

AURELIUS TOWNSHIP

1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason, MI 48854-9729
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SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION · Applicant's Information

Applicant's Name:	
Name of Sign Company (if applicable):	
Address:	
City, State, Zip	
Phone: ()	Email Address:

Property Owner's Information

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip	
Phone: ()	Email Address:

Proposed Sign Location

Sign Purpose		
Sign Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Wall <input type="checkbox"/> Pole
Sign Height:		
Proposed setback from right-of-way (in feet):		
Total Display area (in square feet):		
Proposed Number of Sign Faces:	<input type="checkbox"/> one	<input type="checkbox"/> two <input type="checkbox"/> three
Height and width of building to be served:		
Number of signs currently located on property:		

Please attach a scale drawing of proposed sign including proposed copy and a scale site drawing meeting the listed requirements of Section 3.4.2(C) of this ordinance.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

I request that the Zoning Administrator proceed with processing this application. I have permission from the property owner to make application for this sign permit and the information included here is true and correct.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ **DATE:** _____

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____

FEE: \$75.00 Date Received: _____

ARTICLE VI. SIGNS, ADVERTISING STRUCTURES AND NAMEPLATES*

*State law references: Highway advertising act, MCL 252.301 et seq.

Sec. 16-645. Purpose and intent.

The purpose and intent of these requirements is to provide a framework within which the identification and informational needs of all land uses can be harmonized with the desires and aesthetic standards of the general public. It is intended through the provisions contained in this chapter to give recognition to the legitimate needs of business, industry and other activities in attaining their identification and informational objectives. Any sign not expressly permitted is prohibited.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.1, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-646. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions set forth in section 16-41 et seq., the following words shall have the meanings set forth:

Abandoned sign means a sign which no longer identifies or advertises a bona fide business.

Advertising signs mean a sign which directs attention to a business or profession conducted or to a commodity service or entertainment sold or offered.

(1) *On-premises* means an advertising sign whose message relates to a business, service, commodity, or profession lawfully being conducted; sold or offered on the same premises.

(2) *Off-premises* means an advertising sign whose message relates to a business, service, commodity, or profession lawfully being conducted, sold or offered on premises other than that upon which the sign is located.

Banner sign means a sign made of fabric or any nonrigid material with no enclosing framework.

Billboard, outdoor advertising structure, means an off-premise sign applied to panels with over 300 square feet of display area and used for outdoor advertising of a business, product, service, event, person or subject including those signs as regulated by the department of transportation pursuant to Public Act No. 106 of 1972 (MCL 252.301 et seq.).

Changeable copy sign, automatic, means a sign on which the copy changes automatically on a lamp bank or through mechanical means; i.e., electrical or electronic time and temperature units.

Changeable copy sign, manual, means a sign on which copy is changed manually in the field; i.e., reader boards with changeable letters.

Construction sign means a temporary sign identifying an architect, contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier participating in construction on the property on which the sign is located.

Directional/information sign means an on-premise sign giving directions, instructions, or facility information and which may contain the name or logo of an establishment but no advertising copy; i.e., parking or exit and entrance signs.

Double-faced sign means a sign with two faces.

Election campaign signs mean signs advertising candidates or soliciting votes in support of or against any proposition or issue at any general, primary, special, school or any other election.

Flashing sign means a sign which contains an intermittent or sequential flashing light source used primarily to attract attention. Does not include changeable copy signs, animated signs, or signs which, through reflection or other means, create an illusion of flashing of intermittent light, compare "changeable copy sign".

Free standing signs mean a sign supported by one or more uprights, poles or braces placed in or upon the ground surface and not attached to any building. Such sign may also be commonly known as a ground sign or pole sign.

Ground sign means a sign which is supported by one or more uprights in or upon the ground where parts of the display surface are less than eight feet above the grade to the bottom of the display area.

