

**ORDINANCE 2003-04-01**

**SIGN REGULATIONS**

**ARTICLE 1**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**1-1 Purpose and Intent:**

It is the purpose of the City of Waynesboro City Council in enacting this Ordinance to provide standards to safeguard life, public health, property and welfare by regulating the location, size, illumination, erection, maintenance and quality of materials of all signs. More specifically, signs have a powerful impact on the aesthetic environment of the community, and it is the purpose of this Ordinance to encourage an aesthetically attractive environment, while allowing sufficient opportunities for communications to serve business and comply with the Federal and State Constitutions and laws. Signs create visual clutter and therefore should be regulated in their size, location, construction and illumination. Signs can detract from the beauty of the neighborhood and lower property values. In seeking to comply with Federal and State law, the Board has determined the following: Large billboards are, as the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized, an aesthetic harm; the Georgia Supreme Court has upheld sign regulations on the basis of aesthetics and preserving the beauty of environment; and, the Eleventh Circuit has recognized portable signs are visual clutter and a potential traffic hazard. The holdings show that the County's ordinance is within the law and therefore constitutional, which is a goal of the County.

Many signs can also be a hazard and negatively impact traffic safety, by distracting drivers and blocking views of other vehicles and dangers, by making intersections more treacherous, and by making it difficult to see oncoming traffic when entering a roadway. Therefore, it is also the purpose of this Ordinance to prevent those harms by regulating signs to safe locations, safe sizes, with proper and safe illumination and construction.

**1-2 Authority**

An ordinance pursuant to the authority granted by the 1983 Constitution of the State of Georgia, Article IX, Section II, Paragraph IV, as amended.

**1-3 Jurisdiction**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall govern the use of all land and development within the incorporated areas of the City of Waynesboro, Georgia.

**1-4 Short Title**

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Sign Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro, Georgia."

**ARTICLE 2**  
**ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS**

**2-1 Permitted Signs**

Following is a list of permitted signs for each specific zoning district. If not otherwise stated, any sign not specifically permitted in a zoning district as provided under this Ordinance shall be prohibited.

**A. D, R-1 and R-2 zoning districts:**

1) **Ground Signs:**

One single face sign per lot having an occupied residential structure.

Maximum Size: 6 sq.ft.

Maximum Height: 6 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 6 feet

Illumination: See Section 5 (E)

2) **Window Signs:**

One sign of up to 4 square feet per dwelling, provided it does not cover more than 25% of the window.

3) **Wall Signs: Not Permitted**

4) **Monument Sign (Subdivision) : See Section 3 (B).**

**B. R-3 zoning district:**

1) **Ground Signs:**

One single or double face sign per total frontage, and located within 200 feet of the main entrance.

Maximum Size: 32 sq.ft. each face.

Maximum Height: 12 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 12 feet

Illumination: See Section 5 (E)

**(OR)**

One monument sign at each main entrance, single or double face.

Maximum Size: 24 sq.ft. each face.

Maximum Height: 8 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 12 feet

Illumination: See Section 5 (E)

2) Window Signs:

One sign of up to 4 square feet per dwelling, provided it does not cover more than 25% of the window.

3) Wall Signs: Not Permitted, other than for building identification and public safety.

C. C-1, C-2, and P-1 zoning districts:

*For single business lots only:*                      *For multi-business lots see sec. E.*

1) Ground Signs:

One double-face sign of up to 112 sq.ft. per face, per total road frontage. If the lot contains a principal building of over 10,000 sq.ft., this amount increases to 150 sq.ft., and if the principal building exceeds 100,000 sq.ft., the amount increases to 200 sq.ft.

Maximum Height: 30 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 25 feet

**(OR)**

One double face monument sign, as defined, not to exceed 32 sq.ft. per face.

Maximum Height: 8 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 16 feet

2) Window Signs:

Total signage not to exceed 25% of the area of all windows of each wall.

