mailed by the Building Inspector shall be sent by certified mail. Any time periods provided in the Section shall be deemed to commence on the date of the receipt of the certified mail. The notice shall be mailed to the owner of the property on which the sign is located as shown on the latest available tax maps, as well as the occupant, which the sign serves. Any person or persons having an interest in the sign or the property may appeal the determination of the Building Inspector ordering removal or measures necessary to bring the sign into compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance by filing a written notice of appeal with Zoning Board of Adjustment within thirty (30) days after the date of the mailing of the notice.



ARTICLE XV REMOVAL OF SIGNS

The Building Inspector shall cause to be removed any sign that endangers the public safety, such as: abandoned; dangerous; or materially, electrically or structurally defective sign; or a sign for which no permit has been issued. The Building Inspector shall prepare a notice, which shall describe in detail the nature of the violation or violations involved and which shall state that, if the sign is not removed or the violation is not corrected within thirty (30) days, this sign shall be removed in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance. However, the following shall apply to signs placed in public rights-of-way: any sign installed or placed on a public right-of-way, except in conformance with the requirements of this Ordinance, shall be forfeited to the public and subject to confiscation. In addition to other remedies provided under this Article, the Town shall have the right to recover from the owner or person placing such a sign the full costs of removal and disposal.

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SAMPLE SIGNS

