

SECTION III-SPECIAL REGULATIONS
ARTICLE 1
SIGN REGULATIONS

A. INTENT

It is the intent of this ordinance to regulate signs. A permit for the installation of any sign is required unless otherwise provided for in this ordinance. Permits must be obtained from the zoning official before installation of any type of sign. Failure to obtain a permit can result in the zoning official having the sign removed at the owner's expense. If the owner fails to pay for such removal, the city may attach a lien to the lot on which the sign was located.

B. SIGNS FOR R-1, R-2, R-3, R-3A, R-4 AND R-5 ZONES

1. Temporary signs are allowed in residential zoning districts per approval of the zoning official.
2. Real estate signs are allowed not exceeding six and a quarter (6.25) square feet on residential properties of less than one (1) acre in size. Real estate signs may not exceed twelve (12) square feet on properties from one (1) to ten (10) acres in size. All residential properties greater than ten (10) acres in size shall be allowed real estate signage up to thirty-two (32) square feet. All real estate signs are considered temporary for the period of the sale of the property.
3. Yard sale signs are permitted only on property of the sale and only on the day before and the days of the sale. No yard sign shall be attached to a tree, fence or public utility pole. No other advertising, except for the yard sale, will be allowed on the sign.
4. Temporary signs not exceeding six and a quarter (6.25) square feet may be placed for special events subject to placement of a bond to assure their removal as outlined in the general sign regulations.
5. One (1) unlighted sign not over two (2) square feet in area identifying home occupations permitted as a conditional use on the premises. The sign location shall be subject to control by the Board of Zoning Adjustments.
6. One (1) free-standing or one (1) wall sign not to exceed twelve (12) square feet in area, identifying the fraternity or sorority house on the premises shall be permitted.
7. One (1) free-standing sign or one (1) wall sign not to exceed 32 square feet for churches or buildings used for church related activities.
8. Signage for residential developments will be approved through the review process.

C. SIGNS FOR B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4 & INDUSTRIAL ZONES

1. The following non-illuminated, indirectly illuminated, or directly illuminated signs shall apply:
 - (A) One (1) identification sign for each individual building and/or business not to exceed three (3) square feet and must be attached to the building. The identification sign must be attached to the wall of the building or displayed under a canopy or marquee not to extend more than 12" below the canopy or marquee.
 - (B) Private directional signs indicating entrance, exit, or location of parking not exceeding two (2) square feet in surface area for each sign and the height must not be more than 30" from the street level. These signs must be placed on private property and not on public right-of-way.
 - (C) One (1) canopy sign is permitted for businesses having an attached canopy covering a privately or publicly owned walkway. The total area of the canopy sign will be determined in conjunction with the allowable wall signage for the business.
2. The following regulations for business signs (non-illuminated, indirectly illuminated, or directly illuminated shall apply):
 - (A) The total number of business signs on a lot shall not exceed three (3).
 - (B) Only one (1) free standing business sign shall be permitted with the size to be determined as follows: .5 sq. ft. per lineal foot of street frontage not to exceed 80 square feet. Small lots with under 60 feet of street frontage will be allowed a 30 square foot sign if desired. The outer edge of the sign shall be set back at least ten (10) feet from the side lot line. All permitted free standing signs shall not exceed a height of 24 feet from mean property level. All freestanding signs are to be placed in a landscaped area, with a ratio of one (1) square foot of landscaping to equal one (1) square foot of sign area up to a maximum of eighty (80) square feet.
 - (C) One (1) wall business sign for each tenant or lessee mounted on the face of the building with the size to be determined as follows: 5% of square footage of face of building if the building is located up to 100 feet from the street and an additional 5% of square footage of face of building for each 100 feet thereafter, not to exceed 10%. For double frontage or corner lots, two (2) wall business signs for each tenant or lessee mounted on the face of the building which fronts on both primary and secondary street with the size to be determined above. No flat wall sign shall project above the roof or parapet line.

