



Ossipee N.H. SIGN ORDINANCE

The Ossipee sign ordinance is an amendment to the Ossipee Zoning Ordinance under RSA 674:16

I. PURPOSE AND INTENT

It is the intent of this Ordinance to provide for the regulation and restriction of signs to:

- a.: Avoid signs which, individually or collectively, are confusing, distracting, or impair visibility in areas along ways or other public traffic areas;
- b.: Protect residential and agricultural areas and scenic views from signs;
- c.: Protect public ways, parks and other areas in view of the proposed signs.

II. EXEMPTIONS

The following signs are exempt from this Ordinance and, therefore, do not require a permit:

- a.: All indoor signs;
- b.: All signs indicating the existence of private property, forbidding trespass, hunting or other activities on the property;
- c.: All signs on private property and intended to regulate or guide activities within the property even though such signs may be incidentally visible off the property;
- d.: Temporary signs which are non-illuminated signs used for special sales promotions, political campaigns, community events, auctions, and the like. Temporary signs must conform to the size standards of this Ordinance and must be removed within 7 days after the event or election.
- e.: Non-illuminated home business signs. Such signs shall not exceed two (2) per property and shall not have a combined surface area in excess of eight (8) square feet,
- f.: Non-illuminated real estate signs on property for sale, provided they do not exceed eight (8) square feet;

III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- a.: Permit Procedure - Those desiring to erect a non-exempt sign must obtain a permit. An application for a sign permit shall include site location, sign size, method of illumination, if any, and types and colors of materials to be used in construction. Permits shall be issued by the Board of Selectmen or their authorized agent.

- b.: Fees - Each application for a sign permit shall be accompanied by payment of a minimum \$50.00 fee, but the fee may be increased to cover unusual costs.
- c.: Maintenance - All surfaces and supporting structures of signs, whether erected prior to the effective date of this Ordinance or not, shall be maintained in a safe and sightly condition, to the satisfaction of the Board of Selectmen or their authorized agent. Failure to correct a violation within thirty (30) days after notice thereof, shall constitute a violation of this Ordinance, subject to prescribed remedies whereupon the designated Town Official may remove, or cause to have removed, said sign.
- d.: Sign Measurement - The measurement of area of a sign shall be the surface area and shall be considered to include all lettering or elements of a sign, accompanying designs and symbols together with background, whether open or closed, on which they are displayed, but not including any supporting framework or bracing which are incidental to the sign, and which are not designed to attract attention.

Where the sign consists of letters, symbols or devices affixed to the surface of a building, the area shall be measured by a single continuous perimeter drawn to enclose the extreme limits of the letters, symbols or devices. The area of one (1) side of a double-faced sign shall be regarded as the total area of the sign.
- e.: Location - No signs shall be placed in such a manner as to endanger street traffic by obscuring a clear view or by confusion with official street signs and signals.
- f.: Non-Conforming Signs - Any advertising which has been removed or destroyed (except by an Act of God or vandalism) to an extent of more than fifty percent (50%) of the replacement value at the time of destruction, shall not be replaced, repaired or rebuilt except in conformity with this Ordinance.
- g.: Sign Movement - No new sign shall move nor contain parts that move.
- h.: Free-Standing Signs - No free-standing sign shall be placed nearer than fifteen (15) feet of any lot line.
- i.: Height Limit - No free-standing signs shall exceed thirty (30) feet in height.
- j.: Scenic Views - No sign shall inhibit the clear view of water bodies, mountain ranges or commonly recognized vantage points to Ossipee's scenic environment.

IV. SIGN ILLUMINATION

- a.: Flashing Signs - No sign shall be intermittently illuminated, nor be of a traveling light type, nor be animated or flashing.
- b.: Shielding - Illumination fixtures shall be so arranged as to direct the light away from streets and away from adjoining structures.
- c.: Timing - No signs shall be illuminated between midnight and six (6) a.m., except that signs may remain illuminated during the hours that the premises are open to the public and that lighting may be permitted if it has a secondary function to protect on-site buildings.

V. PERMANENT SIGNS

- a.: Off-Site Signs - The Board of Selectmen may permit directional signs which are located off of the site which is being advertised. These signs shall:
1. Not exceed 128 square feet in size per sign or to total more than 256 square feet, if more than one sign is used per business;
 2. Be limited to a maximum of three (3) per business; except in such instances where a business or institution is over two (2) miles from a State Highway, additional directional signs not exceeding four (4) square feet in size may be placed at intersections upon application to the Board of Selectmen., The two miles is to be measured along the traveled way;
 3. Off-site signs must follow the setback requirements of the zoning ordinance for a structure.
- b.: On-site Signs - The Board of Selectmen may permits signs which are located on the site of the business whether free-standing, painted on a wall, or protruding from a building. These signs shall:
1. Not protrude beyond four (4) feet from a building;
 2. Not exceed 128 square feet in area per sign or to total more than 176 square feet if more than one sign is used per business;
 3. Be limited to a maximum of four (4) per business.
 4. On site signs must adhere to a ten (10) foot setback from the right of way.

VI. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- a. The Board of Selectmen, or their designee shall enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.;
- b. The Board of Selectmen or their designee shall issue any and all sign permits requested if the proposed sign conforms to the provisions of this Ordinance;
- c. After passage of this Ordinance, it shall be unlawful to erect or alter any sign without a permit unless specifically exempted in Section II of this Ordinance.;
- d. In case of a violation of this Ordinance, the Selectmen may institute any appropriate action to prevent an unlawful violation of the Ordinance. Any person, firm or corporation which violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of not more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)-per day for each day that a violation is committed or continued.



TOWN OF OSS�PEE
Building/Zoning Enforcement
1 Moultonville Rd, PO Box 67
Center Ossipee, NH 03814
Ph: (603) 539-4181 Fax: (603)539-4183

APPLICATION FOR SIGN PERMIT

Date: _____

Name of Applicant: _____ Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

Address of Sign Location: _____

Sign Dimensions: _____

Sign Construction Details: _____

Sign Illumination Details: _____

Name of Property Owner (if different): _____ Phone No. _____

Email: _____

Signature of Applicant:

Signature of Property Owner (if different): _____

Fee: \$50_____ paid Building/Zoning Enforcement Officer: _____

Building/Zoning Enforcement Officer:

Approved ☐ _____ Denied ☐ _____

