

**SIGN PERMIT
WYALUSING BOROUGH**

Name of Applicant: _____

Business: _____

Mailing address: _____

Fee Due: \$35.00: _____

A sign permit has been requested and secured within the Borough of Wyalusing. The permit has been forwarded to the Building Codes/Zoning Officer for review and approval. Please provide a detailed sketch listing of dimensions of the sign.

Submitted on this date: _____ **By:** _____

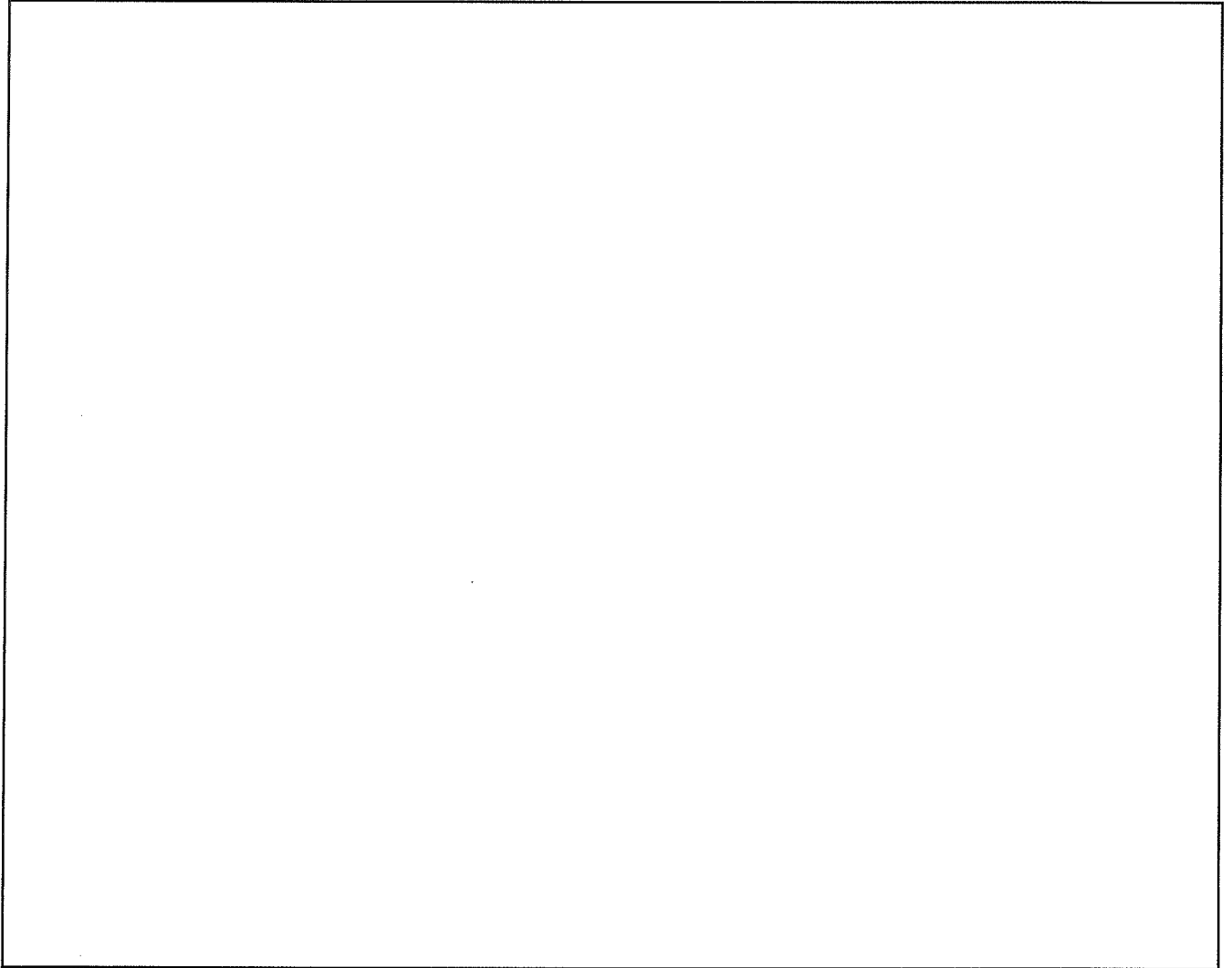
Attested Borough Secretary

Date

Building Codes/Zoning Officer

Date

Wyalusing Borough Sign Permit- Detailed Sketch-dimensions-size-type



TIME-AND-TEMPERATURE DISPLAY — A variable message sign which displays current time and temperature in a stationary or alternating manner.