- (D) Only a wall sign or a projecting sign is allowed in a B-3 zone where the right-of-way does not permit a free standing sign. A projecting sign shall be permitted, provided it does not exceed a surface area of twelve (12) sq. ft. It shall be at least 9 feet above ground level, but shall not project above the roof or parapet line. The front edge of a projecting sign must not project closer than two (2) feet inside the street curb.
- (E) Monument type signage shall be required in place of free standing signage along the Twelfth Street corridor from the southern city limits to the northern city limits and along KY 121 North Bypass at the intersection of Twelfth Street, a/k/a US Highway 641, to the western city limits. Freestanding signs existing at the date of adoption of this Ordinance will be allowed to remain under the terms of §156.050(J)(3). The size of a monument type sign shall be determined as follows: .5 square feet per lineal foot of street frontage not to exceed fifty-five (55) square feet except on lots with a frontage road or a shopping center with four (4) or more businesses in which case such sign shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet excluding base and columns. Columns shall not exceed 30" in width or depth. The overall height of a monument type sign shall not exceed ten (10) except on lots with a frontage road or a shopping center with four (4) or more businesses in which case such sign shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet in height with height being measured from mean property level. All monument type signs shall be placed in a landscaped area.
- (F) Real estate signs are allowed not exceeding six and a quarter (6.25) square feet on commercial properties less than one (1) acre in size. Real estate signs may not exceed twelve (12) square feet on properties from one (1) to ten (10) acres in size. All commercial properties greater than ten (10) acres in size shall be allowed real estate signage up to thirty-two (32) square feet.
- (G) Electronic reader boards are allowed in B-2, B-3, B-4 and Industrial Zones. Electronic changeable copy shall be permitted for all signs, which shall conform to the following: Non-flashing mode, with electronic changeable copy displaying only on-premises messages or public service messages. Changes in copy shall be limited as follow:
1. Size shall not exceed 30% of allowable sign area
 2. Amber in color
 3. No more than one (1) electronic message board per business

4. A single message or segment of a message shall have a display time of at least two (2) seconds including the time needed to move the message onto the sign board, with all segments of the total message to be displayed within ten (10) seconds.
5. A message consisting of one (1) segment may remain on the signboard any amount of time in excess of two (2) seconds. An electronic sign requiring more than four (4) seconds to change from one (1) single message to another shall be turned off during the change interval.
6. A display traveling horizontally across the signboard shall move between sixteen (16) and thirty-two (32) light columns per second. A display may scroll onto the signboard but shall hold for two (2) seconds including the scrolling time.
7. A display shall not include an art animation or graphic that portrays motion, except for movement of a graphic onto or off of the signboard.

D. SIGN FOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICE ZONE

1. The following non-illuminated, indirectly illuminated, or directly illuminated signs shall apply:
 - (A) One (1) free standing sign or business wall sign not to exceed twenty (20) square feet. The free-standing sign shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height. It shall be set back at least ten (10) feet from front lot line/right-of-way and five (5) feet from the side lot line/right-of-way line.
 - (B) One (1) identification sign for each tenant or lessee limited to two (2) square feet in area, mounted on face of the building.
 - (C) Private directional signs indicating entrance, exit, or location of parking not exceeding two (2) square feet in surface area for each sign.

E. SIGNS FOR AGRICULTURAL ZONE

One (1) sign identifying the name and type of agriculture activity conducted on the same premises not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.

F. GENERAL SIGN REGULATIONS

1. No sign shall be erected or maintained at any location where by reason of its position, wording, illumination, size, shape, or color it may obstruct, impair, obscure, interfere with the view of, or be confused with, any authorized traffic control sign, signal or device.

2. No sign shall contain or make use of any word, phrase, symbol, shape, form or character in such a manner as to interfere with, or confuse traffic.
3. No illuminated sign shall be permitted within fifty (50) feet of property in any residential district.
4. Business ground signs shall be located not closer than ten (10) feet to a street right-of-way line.
5. No sign shall be placed in any public right-of-way, except publicly owned signs, such as traffic control signs and directional signs.
6. Signs projecting from a building or extending over public property shall maintain a clear height of nine (9) feet above the sidewalk and all such signs shall not project closer than two (2) feet inside the street curb.
7. Wall signs shall not be attached to or obstruct any window, door, stairway or other opening intended for egress, ingress, ventilation and light.
8. No sign shall be attached to any tree, fence or utility pole.
9. Any business sign now or hereafter existing which no longer advertises a bona fide business conducted or product sold on the premises, and any advertising sign now or hereafter existing which no longer advertises a bona fide business conducted or a product sold, or activity or campaign being conducted shall be taken down and removed by the owner, agent or person having the beneficial use of the building, structure or lot upon which such sign may be found within forty five (45) days after written notification from the zoning official. Upon failure to comply with such notice within the time specified in such order, the zoning official is hereby authorized to cause removal of such sign, and any expense incident thereto shall be paid by the owner of the building, structure, or lot to which such sign is attached.
10. All signs shall be adequately maintained. Such maintenance shall include proper alignment of structures, continued readability of the structure and preservation of the structure with paint or other preservatives.
11. All real estate and tract signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after completion of sales activities in connection with the property or tract to which they pertain.
12. All temporary signs shall be removed within five (5) days after completion of the activity being advertised, and the posting of a performance bond with the zoning official shall be required to insure such removal.

