

SECTION 540

SIGNS

Section 540. Signs

No sign shall be established, constructed, reconstructed, enlarged, extended, moved or structurally altered except in accordance with these regulations. A zoning permit shall be required in accordance with Section 620 for all signs except those in Section 540.1.

- 540.1 Permitted signs, number, height, and size allowed in all districts. All signs shall conform to the following regulations with regard to purpose, number height, and size.
 - 540.1.1 Identification of premises, professional or business office in a dwelling, or home occupation: one sign per dwelling unit and each not exceeding six square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. Signs on the exterior of barns or other farm outbuildings to identify the farmer or the name of the farm shall not be required to conform to this limitation.
 - 540.1.2 Temporary advertisement or notification of sale, rental or improvement of the premises including construction: one non illuminated sign per each street frontage and not exceeding 10 square feet in residential districts, 32 square feet in all commercial districts and 48 square feet in all industrial, mixed use interchange, and light industrial districts. Such signs shall be removed within 30 days of the completion of the activity advertised.
 - 540.1.3 Temporary political signs erected on private property may be posted not more than sixty (60) days prior to the election at which they are directed and shall be removed by the person or organization responsible for the posting of such signs within two (2) weeks following the election.
 - 540.1.4 Warning and traffic control signs on private premises provided all signs are in conformance with the size, shape, color and use provisions as specified in the latest revision of the State of Connecticut Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, except where in the opinion of the Commission an alternative sign is of better design, more functional, more attractive, and less imposing.
 - 540.1.5 Identification of historic buildings as listed in a national or local historic district and/or any of the historic or architectural inventories undertaken by the Killingly Historic District Commission: one non-illuminated wood or metal sign attached to the building and not to exceed 2 square feet in area.
- 540.2 Permitted signs, number, height, and size allowed by use and district and requiring a zoning permit in accordance with Section 620.

- 540.2.1 Identification of farms, nurseries, churches or places of worship, parish halls, museums, cemeteries, philanthropic, scientific, literary, historical and charitable institutions, agricultural and horticultural societies, private parks, campgrounds, historical landmarks and similar uses: one freestanding, indirectly illuminated sign per each street frontage and not exceeding sixteen (16) square feet in size and twelve (12) feet in height, plus one wall sign for each exterior wall not to exceed five (5) percent of the area of the wall.
- 540.2.2 Identification of colleges, universities, schools, hospitals, Town of Killingly and Killingly Board of Education facilities: one freestanding sign per each street frontage and not exceeding forty eight (48) square feet for premises of three acres or less, or sixty four (64) square feet and 12 feet in height for premises greater than 3 acres, plus one wall sign for each exterior wall not to exceed ten (10) percent of the area of the wall.
- 540.2.3 Identification of permitted conforming commercial and industrial uses: one freestanding sign per street frontage not to exceed 48 square feet for premises of three acres or less or sixty four (64) square feet for premises greater than three acres. Such sign shall be no greater than 20 feet in height. Additionally, industrial and commercial uses may have the following signage: wall signage for identification and advertising not to exceed ten (10) percent of each exterior wall of the occupancy on structures 0 to 49 feet from the street line, and fifteen (15) percent of each exterior wall of the occupancy on structures greater than 49 feet from the street line.
one "open" flag not to exceed 3'X5'
one custom design business or a seasonal flag not to exceed 3'X5'.
one perpendicular sign at each business entrance with no more than one per wall of the occupancy not to exceed four square feet in area and no less than 10 feet above sidewalk grade; and
awning signage with copy not to exceed 30 percent of the total background area of the awning.
The commission may grant as a special permit use additional detached signs in lieu of one or more exterior wall signs. The total area of said signs shall not exceed five (5) percent of the area of the wall upon which one of the relinquished exterior wall sign(s) would have been placed, and not exceed the size of allowed freestanding signs. No such special permit shall be approved where in the opinion of the commission additional detached signs are unnecessary or where the special permit review in accordance with Section 720.4, proves unfavorable.
- 540.2.4.1 Identification of fire district uses, subdivision, multifamily housing or other residential developments: one freestanding sign per street frontage not exceeding 32 square feet in area and 10 feet in height.

540.2.5 Churches, municipal facilities, colleges, universities and schools in addition to their allowed freestanding identification sign may have one announcement bulletin board no greater than sixteen square feet in area and not to exceed 8 feet in height.

540.2.6 Off-site directional signs designed in accordance with standards for Killingly street signs: with white reflective lettering and arrows on maroon background not to exceed 9" by 36" in size and posted only on official street sign posts in co-ordination with the Superintendent of Public Works. All costs for such installation shall be borne by the sign applicant. (Amend. of 1/18/ 05; Amend. of 8/21/06 – Eff. 9/13/06)

540.2.7 Section 540.2.7- Industrial, commercial and economic development promotional signs through recommendation of the Economic Development Commission and approval of the Town Manager and Director of Planning and Development: no more than two signs town-wide to be located on property abutting interstate highway 395. The installation of Digital Billboard shall be permitted under this section providing the following standards are met:

540.2.7.a Digital Billboard shall meet the following criteria:

1. have a static display lasting no less than 12 seconds;
2. achieve a message change in 1 second or less;
3. do not display any illumination that moves, appears to move, flashes, or changes in intensity during the static display.
4. shall not exceed 900 square feet in size including borders, but excluding supports, nor exceed 35 feet in height.
5. shall be equipped with a photocell that automatically and continuously adjusts the sign intensity based upon ambient light conditions to the satisfaction of the Economic Development Commission, the Town Manager and the director of Planning and Development.

540.2.7.b Digital Billboard shall be for the purpose of advertisement and information and shall display Amber Alert Messages as disseminated by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety as well as traffic alerts and public safety messages disseminated by other public agencies.