TRANSITION — A visual effect used on an electric message sign to change from one message to another.

§ 500-803. General regulations for all signs.

All permanent signs shall require an official Borough sign permit under this section of the article, except those identified under §§ 500-805 and 500-815, respectively.

- A. Sign(s) must be constructed of durable material and maintained in good condition;
- B. No sign shall be maintained within Wyalusing Borough in such a state of disrepair as to have the appearance of complete neglect, which is rotting or falling down, which is illegible, or has loose parts separated from original fastenings;
- C. Whenever a sign becomes structurally unsafe or endangers the safety of the building or premises, or endangers the public safety, the Zoning Officer shall give written notice to the owner of the premises on which the sign is located that such sign shall be made safe or removed within 10 days of the written notice from the Zoning Officer;
- D. Sign(s) painted upon or displayed upon a building or structure shall be regarded as a flat wall sign and the regulations pertaining thereto shall apply;
- E. Sign(s) may be interior-lighted with nonglaring lights, or may be illuminated by floodlights or spotlights that are shielded so there is no direct light transmitted to other properties or lots or public rights-of-way;
- F. Internally illuminated sign(s), designed to give forth artificial light directly or through transparent or translucent material from a source of light within such sign(s), unless otherwise prohibited, will be permitted, providing that the light being emitted from the sign(s) shall not cause a glare or emit light onto the surrounding area;
- G. No sign or sign structure shall constitute a hazard to public safety or health, including a sign, which fails in the determination of the Zoning Officer, to properly shield its light source from providing unacceptable glare to a neighboring property or lot or the public street;
- H. All electrically illuminated signs shall be constructed to the standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters;
- I. Flashing, blinking, strobe, twinkling, animated, streaming or moving signs of any type shall be prohibited. A sign may only change from one message to another message provided the message does not change more than once every minute. In addition, flashing lights visible from a street shall not be used to attract attention to a business. This restriction specifically includes window signs, but does not prohibit seasonal holiday lighting or displays that comply with this article;
- J. No sign shall by reason of size, location, content, coloring or manner of illumination, obstruct the vision of drivers, either when leaving or entering a roadway from another

roadway or driveway, or obstruct or detract from the visibility or effectiveness of any traffic sign or control device on public streets and roads;

- K. No sign shall be of such character, form, shape or color that they imitate or resemble any official traffic sign, signal or device or that have any characteristics which are likely to confuse or distract the operator of a motor vehicle on a public street;
- L. No commercial ad(s) or sign(s), other than approved by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, shall make use of words such as "stop," "look," "one-way," "danger," "yield" or any similar words, phrases, symbols, lights or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic;
- M. No sign located within 300 feet of any traffic light shall be illuminated with red, green, or yellow lights that is in a line of sight to cause a distraction;
- N. No visible, internal or external sign(s) shall display words or images that are obscene or pornographic. No loud, vulgar, indecent, or obscene advertising matter shall be displayed in any manner, including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Any graphic illustration pertaining to specified sexual activities, specified anatomical areas, or both; and
 - (2) Scenes wherein artificial devices are employed to depict, or drawings are employed to portray any of the prohibited signs, photographs or graphic representations described above.
- O. No sign shall be erected or located as to prevent free ingress or egress from any window, door or fire escape;
- P. No sign shall be permanently attached to public utility poles or trees which are within the right-of-way of any street;
- Q. No sign shall be painted on, attached to or supported by a tree, stone, cliff or other natural object, except for decorative signage designating the property owner;
- R. Within an area regulated by Chapter 227, Floodplain Management, no freestanding sign shall be permitted within a designated floodway;
- S. In the event that a symbol, trademark or other such figure is used as a sign post or standard, which could be constructed to indicate or identify a particular use or business, that symbol, trademark or figure is to be computed as part of the total allowable sign area;
- T. Only those signs referring directly to services, materials or products made, sold, or displayed on the premises shall be permitted, except as otherwise provided in this article;
- U. Except for flat wall signs, no point of any sign, including trim, border and supports, shall be located within 10 feet of any property line or street right-of-way;
- V. No sign shall emit smoke, visible vapors or particles, sound or odors;
- W. No sign shall contain information that states or implies that a lot may be used for any purpose not permitted under the applicable provisions of this chapter;

