

TOWN OF EDDINGTON

SIGN ORDINANCE

PREPARED BY

EDDINGTON PLANNING BOARD

**Replacing Sign Sections in the
Building/Site Plan Review Ordinance
And Zoning Ordinance**

ACCEPTED MARCH 24, 2009

AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TOWN OF EDDINGTON SIGN ORDINANCE

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TOWN OF EDDINGTON SIGN ORDINANCE

The purpose of this ordinance will be to govern placement, size, and design of all signs in all zones in the Town of Eddington.

This ordinance replaces and supercedes the sign ordinance directives contained in the following ordinances: Article 1130, Signs in the Building Permit/Site Plan Review Ordinance and Chapter 4, Section 405, Signs in the Zoning Ordinance.

100: Off Premises Signs – ALL ZONES

No off premise sign shall be erected or maintained in the Town of Eddington except in conformity with M.R.S.A. Title 23, Section 1901 – 1925, the Maine Traveler Information Service Law. Off premises official business directional signs may be located in the Town of Eddington in such location and in such manner as allowed under M.R.S.A. Title 23, Section 1901-1925 and under the rules and regulations of the State of Maine Department of Transportation.

101: On Premises Signs – ALL ZONES

All on premises signs shall be located and erected in conformity with M.R.S.A. Title 23, Section 1901-1925. In addition, the following provisions shall apply:

101.1 Public Way

No sign shall be erected adjacent to any public way in such a manner as to obstruct clear and free vision or where, by reason of its position, shape, color, illuminations, or wording, obstruct the view of, or be confused, with any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device or otherwise constitute a hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

101.2 Right-of-way

No sign shall be located within a town, county, or state right-of-way or other lot line. Exceptions apply to political signs. See section 101.11.

101.3 Prohibited

Free standing and building mounted flashing, moving, or animated signs are prohibited.

101.4 Neon Signs

Free standing and building mounted neon signs are prohibited. Exception is made for signs mounted in a commercial property window indicating “Open” for business during hours of operation.

101.5 Sign Illumination

All sign lighting shall be installed so as to direct light away from abutting streets, roads, and properties. Illuminated signs must be designed in such a way as to avoid glare.

101.6 Discontinued Signs

If the reason for a sign ceases to exist it is the responsibility of the owner to cease illumination, if applicable, of said sign immediately. If, after a period of ninety (90) days the sign is still unwarranted the owner shall be given written notice to remove such sign within ten (10) days after receipt of said notice.

The owner of said sign has the right of appeal to the Code Enforcement Officer within the same 10 (ten) day period.

If the owner fails to submit an appeal, refuses to, or neglects to comply with the order, the Board of Selectmen or Code Enforcement Officer may order such sign to be removed by whatever means practical, and all expenses therefore shall be repaid to the Town of Eddington by the owner within thirty (30) days after demand.

101.7 Real Estate Signs

Only one (1) real estate sign advertising the premise for sale is permitted

101.8 Contractor's Sign

One (1) sign advertising the contractor's name performing temporary services at the premises is permitted for the duration of the work but not longer than 30 (thirty) days after completion of the work.

101.9 Home Occupation Sign

a. One (1) sign related to goods and services sold on the premises shall be permitted.

b. Size is limited to a maximum of 2 (two) square feet

c. Sign may be mounted on the building or freestanding

d. Sign may be double sided

e. Sign must be located on the residential premise

f. Sign must be removed immediately if home occupation ceases.

101.10 Residential Sign

a. Name signs shall be permitted, limited to one sign per premises

b. Size is limited to a maximum of 2 (two) square feet

c. Sign may be located on the residential premise, or intersection of private roads and right of way. Signs may not be located within the rights-of-way of any roads, private road, or right-of-way.

d. Signs relating to trespassing and hunting shall be permitted without restriction, provided that no such sign shall exceed two (2) square feet in area

e. Signs relating to public safety shall be permitted without restriction

101.11 Political Signs

Signs shall not be placed within 8 feet in any direction of a fire hydrant.

Signs shall not be placed on private property without the permission of property owner.

Signs bearing a political message relating to an election, primary, or referendum shall be permitted and may be placed in the right-of-way provided they are removed by the candidate or political committee not later than one (1) week after the election, primary, or referendum to which they relate.

If signs are not removed within the above stated time period the Code Enforcement Officer shall notify the property owner where such signs are located. Any sign not removed following a warning shall be removed by the Code Enforcement Officer, and the cost of such removal shall be assessed against the property owner on whose property the sign was placed.

101.12 Temporary Signs:

One temporary sign, for a period not to exceed four months, either freestanding or affixed to a building, and no larger than nine square feet of display area each side, is permitted as part of a use requiring review by the Code Enforcement Officer.

102: On Premises Signs: Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural Zones

Signs shall advertise goods, services, and/or activity pertaining to the premises on which they are located.

102.1 Location:

No sign shall be located so as to obstruct sight distances of entering or exiting traffic to or from the premises.

No sign shall be located in a road right-of-way without prior approval of the Planning Board.

102.2 Number of Signs:

One freestanding sign will be allowed per lot.

Additional signs may be attached to the building identifying goods sold or services rendered on the premises.

102.3 Dimensions

a. Freestanding

No freestanding sign shall extend more than twenty (25) feet above grade at its point of installation.

Maximum display area of the freestanding sign shall be 50 (fifty) square feet on each side.

b. Building mounted

No sign mounted on a building shall extend above the roof line more than six (6) feet

No sign mounted on a building shall exceed the width of the building.

102.4 Directional Signs:

Directional signs installed in road right-of-way according to Department of Transportation standards and regulations are permitted. Traffic or directional signs to control and direct customer access and parking are permitted.

102.5 Lighting

See section 101.5 of this ordinance.

103: Public, Religious, and Civic Facilities Signs:

Shall comply with the standards governing signs in the Commercial, Industrial, and Agricultural zones regardless of the zone in which the facility is located.