3) Wall Signs:

Total signage not to exceed 100 square feet on all walls of each business. For a business building of over 15,000 sq.ft., the total amount increases to 200 sq. ft. for all walls of that building.

Maximum Height: Wall signs may not exceed the height of the wall upon which they are attached, nor extend below the ceiling of any incorporated exterior walkway or other ceiling. Roof signs are not permitted.

4) Planned Development - See Section E

D. **I-1 and I-2 zoning districts:**

1) Ground Signs:

One double-face sign per road frontage of up to 112 sq.ft. per face. If the lot contains a principal building of over 50,000 sq.ft., this amount increases to 150 sq.ft.

Maximum Height: 30 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 25 feet

(OR)

Up to two double face monument signs, as defined, at each entrance, not to exceed 32 sq.ft. per face.

Maximum Height: 8 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 16 feet

2) Window Signs:

Total signage not to exceed 25% of the area of windows facing road frontage.

3) Wall Signs:

Total signage not to exceed 100 sq.ft. on all walls of each industry. If the lot contains a principal industrial building of over 50,000 sq.ft., the total amount increases to 200 sq.ft.

Maximum Height: Wall signs may not exceed the height of the wall upon which they are attached, nor extend below the ceiling of any incorporated exterior walkway or other ceiling. Roof signs are not permitted.

E. **Planned Unit Developments signs in the C-1, C-2, I-1, and I-2 zoning districts:**

*For residential planned developments:*

1) Ground Signs:

One double-face sign of up to 112 sq. ft., generally for the use of the anchor or development name. If the entire development contains over 50,000 total sq.ft., this amount increases to 160 sq.ft. Tenants signs may be placed below the main sign but not lower than eight feet (8') from common grade level, nor extend beyond the outer limits of the main sign cabinet. For planned developments on corner lots, see section 3 (J).

Maximum Height: 35 feet above ground level.

Maximum Width: 25 feet

2) Window Signs:

Total signage per business not to exceed 25% of the area of each wall.

3) Wall Signs:

In a planned development (shopping center, commercial or industrial center, office park, etc.), any individual commercial business less than 15,000 sq.ft. of gross floor area may erect up to two wall signs not to exceed a total of 100 sq. ft. of sign space for all walls of each business. Each business exceeding 15,000 sq. ft. may place up to four signs not to exceed 200 sq feet for all walls of each business.

Maximum Height: Wall signs may not exceed the height of the wall upon which they are attached, nor extend below any incorporated exterior walkway or other ceiling. Roof signs are not permitted.

## 2-2 Additional Permitted Signs

The following signs are also permitted:

- A. Individual Vehicle Signs: Vehicles may display up to 4 sq.ft. of signage. Such signs shall be attached or be adhered directly to the body of the vehicle.
- B. Subdivision Entrance Signs: One monument sign, single or double-face sign, may be permitted at every main entrance to any residential subdivision, mobile home park, mobile home subdivision, apartment complex, or other similar residential development. Such signs shall not exceed, six (6) feet in height, twelve (12) feet in width, nor 32 sq.ft. for each face. Only external illumination is permitted.
- C. Entrance/Exit Signs: In the commercial and industrial zones: Two single or double-faced pole or monument style signs each clearly indicating "Entrance" and "Exit" respectively. Each sign may not exceed three (3) feet in height, nor three (3) square feet per face. Such signs shall be internally illuminated only and may be placed within one (1) foot of the right-of-way.
- D. Public Purpose/Safety Signs: State and local jurisdiction public purpose and safety signs are permitted in every zoning district. Such signs can be placed in the right-of-way provided they do not create a safety hazard.
- E. Any sign not visible from the outside of a structure or to passing members of the public is not regulated by this Ordinance.
- F. Holiday Lighting: Holiday lights and decorations with no commercial message, illuminated only between November 1 and January 15.