13. All signs placed upon private property must have the written consent of the owner or his agent.
14. Permitted temporary signs may be erected or posted for the period not to exceed fourteen (14) days for any quarter of a year. Any sign posted for a longer period must meet the requirements for permanent signs.
15. The area of a free standing sign shall be measured by drawing eight (8) or fewer straight lines encompassing the extremities of the sign within the smallest possible area. The area of a free standing sign shall not include poles, supports, or other structures which are used solely for support and which do not contain any advertising of any kind. (See Illustration No. 4)
16. Business announcement signs may consist of wall signs, banners and other similar signs approved by the Murray zoning official. Mobile signs, pennants, streamers, and any moving, rotating or flapping signs, excluding balloons, are prohibited. Signs are limited to two (2) per proprietor, not to exceed 32 square feet each. A \$10.00 permit fee and a sign permit issued by the planning office will be required. The following time limitations also apply:
 - (A) "Going out of business" and "grand opening" signs may be erected for a period of 30 days and only once per year per proprietor.
 - (B) Temporary signs for "special sale", "under new management" and similar announcements may be erected for a period of fourteen (14) consecutive days and only once every three (3) months per proprietor.
17. Window signage is defined as any sign, picture or symbol that is attached to the interior or exterior of a window or window frame. Said signage is not to exceed twenty five (25) percent of the window area. Said signage shall not require a sign permit. Existing businesses will have one hundred and twenty (120) days to come into compliance with this ordinance.

G. SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL ZONES AND DISTRICTS

The following non-illuminated signs are permitted in all zones and districts and no permit is necessary for erection:

1. Temporary signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet in surface area, for architectural, engineering, construction, or other similar firms engaged in the work on a construction site. Such signs shall not be erected prior to submission of a building permit application and shall be removed at the end of construction.

2. One (1) temporary sign not to exceed 32 square feet to announce the construction of a new subdivision with lots for sale, to be removed upon the completion of sales of 80% of lots.
3. Any official sign, or any informational or directional signs or historic marker erected by a public agency.
4. One temporary real estate sales or rental sign indicating only sales or rental of the premises are allowed not exceeding six and a quarter (6.25) square feet of surface area or as provided for in Article I, B and C in this section. The sign shall be placed flat against the building or back from the street not less than ten (10) feet.
5. Political campaign signs provided they are kept on private property, shall be removed within fourteen (14) days after the election. Signs must be limited to eight (8) square feet and one (1) sign per candidate, per lot with the bottom of the sign no higher than two (2) feet from ground level. Placement of campaign signs on public property such as traffic signs, utility light poles or buildings is prohibited and if found, will be removed at the cost of the candidate.
6. One (1) unlighted sign not over two (2) square feet in area identifying home occupations permitted as a conditional use on the premises. The sign location shall be subject to control by the Board of Zoning Adjustments.
7. The flag, pennant, or insignia of any nation, state or city.
8. Temporary signs associated with community festivals or events of a cultural or educational nature, not to be displayed more than fourteen (14) consecutive days. Only two (2) signs allowed per event in all zones, except residential, with the size not to exceed 32 square feet each and the posting of a performance bond with the Zoning Official shall be required to insure compliance.
9. Unique or unusual signs, such as artistic renderings, murals, etc. are permitted in all zones, except residential, subject to the approval of the Board of Zoning Adjustments based on aesthetics, size, location, and effect upon the general area.
10. Two (2) signs not exceeding 32 square feet each advertising the date and location of an auction are allowed. Only one (1) of the permitted signs is allowed off-site indicating the direction to the auction site. The signs can only be erected for a period of fourteen (14) days prior to the event. The signs are to be removed within 24 hours of the completion of the auction.

H. SIGNS PROHIBITED IN ALL ZONES AND DISTRICTS

1. Flashing or blinking signs.
2. Roof signs.

3. Exposed lighting and tubing is not permitted to outline the building or building wall.
4. Temporary signs except as provided herein.
5. Signs painted directly upon the wall surface of a building.
6. Mobile signs.
7. Pennants, banners or streamers advertising special sales or events.
8. Moving, rotating or flapping signs.
9. Billboards as defined in Section I, Article 2.
10. Projecting signs, except in B-3 zone.
11. Yard sale signs, except as provided for in Article 1,B in this section.
12. Signs lettered in a crude or amateurish fashion.
13. Inflatable signs and tethered balloons.
14. Vehicles or trailers (operable or inoperable), which contain advertising and are not used in the daily conduct of business.
15. Off-premises signage as defined in Section I, Article 2.

I. APPLICATION, FEES AND PENALTIES

1. No sign, except as specifically exempted herein, shall be displayed, or erected, relocated or altered until a permit has been issued by the zoning official. Application materials shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:
 - (A) A completed application form.
 - (B) A site plan and/or building elevations drawn to scale showing the locations of the proposed sign(s) on the lot and/or building, including setbacks.
 - (C) Detailed sign information including type of construction, method of illumination, dimensions, methods of mounting and/or erecting and other similar information.
 - (D) A permit fee.

