

Sign Terminology Definitions

Purpose Statement is - In Maryland, legislative bodies are authorized to regulate signs in an effort to promote public health, safety and welfare. (Land Use Article, Section 4-102, Annotated Code of Maryland) Sign regulations in this ordinance are intended to promote and enhance the character of the local community.

Sign means any device visible from a public place that displays messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations.

On-Premise Sign - A free-standing sign situated within land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location.

On-Premise Building Sign - A sign attached as part of a building located within land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location.

Development Complex Sign - A free-standing sign within 100 feet of a qualifying property owner's association common area.

On-Premise Directional Sign - A free-standing sign within 20 feet of the roadway entrance and within land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location.

Outdoor Advertising Sign aka Billboard – Any offsite sign that is NOT within land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location.

Off-Premise Directional Sign - A free-standing sign within 20 feet of the roadway entrance and farther than 50 feet of the legal physical licensed business property location.

Freestanding Yard Signs - A free-standing temporary sign.

Banner/Blade/Flag Signs - A temporary sign affixed to a pole, post or building.

Pole Sign - A temporary sign affixed to a pole.

Sidewalk Sign - A temporary A-Frame or T-Frame unlighted sign located within 20 feet of a licensed business entrance. The Sidewalk sign cannot impede any traffic.

Illegal Sign – means any sign located on property subject to zoning ordinance and without a Garrett County permit.

Illegal Off Premise Sign – means any sign without a Garrett County permit located within a highway right of way and/or off of permitted private property.

Grandfathered Sign – Any sign issued a permit by earlier code or issued a permit as existing before 1975.

Centerline of Roadway Elevation – The average elevation at the centerline of a highway, measured 100 feet each direction from a point opposite a proposed Onsite sign.

Flag – means any device made of flexible flowing material visible from a public place that displays brand messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations.

Banner – means any device made of flexible flowing material visible from a public place that displays brand messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations.

Blade– means any device made of flexible flowing material visible from a public place that displays brand messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations.

Pole- means any pole such as a light pole, flag pole, or mast that is owned by the applicant.

Free-standing sign – Any sign in contact with, sitting on or planted in ground.

On-Premise Sign– Only signs located within, on and as part of land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location of a Maryland licensed business shall be considered “on-premise”.

Option A –**Off-Premise Sign** - Any sign NOT located within, on and as part of land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location of a Maryland licensed business shall be considered “off-premise”.

Option B –**Off-Premise Sign** - Any sign NOT located within, on and as part of land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location of a Maryland licensed business that is open to customers a minimum of 25 hours per week shall be considered shall be considered “offsite”.

Option C –**Off-Premise Sign** - Any sign NOT located within, on and as part of land owned or leased for the legal physical licensed business property location of a Maryland licensed business that is open to customers a minimum of 25 hours per week at least 20 weeks per year shall be considered shall be considered “offsite”.

Option A - Device **Visible** from a Public Place – A device is deemed “visible” from a public place when it is commonly recognized and readable by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations without use of any magnification.

Option B - Device **Visible** from a Public Place – A device is deemed “visible” from a public place when it is commonly recognized and readable by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations without use of any magnification. If a member of the community feels a sign is visible and should require a permit they may gather a petition signed by no less than three watershed property owners and appeal to the Zoning Administrator for a determination. If still unsatisfied with that determination a second appeal may be presented to the Planning Commission where a majority decision ruling is final.

Legal physical licensed business property location – The principal location of a permitted public use such as a licensed business location open to the public, licensed facility operated as a business, a recognized community organization facility (ie: church), or the like.

Roadway Entrance – any roadway access point inviting vehicular traffic from a public roadway to access applicant property for a commercial use may apply for a directional sign.