- G. Real Estate Signs. One (1) non-animated real estate sign, per agency, per lot. Such signs shall not require a permit and shall be limited to signs whose permitted maximum display surface area shall be as follows:
- 1) Residential - four (4) sq.ft.
  - 2) Commercial - sixteen (16) sq.ft.
- H. Construction/Home Improvement Signs: Residential home improvement signs may be placed on the site of the construction or repair provided all such signs do not exceed six (6) square feet in size and are removed within seven (7) days after completion of work. Commercial and Industrial construction signs displaying the intended occupant (i.e., "Coming Soon") or the names of the contractor(s) or subcontractor(s) may be placed on the site of the construction or repair provided all such signs do not exceed thirty-two (32) sq.ft. and are removed within seven (7) days after cessation or completion of construction.
- I. Temporary Type Signs: See Section 6 & 7
- J. Corner Lot Signage: Single business and planned developments on corner lots are allowed ground signs on both roads/streets provided that the secondary road, as designated by the DCA, must have a minimum of 200' of frontage. Secondary roads having less than 200' of frontage shall be permitted one 32' sq.ft. double faced monument sign as defined. Such signage shall not be accumulated and used on only one of the street frontages.
- K. Election/Candidate Signs: Election/Candidate signs shall require no permit and may be permitted in all zoning districts. Such signs shall be limited to one (1) single face sign per road frontage and shall not exceed six (6) square feet in any residential, nor thirty-two (32) square feet in any non residential zoning district. Signs shall be permitted eight (8) weeks prior to the election and must be removed within fourteen (14) days following any election or runoff election and shall thereafter be forfeited to the City for immediate removal. All such signs shall conform to any other applicable provisions of these regulations.
- L. Strip panel rotating sign faces shall be permitted, however, such rotation is restricted to the vertical strip sign advertising face only where such strips do not exceed six inches (6") in width.
- M. In addition to any single support sign permitted in the C and M zoning districts, a double faced copy change board may also be permitted in those same districts, excluding any planned developments. Such sign shall be located on the same support structure, separate from and below the main sign, and may not exceed 4'X8', nor be placed lower than ten (10) feet to common grade level.

**ARTICLE 3**  
**PROHIBITED SIGNS**

**3-1 Prohibited Signs (Or Portions Thereof)**

Signs which are prohibited include, but are not limited to:

- A. Roof signs
- B. Sidewalk, A-frame, sandwich type, curb type, or daily placement signs.
- C. Portable signs, except as permitted in Section 6
- D. Animated signs involving motion or sound, including rotating signs or parts thereof.
- E. Flashing, blinking, or signs of varying light intensity with the exception of signs giving the time and temperature.
- F. Exposed neon or signs containing exposed neon tubing which are not enclosed within a channel or box lettering.
- G. Lighter than air, balloon, blimp, or other inflatable device which is tethered.
- H. Signs which contain or are an imitation of an official traffic sign or signal, or can be confused with an official traffic sign including those signs employing the word "Stop", "Yield", "Go", etc.
- I. Signs that have been abandoned, including signs that advertise an activity, business, product or service no longer active or in existence.
- J. Banners within twenty feet (20') of a property line or right-of-way.
- K. Signs not in good repair, specifically including any sign which is in a state of disrepair or disassembly, or any sign which has its internal lighting exposed to view for more than one week.
- L. Signs or advertising devices attached directly onto any vehicle parked for more than 48 hours so as to be visible from a public right-of-way, except for work vehicles of a business and common carriers or other vehicles used for daily transportation with a valid drivers license.
- M. Canopy or awning having a commercial message sign attached to or incorporated within the canopy or awning, with the exception of the name and address of the establishment.
- N. Streamers or beacons.

O. Signs Forfeited

- 1) Any sign installed or placed on public property including right-of-ways except in conformance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
- 2) Signs attached to any street signs or markers, traffic control signs or devices, or attached to, or painted on, any sign pole, to any post, tree, rock, or other natural object or feature.