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- X. Any sign attached to a building shall not be placed on the roof, be higher than the wall to which it is attached, or located on a parapet wall;
- Y. No point of a wall projecting sign shall be located less than 8 1/2 feet above the grade directly below the sign;
- Z. No sign shall be affixed to any motor vehicle or semitrailer in such a manner that the carrying of such sign is no longer incidental to the vehicle's primary purpose;
- AA. No sign located on public, state, county or Borough property or a public right-of-way shall bear any commercial advertising or announcement; and
- BB. No inflatable signs shall be permitted other than for special events determined by the Zoning Officer.

§ 500-804. Determination of sign area and height.

- A. The area of a sign shall be construed to include all lettering, wording and accompanying designs and symbols, together with the background, whether open or enclosed, on which they are displayed, including any border framing or decorative attachments, but not including any supporting framework or bracing incidental to the display itself. Where the sign consists of individual letters or symbols attached to a building, wall or window, the area of the sign shall be considered to be that of the smallest rectangle or other regular geometric shape that encompasses all of the letters and symbols.
- B. The maximum height of all signs shall be as established for the district where the sign is to be located. The following general height criteria or restrictions shall apply to all signs, as applicable:
 - (1) Sign height shall be measured from the average grade of the site beneath the sign to the highest point of the sign. No person(s) shall artificially increase the maximum height of the sign by altering the grade at the base of the sign;
 - (2) Wall signs, either parallel or projecting, shall not extend above the top of the wall to which they are attached; and
 - (3) Freestanding business identification signs shall not be located closer to the ground than 10 feet (measured from the lowest part of the sign) when located in a parking, vehicular or pedestrian circulation area, unless they are resting on the ground. Freestanding billboards or advertising sign boards and canopy signs shall be at least 15 feet above the average grade of the proposed site.

§ 500-805. Signs not regulated by this article.

- A. Bulletin boards. Not exceeding 32 square feet in area for public, charitable, or religious institutions where the same are located on the premises of said institutions;
- B. Decals. Decals affixed to windows or door glass panels, such as those indicating membership in a business group or identifying credit cards accepted at the establishment;

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- C. Handicap parking space. Signs not exceeding two square feet in areas reserving parking for handicapped individuals;
- D. Historic sign. A sign that memorializes an important historic place, event or person and that is specifically authorized by Wyalusing Borough or Bradford County, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the federal government;
- E. Holiday decorations. Decorations that commemorate a holiday recognized by Wyalusing Borough, Bradford County, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the federal government and that do not include advertising;
- F. Home occupation sign. Advertises a permitted home occupation that shall not be illuminated within the Residential (R-1), Residential (R-2), Agricultural (A) Zoning Districts and shall be attached to the principal building wall or within a building window and not exceed a surface area of six square feet. A home occupation sign shall not be freestanding;
- G. Name and address. Up to two signs indicating address, number and/or name of occupants of the premises and do not include any commercial advertising or other identification;
- H. Official sign. A sign erected by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bradford County, Wyalusing Borough, the federal government or other legally constituted governmental body, or specifically authorized by Wyalusing Borough ordinance or resolution, and which exists for public purposes, such as, but not limited to, identifying public transit stops;
- I. Open house sign. A temporary sign that advertises the periodic sale or rent of a house that shall be placed a maximum of four days before the open house begins and shall be removed a maximum of 24 hours after the open house ends;
- J. Private drive signs. On-premises private drive signs are limited to one per driveway entrance with language limited to the words "Private Drive" or "Lane" and the addresses of any residences using the private driveway; and
- K. Security and warning signs. On-premises signs regulating the use of the premises, such as "No Trespassing," "No Hunting" and "No Soliciting" signs. In addition, home security company signs indicating that a home contains an alarm system.

§ 500-806. Nonconforming signs.