Government sign means any temporary or permanent sign erected and maintained by the city, county, state, or federal government for traffic direction or for designation of or direction to any school, hospital, historical site, or public service, property, or facility.

Height, of a sign, means the vertical distance measured from the highest point of the sign, excluding decorative embellishments, to the grade of the adjacent street or the surface grade beneath the sign, whichever is less.

Identification sign means a sign that identifies the activity, business, owner or resident and/or the street address and which sets forth no other advertisement.

Illegal sign means a sign which does not meet requirements of this code and which has not received legal nonconforming status.

Illuminated signs means a sign that provides artificial light directly, or through any transparent or translucent material, from a source of light connected with such sign, or a sign illuminated by a light shielded that no direct rays from it are visible from any public right-of-way or from the abutting property.

Institutional bulletin board means a sign containing a surface area upon which is displayed the name of a religious institution, school, library, community center or similar institution and the announcement of its institutional services or activities.

Maintenance, for the purposes of this chapter, means the cleaning, painting, repair, or replacement of defective parts of a sign in a manner that does not alter the basic copy, design, or structure of the sign.

Marquee sign means an identification sign attached to a marquee, canopy or awning projecting from and supported by the building, above the sidewalk level.

Nonconforming sign:

- (1) A sign which was erected legally but which does not comply with subsequently enacted sign restrictions and regulations.
- (2) A sign which does not conform to the sign code requirements but for which a special permit has been issued.

Pole sign means a free-standing sign supported by one or more up-rights, poles or braces placed in or upon the ground surface and not attached to any building.

Portable sign means a free-standing sign not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or the ground, but usually anchored or secured to a trailer or frame capable of being moved from place to place.

Projecting sign means a sign which projects from and is supported by a wall of a building and does not extend beyond the minimum required setback line or into and over street right-of-way, and not less than nine feet, at its lowest point, above sidewalk or ground level.

Real estate sign means a sign located on premises containing land or buildings for sale, rent or lease, or buildings under construction and intended for sale, rent or lease.

Roof sign means any sign erected over or on the roof of a building.

Sign means any device, structure, fixture, or placard using graphics, symbols, and written copy designed specifically for the purpose of advertising or identifying any establishment, product, goods or services.

Surface display area means the surface display area of any sign is the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of lettering, representations, emblems, or other figures, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the background against which it is placed. Structural members bearing no sign copy shall not be included.

- (1) *Free-standing and projecting* means the area of a free-standing or projecting sign shall be calculated using only one face of any double or multi-faced sign. If the sign faces are not equal in size, the largest face shall be used.

- (2) *One or two individual cabinets.* The area around and enclosing the perimeter of each cabinet or module shall be summed and then totaled to determine total area.
- (3) *Signs composed of more than two sign cabinets or modules.* The area enclosing the entire perimeter of all cabinets and modules within a single, continuous geometric figure shall be the area of the sign.

Temporary sign means a display or informational sign with or without a structural frame and intended for a period not to exceed 60 days of display, including seasonal produce sales and decorative displays for holiday or public demonstrations.

Wall sign, fascia sign, means a sign which is attached directly to or painted upon a building wall and which does not extend more than 18 inches there from nor above the eave line of the roof, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the building wall.

Window sign means signs affixed to, in contact with, or within 12 inches of a window; installed for purposes of viewing from outside the premises. This does not include merchandise located in a window.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.2, 2-12-2002)

Cross references: Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 16-647. Prohibited signs.