Such signs may be forfeited to the public and subject to immediate confiscation. In addition to other remedies hereunder, the City shall have the right to recover from the sign owner or person(s) placing or maintaining such sign the full costs of removal and disposal of such sign.

**ARTICLE 4**  
**STANDARDS**

**4-1 Standards**

A. Computation of sign area:

The area of a sign shall be computed as the area within the smallest square, rectangle, or portion thereof enclosing, or which would have enclosed, the outer limits of the sign face and frame, text, material, texture, or color forming an integral part of the sign or used to differentiate the sign face and frame from the structure upon which it is placed.

B. Content:

Any sign, display or device allowed under this Ordinance may contain any commercial or non-commercial message, except that such messages cannot be profane, depict obscenity as defined by O.C.G.A 16-12-80, nor can it depict sexual conduct or sexually explicit nudity as defined by O.C.G.A. 36-60-3, nor advertise any illegal activity.

C. Embellishments:

Sign embellishments (including protrusions) shall not constitute greater than 20% of the surface of the sign face or perimeter. Protrusions greater than twelve inches from the sign face and eighteen inches from the sign perimeter are prohibited.

D. Number:

For the purposes of determining the number of signs, ground signs shall be equal to the number of sign structures. All other non-ground signs shall be considered to be a single display surface or display device containing elements organized, related and composed to form a unit. Where matter is displayed in random manner without organized relationship of elements, such elements shall be considered to be a single sign.

E. Illumination:

1. Ground signs shall not be internally illuminated in the residential districts (D,R-1,2,3). All external lighting shall be positioned and shielded so that the light source cannot be seen directly by any passing motorist nor cause detriment to any surrounding businesses for residents.
2. Flashing, blinking or otherwise illumination of varying degree is not permitted. Lighting that causes confusion with, or distraction from, any traffic signal or safety device shall not be permitted.

3. All externally illuminated signs shall utilize low wattage luminaries, mounted in fixtures designed to direct the light and eliminate light trespass.
4. All internally illuminated signs shall utilize low wattage luminaries designed to reduce light glow.
5. All signs over six (6) feet in height shall be internally illuminated or by external lighting fixtures located below the sign area.

F. Support and Stabilization

With the exception of planned development signs which may be of a double pole type [see 2 E(1)], all other signs, banners, and the like, shall be self-supporting upon a single support (ie. Monopole) and within its own framework structure, and shall not employ the use of guy wires or other external support bracing for stabilization.

G. Setbacks

All signs or protrusions thereof which are located on the ground must be setback at least five feet from any public right-of-way or property line. No permanently affixed ground sign shall interfere with any public utility or vehicular line of sight.

H. Corner Visibility

No sign or sign structure above the height of three (3) feet may be sited within fifteen (15) feet of the intersection of the right-of-way lines of either street.

I. Fire Safety

No sign or sign structure may be erected or maintained which obstructs any form of fire escape or fire lane.

J. No sign or portion of a sign may project or extend over any residential, commercial, industrial structure, any driveway, walkway or the like.

K. Design

In all Commercial and Industrial zones all signs shall be of a single support (eg. Monopole) design, with the exception of planned development signs located in those districts. [Also see Section 2 (E) and 5 (F).]

**ARTICLE 5**  
**TEMPORARY SIGNS**

**5-1 Long Duration Temporary Signs (15-60 days):**

- A. The following types of long duration temporary signs may be displayed only in the Commercial and Industrial zoning districts upon the issuance of a temporary permit by the Planning Commission.
  - 1. Inflatable ground advertising devices and figures.
  - 2. Search lights, lasers and similar devices.
  - 3. Banners, including flag banners.
- B. Only one long duration temporary sign or device may be used on one lot at the same time.
- C. A temporary permit shall be valid for not more than sixty (60) days. A business or individual cannot request more than one (1) temporary permit every six months.