Nonconforming signs may continue to be displayed, as long as there is compliance with the following limitations and conditions:

- A. There may be no expansion or increase in the nonconformity in any way;
- B. Maintenance and repair of the sign are permitted, if necessary, up to 50% of the sign and its supporting structure may be replaced in the event of damage, with this 50% limitation being cumulative. Any such replacement must be completed within six months of the damage occurring; and

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- C. The sign must be brought into conformity if, for a period of at least three months, the message has no longer applied to an activity on the premises (this does not apply to billboards).

§ 500-807. Signs for nonconforming uses.

Upon receipt of an application for a permit to erect, alter or reconstruct a sign upon premises having a nonconforming use or structure as defined by Article IX, Nonconforming Lots of Record, Buildings and Uses, of this chapter, the Zoning Officer shall refer said application to the Zoning Hearing Board to hear and determine whether such permit application should be granted. Such determination to be based upon the following criteria:

- A. The sign must have a reasonable commercial need, must be the minimum necessary to meet such commercial need, and shall in no event exceed the requirements as hereinbefore set forth in this article;
- B. The sign shall contain no advertising matter not specifically related to the use of the premises; and
- C. The sign shall not conflict, offend or interfere with the conforming uses in the immediate vicinity.

§ 500-808. Abandoned and outdated signs.

- A. Signs advertising a use no longer in existence shall be removed within 90 days of the cessation of such use. If the owner of a property or lot does not remove such sign(s) within 30 days after receiving a written notice from the Zoning Officer, the sign(s) may be removed by Wyalusing Borough at the expense of the property or lot owner; and
- B. These time limits shall not apply to a sign intended to be reused with a new sign face serving a building that is clearly temporarily vacant and being offered to new tenants or for purchase.

§ 500-809. Billboards.

Billboards or off-premises signs include signs, graphics and other displays for commercial, industrial, institutional, service or entertainment purposes, products, uses, or services conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than upon the same premises where the sign is located. These signs are permitted by right (PR) in the Business 1 (B-1), Business 2 (B-2) Zoning District, and Agricultural (A):

- A. All off-premises advertising signs or billboards shall be constructed and erected on a steel unipole or steel I-beams meeting the minimum standards established by the Outdoor Advertising Association of America and the Institute of Outdoor Advertising;
- B. The support structures for all off-premises advertising signs or billboards shall be constructed and erected on permanent footings, as determined by the licensed engineer responsible for the permit application; and

- C. Engineering certification. An engineering certification shall accompany the application for a billboard sign permit. The engineering certification shall indicate, under the seal of a professional engineer, that the existence of the proposed off-premises sign shall not present a safety hazard:
- (1) Sign separation distance. The minimum distance required between all off-premises signs shall be 1,500 feet as measured along the center line of the abutting roadway. Signs located on the opposite sides of the road or in an adjacent municipality are subject to this distance requirement. These signs shall be located according to the following standards:
 - (a) No off-premises sign(s) shall be erected within 250 feet of any existing freestanding on-premises sign; and
 - (b) No off-premises sign(s) shall be erected within 1,000 feet of any existing residential dwelling or Residential Zoning District.
 - (2) Sign setbacks. Off-premises sign(s) shall be located in accordance with the building setbacks for Business (B-1) and Business 2 (B-2) District.
 - (3) Sign area. The maximum area for any off-premises sign(s) shall be 250 square feet per side; and
 - (4) Sign height. At grade, no portion of any off-premises sign shall be more than 25 feet above the highest elevation of the surrounding natural grade.

§ 500-810. Digital billboards.

Digital billboards or off-premises signs include signs, graphics and other displays for commercial, industrial, institutional, service or entertainment purposes, products, uses, or services conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than upon the same premises where the sign is located. These signs are permitted by right in the Business 1 (B-1) and Business 2 (B-2) and Agricultural (A) districts.

A. Display standards.

- (1) Static display time interval: eight seconds minimum;
- (2) Transition display time interval: one second maximum;
- (3) No display shall include animation/full motion, blinking, flashing, dissolving, fading, moving light and/or scrolling messages, content and/or images, nor shall it project a static image upon a stationary object;
- (4) Transitions between the display of a message, content and/or image shall be immediate only and shall occur simultaneously on the entire display area;
- (5) The display of message, content and/or image shall be visible only from one direction of traffic travel per sign. This provision shall not preclude the conversion of existing billboards with two sign faces that have been designed to be viewed in opposite directions of travel, provided each face would read to only one direction of travel;