The following signs are prohibited in any zoning district in the township:

- (1) Roof signs, as defined in this chapter, are specifically prohibited.
- (2) Any sign which by reason of its size, location, content, coloring or manner of illumination, constitutes a traffic hazard or a detriment to traffic safety by obstructing the vision of drivers, or by obstructing or detracting from the visibility of any traffic control device on public streets and roads.
- (3) 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.
- (4) Abandoned signs and sign structures that are no longer in use as originally intended or have been abandoned; or are structurally unsafe, constitute a hazard to safety and health, or those not kept in good repair or maintenance.
- (5) Any sign which obstructs free ingress to or egress from a required door, window, fire escape or other required exit way.
- (6) Any sign or other advertising structure containing any obscene, indecent or immoral matter.
- (7) Any sign which was unlawfully installed, erected or maintained after the effective date of the ordinance from which this chapter derived.
- (8) Signs having flashing, blinking or running type lights are prohibited except for signs presenting changing of copy for time, temperature and date.
- (9) Billboards except where off-premise signs are allowed.
- (10) Billboards located within 300 feet of residential districts.
- (11) Signs placed within the road right-of-way or within the required corner clear vision area.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.3, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-648. Signs allowed in any district.

The following signs are permitted in any zoning district in this zoning ordinance and do not require a sign permit:

- (1) No hunting signs, No trespassing signs and on-premise directional signs not exceeding two square feet in area.
- (2) House numbers legible from the street and nameplates; fraternal, social, apartment and professional identifying the occupant or address of a parcel of land not exceeding two square feet in display area; and not for the purpose of advertising a home occupation.
- (3) Traffic, or other municipal signs, also private traffic control signs which conform to the requirements of the state manual of uniform traffic control devices.
- (4) Nameplates, memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings, and dates of construction, when cut into any masonry surface or when constructed of bronze or other noncombustible material.
- (5) Flags or banners bearing the official design of a nation, state, municipality, educational institution and organization.

- (6) For sale signs attached to vehicles.
- (7) Park and playground signs.
- (8) Elections signs subject to the following:
 - a. They shall not be erected more than 45 days prior to the elections to which the sign pertains and shall be removed within ten days following the election.
 - b. No election sign shall exceed six square feet in area. Election signs in excess of six square feet in area shall require a sign permit.
- (9) One temporary, nonilluminated real estate sign per lot, advertising the sale or lease or property or building, not exceeding six square feet in surface display area. Real estate signs in excess of six square feet in area shall require a sign permit.
- (10) Temporary construction signs subject to the following:
 - a. Total surface display area shall not exceed ten square feet.
 - b. Sign height shall not exceed eight feet.
 - c. Placement shall be wholly within the property boundaries to which the sign pertains.
 - d. The sign shall not be erected prior to issuance of the building permit for the proposed construction, and shall be removed upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy.
- (11) Signs located on the premise of a customary agricultural operation which identify and advertise the name of a farm, the operator's name, seed, fertilizer, herbicide, pesticide, feed, feed supplements, livestock, test plots, farm organizations, awards and similar agricultural activities, including seed, feed, fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide dealers but excluding equipment and implement dealers and related repair facilities. Such signs shall not exceed 32 square feet in display area.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.4, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-649. Permitted signs.

- (a) *On-premise signs.* On-premise signs are permitted according to the following schedules:
 - (1) *Agricultural and residential district uses, A-1, A-2, RR, R-1 districts.* In agricultural and residential districts, the requirements of schedule "A" shall govern sign area, type, height, and numbers in addition to requirements listed elsewhere in this chapter. The R-2 zoning district is exempt from these requirements. Refer to schedule A.
 - (2) *Development district, D district.* In the development district, the requirements of schedule B shall govern sign area, type, height, and numbers, in addition to requirements listed elsewhere in this ordinance. Refer to schedule B.
- (b) *Off-premise signs.* Off-premise signs must be at least 300 feet from any residential district, RR, R-1 and R-2.
 - (1) Off-premise signs measuring up to 30 square feet are permitted in the A-1, A-2 and D development districts for the purpose of promoting local business. Off-premise signs may be temporary or permanent. Sign text may include business identification, location, listing of services, and dates and times of special events. A 500-foot spacing interval must be maintained between off-premise signs. These provisions do not apply to billboard signs.
 - (2) Off-premise billboard signs are permitted in the D development zoning district. Billboard signs shall not exceed 720 square feet in size. Billboard signs shall be permanent structures. A 1,500-foot spacing must be maintained between billboard signs measuring along the centerline of the road, considering both sides of the road.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.5, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-650. Sign permits.

