

SECTION 5.15 -- SIGN REGULATIONS

SECTION 5.15.1 -- PURPOSE

The Village of Grass Lake Sign regulations are hereby established in order to regulate the placement, height, setback, lighting, size, and type of signs placed within the Village of Grass Lake. Signs in the Village of Grass Lake shall be regulated herein in order to protect health, safety, and welfare; to enhance the appearance of the Village of Grass Lake; to protect property values; and to encourage the economic development of the Village of Grass Lake.

SECTION 5.15.2 -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. No sign shall be erected at any location without a current permit being issued. Permit applications must demonstrate that the sign installation conforms to the requirements of this Ordinance. This requirement also includes mobile signs.
- B. No sign shall be erected at any location, where by reason of the position, size, shape, color, movement, or illumination, may interfere with or obstruct the view of traffic, nor shall any sign be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device.
- C. All signs shall be designed, constructed, and maintained so as to be appropriate in appearance with the existing intended character of their vicinity so as not to change the aesthetic character of such area.
- D. Illuminated signs shall follow the following guidelines:
 - 1. No sign shall be illuminated by other than electrical means and all wiring shall satisfy Village of Grass Lake electrical codes.
 - 2. The light from illuminated signs shall be shielded at its source in a manner that will not shine light on adjacent properties or onto abutting public streets.
 - 3. Flashing, rotating, or moving lights shall be prohibited, except time and temperature signs.
- E. Signs that are not expressly listed as permitted in this Ordinance are prohibited. The following are examples of prohibited signs:
 - 1. Roof signs

2. Signs containing flashing, intermittent, or moving lights or with moving or revolving parts. This provision is not intended to exclude those signs which give the time or temperature, provided no other animated messages are displayed.
3. Signs affixed to trees, rocks, shrubs, or similar natural features, provided, signs denoting a site of historic significance may be allowed.
4. Signs which imitate traffic signals, traffic direction signs, or similar traffic control devices.
5. Temporary signs mounted upon trucks, vans, or other wheeled devices that identify the owner's occupation or livelihood. Signs permanently painted or otherwise displayed, including magnetic signs, upon a vehicle, licensed and operating on the public streets and highways, identifying the owner's occupation or livelihood, shall be permitted.
6. Signs in the public right-of-way or on public property unless specifically approved by the Village Council.
7. Any sign or sign structure which:
 - a. Is structurally unsafe, or
 - b. Constitutes a hazard to safety or health by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, or abandonment, or
 - c. Is not kept in good repair.
8. Signs which make use of words such as "stop", "look", "danger", or any other words phrases, symbols, or characters, in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic.
9. Any sign or other advertising structure containing any obscene, indecent, or immoral matter.
10. Any sign unlawfully installed, erected, or maintained.

F. The following signs are permitted in all zoning districts:

1. One (1) nameplate not exceeding two (2) square feet in size; memorial signs or tablets may be up to six (6) square feet in size. Historical markers, cemetery stones, and house numbers are to be excluded from square footage requirement.
2. Political signs advocating or opposing candidates for public office or issue to be determined by election may be erected prior to an election. Such signs shall be erected on private property only and no less than one hundred (100) feet from any entrance to a building in which a polling place is located. All such signs shall be removed ten (10) days following election day.

entrance to a building in which a polling place is located. All such signs shall be removed ten (10) days following election day.

3. Directional signs which indicate the direction of traffic flow. Directional signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet in size, shall contain no advertising, and may be illuminated.
 4. Flags, bearing the official design of a nation, state, or municipality, educational institution, or service organization may be displayed provided that the flagpoles to which they are attached do not exceed thirty (30) feet in height.
- G. Unless otherwise specifically stated, freestanding signs shall be set back a distance equal to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the appropriate front yard setback for the R-1, R-2, RM-1, C-1, and I-1 districts. Freestanding signs shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet in the C-1 and OS-1 districts. Freestanding signs shall not exceed twelve (12) feet to the top of the sign face and shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height to the bottom of the sign face.