Time shall be reserved on Digital Billboard during the hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM for advertising by the Town of Killingly for economic development announcement of community activities, municipal information and advertising, and emergency announcements, without charges or fees. The Town of Killingly shall be responsible for providing the substance of the announcements or advertising.

- 540.2.7.c No part of any Digital Billboard shall be located more than 200 feet from the right of way line of I-395 and said sign shall not be visible to properties outside a line 200 feet from and on the same side of said highway. Digital Billboards shall be a minimum of 1000 feet apart measured horizontally between lines perpendicular to said sign and which separating distance shall include signs on the opposite side of the interstate highway. No digital sign shall be located within 700 feet of any portion of interchange, nor shall one be located within 1500 feet of a park or playground adjacent to and on the same said of an interstate highway. Signs are permitted within all zones subject to spatial restrictions contained herein.
- 540.2.8 Identification of Mixed Use Interchange District projects and containing no advertising of uses, products or services available within the site: two free standing signs for the overall district not exceeding 100 square feet in area and no more than 50 feet in height. One sign shall be oriented toward the District frontage, and one sign oriented towards I-395.
- 540.2.9 Off-site cluster arrangements identifying civic, fraternal and religious organizations: each sign shall not exceed 3 square feet in area, the cluster must be located along numbered arterial roads, written permission from the property owner must be submitted to the Zoning Enforcement Officer, and unless otherwise agreed to by the property owner, the identified organization or organizations shall be responsible for the general maintenance of such signs or cluster arrangement. One community welcome sign not exceeding 6 square feet in area may be part of such cluster arrangement and no more than 10 individual organization signs may be in any one cluster.
- 540.2.10 A-frames. In addition to permanent signage, each lawfully existing business in a commercial, mixed use interchange, or industrial zoning district shall be allowed one temporary non-illuminated A-frame sign not to exceed 9 square feet in area. Temporary A-frame signs shall not be placed in the public right of way nor interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- 540.2.11 Instructional signs which are intended to guide motorist through the use of words such as "In", "Out", "Entrance" and "Exit" or the depiction of directional arrows: located on premise and limited to one signpost per entrance or exit. Corporate emblems and logos on instructional signs must be incidental and shall not exceed 25% of the total area of the maximum 6 square feet sign size. Such signs may not exceed 4' in height.
- 540.3 All signage proposed in conjunction with a new special permit use shall be reviewed and approved as part of that special permit review. No signage proposed in conjunction with a new special permit use shall be approved where the special permit review in accordance with Section 720.4, proves unfavorable.

- 540.4 Purpose. All signs shall pertain only to goods sold, services rendered and establishments, enterprises, activities, persons, organizations and facilities on the lot where the sign is located, except signs permitted under Sections 540.2.6, 540.2.7 and 540.2.9.
- 540.5 Location -No part of any freestanding sign or cluster arrangement or sign support shall extend within 5 feet of any street or property line except signs permitted under Sections 540.1.1,540.1.3, 540.1.4, 540.2.6, 540.2.10 and 540.2.11. No such sign or arrangement shall be permitted within the right of way of any town road, or any road or area regulated or owned by the State of Connecticut unless the necessary permits are applied for and issued by the state and/or town. Any sign attached to a building shall not project above the highest point of the roof of the building or more than four (4) feet above the wall of the building, whichever is higher.
- 540.6 Obstruction. No sign shall be located or maintained so as to be a hazard to traffic or pedestrians, to obstruct any door, window, ventilation system or me escape or exit or to cause any other hazard to the public health or safety.
- 540.7 Light and motion. Signs which revolve, rotate, flash, move, reflect intermittent lighting, or involve the electronic or automatic switching of lamps or illuminated tubes, except time and temperature, shall not be permitted. All lighting of signs shall be internal or indirect with exterior illumination confined and directed to the surface of the sign so that no direct rays or glare or source of illumination shall be visible beyond the property lines or create a danger to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- 540.8 Measurements. Any sign may be double facing and only one face shall be counted in determining conformity with these regulations. All dimensions for signs shall be based on measurements to the outside edge of the sign excluding any structure necessary to support the sign. The area of signs shall be computed from either the outer dimensions of the frame or as the included area of a geometric figure including the outer edges of all lettering, designs and/or symbols, whichever is greater. If attached, the area shall include any background different from the balance of the wall if such background is related to the sign.
- 540.9 Landscaping. All freestanding signs of a permanent nature shall have a landscaped strip at least 5 feet in width and the same length as the greatest dimension of the sign. The sign shall not extend beyond the landscaped area. Landscaping shall consist of a mix of shrubs, herbaceous growth, and ground cover, with plantings approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission or its designee.
- 540.10 Prohibited signs. The following signs are prohibited: Off-premise signs, except as otherwise provided for in these regulations; portable trailer or wheeled signs; signs which copy or imitate or in any way approximate or obstruct an official highway sign or device or carry the

words "stop" or "danger" for advertising purposes; and search lights.
(Amend. of 6/9/00)

- 540.11 Nonconforming signs. Any sign lawfully existing or under construction on the effective date of these regulations which does not conform to one or more of the provisions of these regulations may be continued in operation and maintained indefinitely as a legal non-conforming sign subject to the following: normal maintenance including changing of copy and structural and nonstructural repair shall be permitted.
- 540.12 Obsolete signs. Any sign, whether existing on or erected after the effective date of these regulations, which advertises or identifies a business or use no longer being conducted or a product no longer being offered for sale in or from the premises on which the sign is located, shall be removed within statutory guidelines upon written notice from the Zoning Enforcement Officer to the owner, agent, or person having the beneficial interest in the building or the premises on which such sign is located.

Effective: July 9, 1999, 12:01 AM