- (a) *Application for a permit.* Application for a permit to erect or replace a sign shall be made to the development official by submission of the required forms, fees, exhibits, and information by the owner of the property on which the sign is to be located, or by his agent, or lessee. The application shall contain the following information:
 - (1) The property owner's name and address in full;
 - (2) Applicant's name and address;
 - (3) Address of property on which sign is to be situated;
 - (4) Business to which sign belongs or relates;

- (5) Total display area in square feet;
- (6) Proposed setback from right-of-way;
- (7) Sign type;
- (8) Sign purpose;
- (9) Sign height;
- (10) Height and width of building to be served;
- (11) Drawing of proposed sign indicating proposed copy.

(b) Sign permits issued on the basis of plans and applications approved by the zoning administrator authorize only the design and construction set forth in such approved plans and applications, and no other design.

(c) The zoning administrator shall not approve plans or issue sign permits for any sign which do not conform to the provisions of this chapter.

(d) The zoning administrator shall maintain a record of all sign permits issued, and such record shall be open for public inspection.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.6, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-651. Permit fees.

Permit fees will be established by resolution of the board of trustees. A copy of current costs will be available from the zoning administrator and township clerk.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.7, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-652. Construction requirements.

In addition to zoning regulations, many signs and sign structures require a building permit. When applicable, a building permit shall be obtained and there shall be compliance with construction standards required by the adopted building code.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.8, 2-12-2002)

Sec. 16-653. Illegal signs.

Signs which do not comply with the provisions of this chapter are illegal signs and are a violation of this chapter unless they are legal, nonconforming structures pursuant to section 16-726(b)(2) The zoning administrator shall enforce this chapter according to the provisions of section 16-40.

(Ord. No. 39, art. 11, § 11.9, 2-12-2002)

Land Use	Maximum Display Area	Sign Type	Maximum Height	Max. Number of Signs	
(1)	Agriculture and related enterprises	32 square feet	Ground	4 feet	Open per principle use
		10 percent of wall	Wall	not above upper wall line	
(2)	Recreation/Conservation	24 square feet	Ground	4 feet	One per principle use
		Pole or free-standing	20 feet		
(3)	Home business, home occ., bed and breakfast	8 square feet	Wall	not above front wall	One per principle use
		16 Square feet	Ground	4 feet	One ground and one wall sign per principle use
(4)	Public/private institutions	32 square feet	Ground	6 feet	
		10 percent of wall	Wall	not above upper wall line	

(5)	Housing developments	24 square feet	Ground	5 feet	One per street entrance
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Schedule B. On-Premises Signs Development District Uses

The provisions of schedule B shall apply to the D development district and shall govern sign area, type, height and numbers in addition to requirements elsewhere in this chapter.

EXPAND

Land Use		Maximum Display Area	Sign Type	Maximum Height	Max. Number of Signs
(1)	Apartment complex	32 square feet	Ground	4 feet	Open per principle use
		10 percent of wall	Wall	not above upper wall line	
(2)	Public/private institutions office	24 square feet	Ground	4 feet	One ground sign per street entrance and one wall sign per principle use
		10 percent of wall	Wall	no above upper wall line	
(3)	Retail establishments Restaurants Gasoline service station Motel	32 square feet	Ground	5 feet	One ground or pole sign and one wall sign per principle use

		10 percent of wall	Wall	not above upper wall	
		40 square feet	Pole or free standing	30 feet	
(4)	Comparison retail	50 square feet	Ground	5 feet	One ground or one pole sign per street entrance and one wall sign per principle use
		75 square feet	Pole or free standing	30 feet	
		10 percent of wall	Wall	not above upper wall line	