**5-2 Short Duration Temporary Signs (1-14 days):**

A. Weekend Signs:

Weekend signs shall not exceed three (3) feet in height and four (4) square feet per side, and shall not be more than two sided. Such signs shall be made of waterproof material, and must be attached to an independent mounting device no more than forty (40) inches above ground level. The mounting must be secure to prevent the sign from blowing off of the device. The sign or mounting device should bear the name and phone number of the party responsible for the device. No such sign can be placed within 100 feet of an intersection, nor shall any sign be closer than ten feet to the pavement of a roadway. In no event can such signs be placed on a public right-of-way. [See definition for time restrictions.]

B. Short Duration Temporary Signs:

Short duration temporary signs can be erected in any zoning district for a maximum of two (2) weeks. No more than two signs can be erected on any lot. Such signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and sixteen (16) square feet per side, and shall not be more than two (2) sided. Such signs shall be made of waterproof material, and must be attached to an independent mounting device. The mounting must be secure to prevent the sign from blowing off of the device. The mounting device or sign should bear the name and phone number of the party responsible for the device. No such sign can be placed within one hundred (100) feet of an intersection, nor shall any sign be closer than ten (10) feet from the pavement of the roadway. In no event shall such signs be placed on a public right-

of-way. Short duration signs cannot be placed on the same lot more than four (4) times per year.

**ARTICLE 6**  
**PROCEDURES**

**6-1 Sign Permit**

A sign permit is not required for the erection of a weekend sign, or a ground or window sign in the D,R-1, R-2, R-3 zoning districts. However, all signs using electrical wiring and connections shall require an electrical permit.

- (a) For all other signs other than listed above, a sign permit is required before a ground or wall sign may be erected, and before an existing sign may be enlarged, relocated, or materially improved upon to an extent of 60% of its total replacement value.
- (b) A sign permit shall be issued by the Planning Commission when the plans, specifications, and intended use of the applied sign or part thereof conform to the applicable provisions of this Ordinance. The application shall be accompanied by all the information required under Section 8 (B) and such other information as the Planning Commission may require.
- (c) Each sign application shall contain an agreement to indemnify and hold the County harmless of all damages, demands, or expenses which may in any manner be caused by the sign, or sign's erection, continued existence, or removal. Each applicant shall present to the County upon request a certificate of liability insurance prior to the issuance of a sign permit.

**6-2 Application**

Applications for sign permits shall be filed by the sign owner or owner's agent with the Planning Commission upon forms as provided. Any information pertinent to the sign application as may be requested by the Planning Commission and may include, but not limited to:

- (a) The type and purpose of the sign as defined by this Ordinance or DCA.
- (b) A site plan showing the location of the sign, and construction plan describing the material the sign is to be constructed from.
- (c) Elevation drawing showing the height and dimensions of the sign face.
- (d) The total construction cost of the sign.
- (e) The street address of the property upon which the subject sign is to be located and the proposed location of the sign on the subject property. In the absence of a street address, a method of location acceptable to the DCA shall be used.

- (f) The square foot area per sign face and the aggregate square foot area if there is more than one sign face.
- (g) The name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) of the real property upon which the subject sign is to be located.
- (h) The name, address, phone number, and business license number and home jurisdiction of the sign contractor.

### **6-3 Expiration Date**

A sign permit shall become null and void if the sign for which the permit was issued has not been completed within six (6) months after the date of issuance, provided however, that a six (6) month extension of the permit may be granted by the Director of Planning and Zoning.

### **6-4 Processing of Application**

Processing of application: Upon receipt of an application for a sign as permitted under the provisions of this Section, the Planning Commission, shall examine and process the application within thirty (30) days. A permit may be denied if the applicant, landowner, or lessee or other party is presently maintaining any sign in violation of the sign provision of this Ordinance.

### **6-5 Fees**

Fees: No permit should be issued until the appropriate application has been filed with the Planning Commission and the appropriate fee has been paid which fees shall from time to time be established by the City Council.