SECTION 5.15.3 -- PERMITTED ON-SITE SIGNS IN R-1, R-2, RM-1, AND OS-1 DISTRICTS

1. In addition to the signs mentioned in Section 5.15.2 (F), the following signs are permitted on-site in all residential zoning districts:
 - A. One (1) sign advertising the sale or lease of the lot or building on the lot not exceeding six (6) square feet in area. Further, the sign shall be removed within ten (10) days after the sale or transaction of the property or building has occurred.
 - B. One (1) on-site sign announcing a home business, boarding home, owner-occupied bed and breakfast establishment, day care facility, or funeral home (in R-2 and RM-1 districts only) with a maximum area of six (6) square feet. The sign shall be placed flat against the building, hung from a porch, displayed in a window, or placed in the ground parallel to the front of the dwelling within ten (10) feet of the front of the dwelling. Ground signs shall not exceed three (3) feet in height. (Amended, effective September 16, 1999.)
 - C. One (1) on-site sign advertising a recorded subdivision or development not to exceed eighteen (18) square feet in area. Such sign shall be removed after the sale after the sale of ninety (90%) percent of all lots or units within said subdivision or development.
 - D. One on-site sign identifying a school, synagogue, temple, church, park, public building, or other authorized use not to exceed eighteen (18) square feet in area.
2. In addition to those listed in Section 5.15.3 (1), the following sign is permitted in the RM-1 zoning district:

One (1) on-site sign not having commercial connotations identifying a multiple-family building or development or mobile home park, not to exceed eighteen (18) square feet in area.

3. In addition to those signs listed in Section 5.15.3 (1), the following signs are permitted in the OS-1 zoning district:

One (1) on-site sign identifying a golf course not to exceed ten (10) square feet in area. In addition, a clubhouse, restaurant, bar, or any other such use customarily associated with, and secondary to the golf course, may provide one (1) sign not to exceed ten (10) square feet in area. Such sign(s) shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from any property line.

SECTION 5.15.4 -- SIGNS PERMITTED IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

- A. In addition to those signs mentioned in Section 5.15.3 (1) the following signs are permitted in commercial and industrial zoning districts:

1. One (1) on-site free-standing identification sign may be erected for a shopping center or other integrated group of stores or commercial buildings. The area of said sign shall be based on one (1) square foot for each front foot of building, or buildings, for which it is established; however, it shall not exceed two-hundred (200) square feet in area.
2. For commercial and industrial uses there shall be permitted one (1) sign for the first one hundred fifty (150) feet of frontage. This sign shall have a maximum area of thirty-two (32) square feet in area. An additional sign is permitted for each one (1) foot to one hundred fifty (150) feet portion of lot frontage in excess of the first one hundred fifty (150) feet of frontage.
3. One wall sign provided that the following regulations are adhered to:
 - a) No wall sign shall be erected to extend above the wall to which it is attached, nor extend beyond the ends of the wall to which it is attached.
 - b) Signs shall have a maximum size of one (1) square foot of sign area for each one (1) foot of lineal street frontage of the lot upon which the building is located not to exceed thirty-five (35) square feet.
4. Marquee, awning and canopy signs may be substituted in whole or part for permitted wall signs. The total square footage of marquee signs shall be deducted from the total permitted square footage of total wall sign area.
5. Interior window signs shall be permitted on each floor level and shall not exceed fifty (50) percent of the total window area on each floor level.

SECTION 5.15.5 -- NON-CONFORMING SIGNS

Signs lawfully erected prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, which do not meet the standards of the Section may be maintained except as provided hereinafter. No non-conforming sign shall:

- a. Be changed to another non-conforming sign;
- b. Be modified so as to change the shape or size of the sign;
- c. Be repaired or re-erected after sustaining damage valued at more than fifty (50) percent of the costs of an identical new sign; or
- d. Be moved to another location on the premises.

relief, either legal or equitable, or both, as is appropriate in order to ensure compliance with this Ordinance.

Section 11. Severability and Conflict.

- A. **Severability.** This Ordinance, and its parts, are declared to be severable. If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole. All parts of the Ordinance not declared invalid or unconstitutional shall remain in full force and effect.
- B. **Conflict.** If any part of this Ordinance is found to be in conflict with any other Ordinance or with any other part of this Ordinance, the most restrictive or highest standard shall prevail. If any part of this Ordinance is explicitly prohibited by federal or state statute, that part shall not be enforced.

Section 12. Effective Date: This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date on which, it is published.

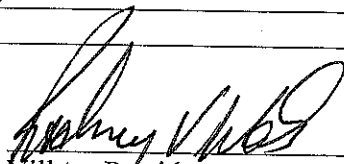
Section 13. This Ordinance shall be published as required by law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All
MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

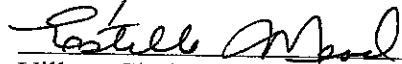
MEMBERS VOTING IN FAVOR OF ADOPTION: All

MEMBERS VOTING AGAINST ADOPTION: NONE

Dated: 1-19-2010


Village President

Dated: 1-19-2010


Village Clerk

Adopted: 1-19-2010

Published: 1-27-2010

Effective: 2-27-2010