J. REGULATION OF SIGNS

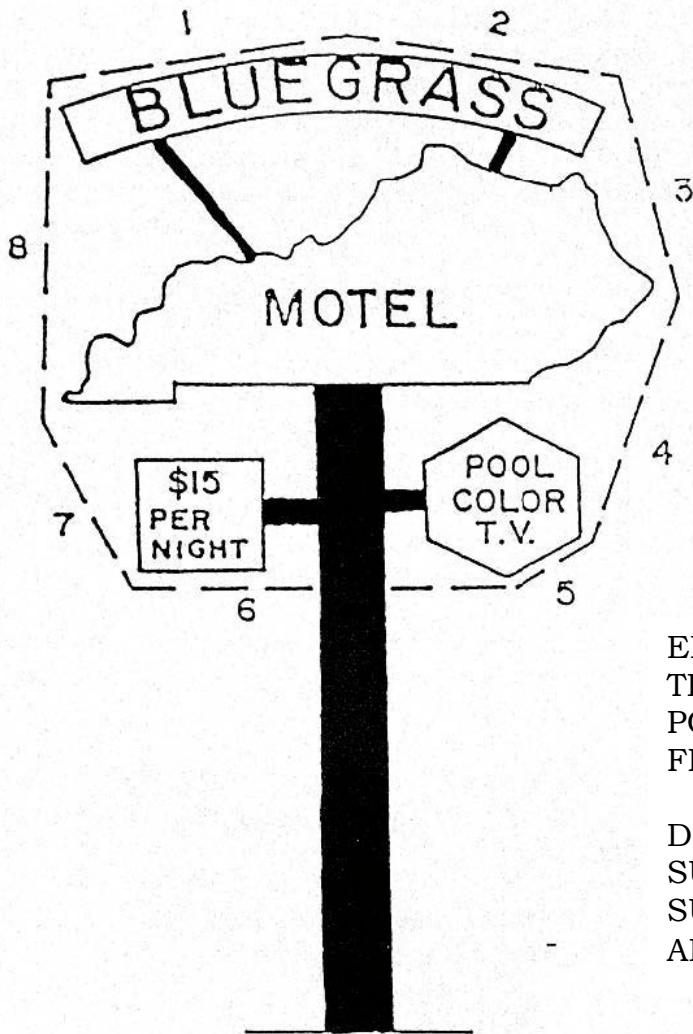
1. Signs are permitted only in those zoning districts where they are designated as permitted uses under the zoning district regulations or where specifically permitted under other provisions of this ordinance. Each zoning district will designate the type and size limitations for signs. For the type and size for a particular zoning district, please refer to that section of the ordinance.
2. All existing prohibited signs shall be removed within six months from the enactment of this sign ordinance.
3. Any business sign legally existing on the effective date of the enactment of this sign ordinance that does not meet the requirements of this ordinance or any amendment thereto shall be considered non-conforming. Such sign shall be allowed to remain unless otherwise provided herein. No such non-conforming sign shall be moved to a new location on the building or lot, altered, expanded or enlarged. No such sign (non-conforming) shall be repaired when damaged from any cause if repairs exceed 50% of the replacement value of the sign as determined by the building inspector. Any replacement sign must comply with the regulations. If a business is discontinued, any non-conforming sign that exists must be removed and any new business occupying the same location must conform to this sign ordinance.

K. APPEALS

Appeals to the Board of Zoning Adjustments may be taken by any person, or entity claiming to be injuriously affected or aggrieved by an official action or decision of the zoning official. Such appeal shall be taken within thirty (30) days after the appellant or his agent receives notice of the action appealed from, by filing with said officer and with the board a notice of appeal specifying the grounds thereof, and giving notice of such appeal to any and all parties or record. Said officer shall forthwith transmit to the board all papers constituting the record upon which the action appealed from was taken and shall be treated as and be the respondent in such further proceedings. At any hearing by the board any interested person may appear and enter his appearance and all shall be given an opportunity to be heard. The board shall fix a reasonable time for hearing the appeal and give public notice in accordance with KRS Chapter 424, as well as written notice to the appellant and the zoning official at least one (1) week prior to the hearing, and shall decide it within sixty (60) days. The affected party may appear at the hearing in person or by attorney.

ILLUSTRATION NO. 4

MEASURING THE AREA OF THE SIGN



ENCOMPASS THE EXTREMITIES OF THE SIGN WITHIN THE SMALLEST POSSIBLE AREA USING EIGHT OR FEWER LINES.

DO NOT INCLUDE THE POLES, SUPPORTS, ETC., USED SOLELY FOR SUPPORT AND THAT CONTAINS NO ADVERTISING OF ANY KIND.