### **6-6 Inspection**

In accordance with Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro, enforcement personnel are hereby empowered to enter upon or into a building, structure, or premises upon which a sign is located for the purpose of inspecting the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provision of this Section.

### **6-7 Appeals and Variances**

- (a) Procedure Upon Denial: Upon denial of an application for a sign permit, the applicant shall be given verbal notice; or written notice within fifteen (15) days stating the reason(s) for denial of the permit. The aggrieved party may appeal any decision as provided in Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro.
- (b) Variances
  1. Board of Adjustment. Variances may be granted from the provision of this Ordinance by the Board of Adjustment in compliance with Article 18, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro, and shall apply both to

signs which are non-conforming as of the effective date of this Ordinance as well as the new signs erected thereafter.

2. Administrative. Administrative variances may be granted by the Director of Planning and Zoning provided any variance that is granted should conform to the intent and purpose of this sign ordinance.

#### 6-8 Construction and Maintenance

- (a) It shall be unlawful to erect or place any sign which does not conform to the requirements of this Ordinance.
- (b) All signs for which a permit is required, together with all their supports, shall be kept in constant repair and unless constructed of galvanized or non-corroding metal shall periodically be given a protective coating. The area immediately in front of all freestanding signs shall be maintained free of high weed and debris.
- (c) The staff of the Planning Commission may periodically inspect every sign in order to determine that each meets the requirements set forth in this Ordinance.
- (d) The owner or entity shall be required to remove or have removed from the premises discarded or unusable paper, sign faces, parts and debris resulting from the changing of the advertising copy or message or maintenance of any sign or sign structure.

#### 6-9 Enforcement

##### (a) Removal

1. In accordance with Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro, enforcement personnel may order the removal of any sign in violation of this Ordinance. Notice shall be given to the permit holder and/or property owner, then to the owner of the sign; or if the sign owner cannot be found or cannot be determined, notice shall be given to the sign erector or property owner, or any party associated with such sign. If a permit was issued, such notice shall operate to revoke the permit. The removal order shall be issued **only** after the appropriate party fails to comply with the terms of this Ordinance within seven (7) working days after the receipt of written notice of non-compliance from the Building Inspector, or within ten (10) working days from the mailing of such notice if no return receipt is received indicating acceptance.
2. An aggrieved party may appeal the removal order within ten (10) working days from the date that the notice was received. Such appeal shall be as provided in Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro. If the sign is not removed within:
  - a) thirty (30) days after the order of removal is delivered or mailed,

- b) forty-five (45) days from the mailing of such notice if no return receipt is received indicating acceptance, or,
- c) thirty (30) days after the date any appeal becomes final, thereafter, the enforcement personnel is authorized to remove or cause to be removed the sign and to collect the costs thereof as provided in section C below.

(b) Removal without notice

The enforcement personnel or any other agent of the City of Waynesboro having jurisdiction under the circumstances may, upon passage of these sign regulations, remove or direct the removal of any sign in violation of this Ordinance, without giving notice to any party, if:

1. Said sign is upon the public right-of-way or upon other public property.
2. Said sign poses an immediate safety threat to the life or health of any member of the public.

(c) Cost of Removal

The removal or the cost of same of any sign as provided for in this Ordinance shall be the responsibility of the sign owner and without liability to The City of Waynesboro, its officers, agents, servants and employees. If the sign owner cannot be found or cannot be determined, then the costs of removal shall be the responsibility of the sign erector and/or property owner or any other party associated with the placement of the sign. If removed by the City as referenced in this Ordinance, and for the purposes of collecting any and all reimbursable cost to the City for such removal; if payment, or satisfactory arrangements to make payment, is not made by the property owner, sign erector, or owner within thirty (30) days after the receipt of said statement, the enforcement personnel shall certify the amount thereof for collection to the City Attorney. The City shall be afforded all means available to remedy the collection of the reimbursable funds. In the event any signs that are removed remain unclaimed for more than sixty (60) days from the date of removal, the signs may be disposed of in accordance with State law.

