

SIGNAGE

Sec. 21-11. Prohibited signs.

The following types of signs are prohibited throughout the unincorporated county:

- (1) Signs on public rights-of-way other than publicly owned or maintained signs and signs pertaining to railroad crossings;
- (2) Window signs which exceed thirty (30) percent of the window area;
- (3) Signs that contain words, pictures, or statements which are obscene, as defined by O.C.G.A. § 16-12-80, as amended;
- (4) Signs that simulate an official traffic control device, warning sign, or regulatory sign or which hide from view any traffic control device, signal or public service sign, except as allowed by section 21-9(b)(5) above;
- (5) Signs that emit or utilize in any manner any sound capable of being detected on any traveled road or highway by a person with normal hearing abilities;
- (6) Signs that interfere with road or highway visibility or obstruct or otherwise interfere with the safe and orderly movement of traffic or which otherwise pose a hazard to traffic due to structural deficiencies in the structure of such signs;
- (7) Signs erected by nailing, fastening or affixing the sign in any manner to any tree, curb, utility pole, natural feature, or other structure except as may be set forth herein;
- (8) Animated signs, including rotating or revolving signs (except for time and weather informational signs, official warning and regulatory signs);
- (9) Signs that obstruct any fire escape, any means of egress or ventilation or shall prevent free passage from one part of a roof to any other part thereof, as well as signs attached to any fire escape;
- (10) Signs that do not conform to county building and electrical codes;
- (11) Signs for which a permit is required that do not display the sign permit number and the name and address of the person responsible for erecting and maintaining the sign;
- (12) Roof signs;
- (13) Tri-faced signs;
- (14) Signs that are in violation of the rules and regulations of any zoning overlay district presently existing or as may later be enacted;
- (15) Any sign constructed of non-durable material including, but not limited to, paper, cardboard or flexible plastic that has been displayed for more than sixty (60) days. Nothing herein shall prohibit such a sign from being replaced. This provision does not apply to flags or banners which are governed by sections 21-28 and 21-29;
- (16) Portable signs;
- (17) Signs located on any substandard lot created after the enactment of this chapter, unless the substandard lot is created as the result of governmental action;
- (18) Abandoned commercial signs. Commercial signs (including sign structures) shall be deemed abandoned if the business, service or commercial transaction to which it relates has been discontinued for six (6) months;
- (19) Any sign that is structurally unsound, or is a hazard to traffic or pedestrians;
- (20) Dilapidated or neglected signs. A sign (including sign structure) will be dilapidated or neglected if it does not present a neat and orderly appearance, which may be manifested by the following; rust or holes on or in the sign or sign structure, or broken, missing, loose or bent parts, faded or flaking paint, non-operative or partially non-operative illuminating or mechanical devices or missing letters in sign copy; and
- (21) Illegal signs.
(Ord. No. 13-03, Pt. I, 6-10-03)

Sec. 21-14. Height and setback requirements.

(a) All signs shall be set back as follows:

(1) Ten (10) feet from the curb line of each street adjacent to the lot upon which the sign is situated where an authorized curb cut exists; (applicable to all zoning districts);

(2) If the right-of-way is more than ten (10) feet from the curb line as described in (1) above, the sign, including its footing or foundations, shall be setback at least one (1) foot from the right-of-way (applicable to all zoning districts);

(3) In a residential zoning district, if the distance between the right of way to the front of the principal structure is less than fifteen (15) feet, signs shall be setback two-thirds ($2/3$) of the distance between the curbline and the front of the principal structure on the lot on which the sign is located;

(4) Along all lot lines which are not adjacent to a road with an authorized curb cut, any and all signs shall be within the buildable area of the lot. All signs shall be so located and shall provide such vertical clearance as to provide for safe, convenient and unobstructed passage for pedestrians and vehicles.

(b) No sign or sign structure above a height of three (3) feet shall be maintained within fifteen (15) feet of the intersection of the right-of-way lines extended of two (2) streets, or of a street intersection with a railroad right-of-way. However, a sign support structure not more than ten (10) inches in diameter may be located within the required corner visibility area if all other requirements of this chapter are met and the lowest elevation of the sign surface is at least twelve (12) feet above the ground level.

(c) Window signs are only allowed on the ground floor of a building.

(d) Also see regulations in section 21-18 below.
(Ord. No. 13-03, Pt. I, 6-10-03)