



Town of Milford

Department Of Inspections

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Summary - Signs on Residential Property, effective May 23, 2016.

(Note: Refer to complete by-law or to the Department of Inspections for complete regulations)

Permanent Signs

One wall mounted **or** free standing sign per lot, not to exceed 6 square feet in area, or 6 feet in height.

Permit is not required for this sign.

This regulation applies to lots within the RA, RB, RC, RD and OR zoning districts, regardless of the principle use of the structure.

Temporary Signs

One temporary sign, not to exceed 6 square feet in area nor 3 feet in height, advertising a one-time event may be displayed at any time of year.

Up to 4 temporary signs advertising a one-time event may be displayed in the months of March, April, September, October, and November.

Signs advertising an event shall not be displayed more than 45 days before such event, and shall be removed within 72 hours following said event. (Political, real estate, construction signs, for example)

This regulation applies to lots within the RA, RB, RC, RD and OR zoning districts, and any lot in which the principle use is residential.

A Permit is not required for this signage.

Summary – Temporary Signs on Commercial Property

Temporary signs are prohibited in the CA, CB, CC, IA, IB, and IC zoning districts.

(Exception: A temporary sign may be used in place of a permanent sign for a period not to exceed 30 days when a permit has been issued for the permanent sign.)

Sign FAQ's

Q. When and why did the sign by-law change?

A. The sign by-law was rewritten and adopted at the May 23, 2016 Town Meeting, as result of a June 2015 Supreme Court decision (Reed v. Gilbert, Arizona) which revealed that aspects of our previous by-law were unconstitutional.

Q. May I install a permanent sign at my house?

A. Yes, you may install one permanent sign that does not exceed 3 feet in height, and 6 square feet in area, on any lot for which the primary use is residential. The sign may be freestanding or wall-mounted.

Q. May I install a temporary sign at my house?

A. Yes, one temporary free-standing sign advertising a one-time event is allowed on any lot for which the primary use is residential. The temporary sign may not exceed 3 feet in height and 6 square feet in area.

Q. May I have both a temporary and permanent sign at my house?

A. Yes.

Q. May I have more than one permanent sign at my house?

A. No, unless the second sign is in conjunction with a Home Occupation Permit.

Q. May I have more than one temporary sign at my house?

A. During the Months of March, April, September, October, and November you may have up to 4 temporary free-standing signs advertising one-time events at any lot where the primary use is residential.

Q. Are Real Estate or Political signs exempt from the new by-law?

A. No, Real Estate and Political signs are subject to the same regulations as any temporary sign.

Q. When can I display a political sign?

A. A political sign may be displayed no earlier than 45 days prior to an election.

Q. When may I display a Real Estate Sign?

A. A Real Estate Sign advertising a house for sale may be displayed indefinitely from the time the home is for sale and must be removed within 3 days of the sale.

Q. May I have a banner at my house?

A. No. Banners, are not allowed at a residential location.

Q. May I place a banner or sign at Tank Field or Louisa Lake?

A. No, Tank Field and Louisa Lake are in a Residential Zoning District and banners are prohibited and subject to the same regulations as any residential property.

Q. May I have a Temporary Sign at my business?

A. No. Temporary signs are not allowed in the Commercial and Industrial zoning districts. (Refer to complete by-law for exceptions)

Q. I've applied for and received a permit for a sign at my business. May I have a Temporary Sign until the permanent sign is installed?

A. Yes, you may have a temporary sign for a period not to exceed 30 days or until the permanent sign is installed.

Q. May I have a Banner at my business?

A. In general, no. Refer to complete by-law for particular exceptions.

Q. May I place a sign on a utility pole?

A. No, this is prohibited.

Q. May I place a sign within the public right of way, or on a street or sidewalk?

A. No, this is prohibited.

Q. May I place a temporary sign on Public Property?

A. No, this is prohibited.

Q. May a sign be placed inside an athletic facility?

A. Signs within an athletic facility are not regulated by the zoning by-law. The Board or Commission which controls the facility will regulate signs allowed at such facility.