(d) Invalid Permits

The enforcement personnel may issue a removal order when it has been determined that a permit was improperly issued as a result of misstatement of fact or fraud, that the sign has not been placed or constructed in compliance with this Ordinance or with the specifications of the application or site plans, that the sign permit has expired or that the sign is otherwise not in compliance with the Ordinance. In the event a sign is not removed after receipt of a removal order, enforcement personnel may institute legal proceedings hereunder against the property owner, sign owner, lessee, sign erector, associated party, or combination thereof.

(e) Non-Conforming Signs

1. Signs which do not comply with this Ordinance and were legally placed before the effective date of this Ordinance shall become non-conforming with respect to the requirements set forth herein; however, signs which were illegally erected, established or maintained with respect to the applicable requirements of prior Ordinances shall be removed or brought into compliance herewith. Non-conforming signs made of paper, cloth or other non-durable material, all temporary signs other than those permitted therein, and any signs that are not affixed to a building or the ground, or are located within a public right-of-way, may be removed. Upon failure to comply with the requirements of this Ordinance, the Building Inspector may cause the removal of any non-conforming sign at the expense of the owner or associated party.
2. A non-conforming sign shall not be replaced by another non-conforming sign except that the substitution or interchange of advertising panels, painted boards or demountable material on non-conforming signs shall be permitted. Those signs considered grandfathered upon the passage of zoning shall be governed by the signage requirements for the zoning classification, as designated by the DCA, which most closely approximates its use.
3. Minor repairs and maintenance of non-conforming signs such as repainting, electrical repairs and neon tubing may be permitted. However, no structural repairs or changes in the size or shape of the sign shall be permitted except to make the sign comply with the requirements of the Ordinance.
4. If a nonconforming sign must be removed due to a County or State road improvement or other project, the Planning Commission may authorize the relocation of such sign even though the new location may not meet the setbacks, or other provisions of this Ordinance.

(f) Fines and Penalties

1. Citations: Without limitation, sign erectors or owners, property owners and/or associated parties may be cited for the violation of any provision of the Ordinance in accordance with Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro.
2. Penalties: The fine for any one sign found in violation of this Ordinance tried upon a citation or upon an accusation shall be as provided in Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waynesboro.

**ARTICLE 7**  
**DEFINITIONS**

**7-1 General Definitions**

For the purposes of this ordinance and in order to carry out the provisions and intentions as set forth herein, certain words, terms and phrases are to be used and interpreted as herein defined:

- “City” means the City of Waynesboro, Georgia.
- “Governing Authority,” means the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waynesboro, Georgia.
- All references to the “Director” or “Building Official” include the word “designee.”
- Words used in the present tense include the future tense.
- Words used in the singular include the plural, and words used in the plural include the singular.
- The words "shall" and "must" are mandatory, while the words "should" and "may" are permissive.
- The word “person” includes a firm, association, organization, partnership(s), trust company, or corporation as well as an individual.
- The word “lot” includes the word “plot” or “land” or “parcel”.
- The word “building” includes the word “structure”.
- The word “used” or “occupied”, as applied to any land or building, shall be construed to include the words “intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied”.

Terms not herein defined shall have the meaning customarily assigned to them. The following words, terms and phrases are hereby defined as follows and shall be interpreted as such throughout this ordinance:

**7-2 General Definitions**

*Embellishment(s):* A structural protrusion or addition to or from a sign face or frame generally for the purpose of adding a visual dimensional image to the sign or sign face.

*Sign:* Any display of words, shapes, or images designed to convey a message to the viewer, located within or on the exterior of any dwelling, building, object or structure, or located on any lot, or upon a dedicated supporting structure, object, device, including poles, banners, windows or other devices located upon such lot.

*Sign Face Single:*

Any advertising sign having a single face or board for advertising display. Such sign is positioned so that the display face is parallel to the public thoroughfare.

*Sign Face Double:*

Any advertising sign having two separate or independent faces or boards for advertising display. Such double face signs shall have advertising boards facing in opposite or nearly opposite directions and positioned so that the display faces are perpendicular to the public thoroughfare.

*Sign, Animated:* A sign with action, motion, changing colors, flashing lights, or moving characters. Such signs may require electrical energy, but shall also include wind-actuated devices including, but not limited to, flags, spinners, aerial devices, and other attention-getting devices. This definition does not include rotating signs or signs which include only time and/or temperature.

*Sign, Construction:* A temporary sign erected and maintained on premises during construction to identify a construction project for which a building or grading permit has been issued.

*Sign, Ground:* A sign that is anchored to the ground and is wholly independent of a building for support. Freestanding signs are included in this definition, as are signs on poles, frames, or other mounting structures other than buildings.

*Sign, Illuminated:* A sign illuminated in any manner by an artificial light source, either by lights in the sign or directed towards the sign.

*Sign, Inflatable:* Any sign which can be inflated with air or gas and mounted or flown over a site.

*Sign, Instructional:* An on-premises sign used to give directions or specific instructions to the public such as, but not limited to "Enter", "Exit", "No Parking", "Drive Through", "Rest Room", and so forth. Such signs shall contain only instruction information and shall not be used for the purpose of business name and/or advertisement.

*Sign, Free-standing:* A sign permanently attached to the ground which is wholly independent of any building or other structure.

*Sign, Monument-Style:* A sign permanently constructed, not on a pole, but rather with a base dressed with brick, stone, stucco, or other permanent material (excluding wood), designed to be placed at the entrance to a residential subdivision, industrial or commercial development. The sign base shall be at least two (2) feet high, two (2) feet thick and four (4) feet long and shall be covered in brick, stone, stucco, or similar permanent materials (excluding wood), with the sign resting on the base.

*Sign, Permanent:* A sign determined to meet the structural and construction requirements for signs according to this Ordinance.

*Sign, Portable:* Signs which are attached to vehicles, trailers, movable structures, or attached to sign structures which are not permanently anchored into the ground, or any sign which may be

transported, or is designed to be transported. Such signs include, but are not limited to, "A" and "T" type, sidewalk, sandwich, trailer signs, curb-type signs, banners, or other commercial advertisements attached to vehicles and trailers. Inflatable figures and objects (e.g. creatures, beer cans) fall into this category.

*Sign, Public Purpose and Safety:* A sign erected by a municipal, county, state, or federal governmental agency or office in furtherance of official business, public purposes, or public safety.

*Sign, Real Estate:* A temporary sign advertising the sale, rent or lease of the property on which it is located.

*Sign, Temporary:* A non-permanent sign lasting for a limited time other than a portable sign as defined herein.

*Sign, Weekend:* A sign permitted to be erected after 1:00pm on a Friday and taken down by 11:59pm the following Sunday. Such signs are subject to the regulations of this Ordinance.

*Sign, Window:* A sign adhered to the interior or exterior of a see-through window. Such sign must be supported by the window glass or window frame.

**ARTICLE 8**  
**LEGAL STATUS**

**8-1 Validity of Ordinance**

Should any Article, clause or provision of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such action shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part hereof other than the part so declared to be invalid; each Article, clause and provision hereof being declared severable.

**8-2 Conflict with Other Laws**

Whenever the provisions of any other statute require more restrictive standards than are required by the regulations and provision of this ordinance, the provisions of such other statute, resolution, covenant or ordinance shall govern.

**8-3 Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances**

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

**8-4 Effective Date**

This ordinance shall take effect January 1, 2003.

BY: Mart. Del.  
Mayor

ATTEST: Jerry R. Carlson  
City Clerk

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Council Member

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Council Member

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Council Member

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Council Member