

**VILLAGE OF PECATONICA, ILLINOIS
MUNICIPAL CODE
ARTICLE FIFTEEN
SIGNS**

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

SIGNS

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ARTICLE FIFTEEN SIGNS (Ord. 2002-7-1)

Chapter One Sign Ordinance for the Village of Pecatonica

Section 1 Purpose

- A. The sign regulations are established in this chapter in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, convenience, comfort, morale, prosperity and welfare of the public in the Village of Pecatonica. In order to achieve this purpose, it is necessary to regulate the location, size and illumination of signs.

Section 2 General Provisions

- A. Signs shall be classified in accordance with the regulations under each Zoning District as set forth in this Article.
1. In those districts where limitations are imposed by this chapter on the projection of signs from the face of any building or structure, such limitations shall not apply to identification marquee or canopy signs indicating only the name of the building or the principal project or service available therein: provided, that any identification sign located on a marquee or canopy shall be affixed flat to the surface thereof or any suspended sign shall not be lower than ten (10) feet above the ground or surface over which the marquee or canopy is constructed. Further, no sign shall extend beyond the limits of such marquee or canopy.
 2. Signs on awnings shall be exempt from the limitations imposed by this chapter on the projection of signs from the face of the wall of any building or structure: provided, that any sign located on an awning shall be affixed flat to the surface thereof, and shall be non-illuminated and shall indicate only the name, address and/or the type of business of the establishment. Further, no such sign shall extend vertically or horizontally beyond the limits of each awning.
 3. Within three hundred (300) feet of any freeway, expressway or toll way designated as such by the county or the state, no freestanding advertising sign structure designed to be viewed from such road shall be permitted to be erected within one thousand (1000) feet of any other such sign structure on the same side of the road, unless separated by a building or other structure that prohibits the motorist's view in his direction of travel. No advertising shall be

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permitted to be erected within three hundred (300) feet of any public park of more than five (5) acres in area if facing such park and visible therefrom.

4. No advertising sign shall be permitted to be erected or placed within seventy-five (75) feet of any adjoining residential district boundary lines if to face such district. Further, no flashing sign of any type shall be permitted to be erected or placed within one hundred and fifty (150) feet of an adjoining residential district boundary line.
5. All signs shall be erected within the property lines of the premises upon which they are located; except, that signs attached to building facades in commercial and industrial districts may project up to one foot of the inner curb line, and no projecting sign, marquee or canopy extended over the sidewalk shall be less than ten (10) feet above grade.
6. Signs which may be in conflict with public traffic signals shall not be permitted. No person shall place, maintain or display any unauthorized sign, signal, marking or device which is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic control device, emergency light or railroad sign or signal or which attempts to disrupt the movement of traffic. No person shall place, maintain or display any sign which hides from view or interferes with the movement of traffic or the effectiveness of any traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal.
7. Signs and sign structures attached to the wall of any building shall not extend more than six (6) feet above the roof line.
8. Individual directional signs designating entrances, exits, and conditions of use of parking facilities accessory to the main use of the premises may be maintained provided they are located within the property line of the zoning lot and do not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet.
9. Temporary sign denoting architect, engineer or contractor when placed on construction sites and not exceeding sixty four (64) square feet in area shall be removed within thirty (30) days after end of construction.

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10. The following shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter:
 - a. Signs of duly constituted governmental body; including traffic and similar regulatory devices, legal notices or warning at railroad crossings.
 - b. Memorial signs or tablets.
 - c. Signs required to be maintained by law or governmental order, rule or regulation, with a total surface area not exceeding ten (10) square feet on any zoning lot.
 - d. Small signs displayed for the directions or convenience of the public, including signs which identify rest rooms, freight entrances or the like, with a total surface not exceeding five (5) square feet, per sign, on any zoning lot.
11. Accessory structure for identification of entrance to a residential development provided the copy area contains the name of such development only.
12. Definitions: Advertising sign or advertising device
 - a. An advertising device, billboard or poster panel which directs attention to a business, commodity, service or entertainment not exclusively related to the premises where such Advertising device@is located or to which it is affixed, but does not include those advertising signs, billboards or poster panels which direct attention to the business on the premises or to a brand name of a product or commodity with which the business is specifically identified and which is sold on the premises.

Section 3 Agricultural District

- A. In the agricultural district, signs shall be regulated as follows:
 1. Single Family Dwellings: For each dwelling unit, nameplates and identification signs indicating the name and/or address of the occupant not exceeding a total of four (4) square feet in area. On a corner zoning lot, nameplates or identification signs may be permitted for each dwelling unit, on each street side.

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2. Church Bulletins, Cemeteries, Educational Institutions, Recreation and Social Facilities and Other Similar Uses: Identification signs not exceeding a total of sixty four (64) square feet in area. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, identification signs shall be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard.
3. Agricultural Products: Signs advertising the sale of agricultural products grown or produced on the property not exceeding a total of sixteen (16) square feet in area. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, identification signs shall be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard.
4. Projections and Height: No sign, when attached to the wall of a building or structure, shall project more than eighteen (18) inches from the wall to which it is attached. No sign shall project higher than twenty-five (25) feet above the grade level.
5. Nonconforming Business: Business signs, other than identification signs permitted by paragraphs (a) and (b) of the sub-section, shall be located only on the premises utilized for a nonconforming commercial or industrial use existing in the Agricultural District and shall not exceed the standards specified under the Business/Commercial District.
6. ~~For Sale~~ or ~~For Rent~~ Signs: There shall be no more than one sign per zoning lot; except, that on a corner lot, one sign shall be permitted on each street side. No sign shall exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and shall not be placed closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. ~~For Sale~~ or ~~For Rent~~ signs shall be removed after 14 days of closure or rental of property.
7. Advertising Signs:
 - a. Advertising signs shall be permitted provided no such sign structure shall be erected closer than one thousand (1000) feet to an existing advertising sign structure the same side of the road measured along the centerline of such road. No advertising sign structure shall be located closer than five hundred (500) feet from any dwelling or advertising sign structure.

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- b. The face of an advertising sign shall not be greater than eighteen (18) feet in vertical dimension nor greater than fifty-five (55) feet in horizontal dimensions.
- c. The maximum height of advertising signs erected upon the ground shall not exceed thirty (30) feet above grade level.
- d. Flashing signs shall not be permitted.
- e. Setbacks: All signs in Agricultural Districts shall have a minimum front yard setback of ten (10) feet and minimum side yard setback of eight (8) feet.

Section 4 Residential Districts

A. In the residential districts, signs shall be regulated as follows:

1. Residential Uses.

- a. Single Family Dwellings: for each dwelling unit nameplates and identification signs indicating the name and address of the occupant, not exceeding a total of four (4) square feet in feet and such signs shall not be closer than eight(8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, nameplates for identification signs shall be permitted for each dwelling unit, on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard.
- b. Multi-Family Dwellings: For each multiple-family dwelling, identification signs indicating only the name and address of the building and the name of the management not exceeding a total of thirty-two (32) square feet in area. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, identification signs may be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard.
- c. Church Bulletin, Cemeteries, Educational Institutions, Recreation and Social Facilities and Other Similar Uses: Identification signs not exceeding a total of forty-eight (48) square feet in area. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, identification signs shall be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard or nuisance.

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- d. Projection and Height: No sign, when attached to the wall of a building or structure, shall project more than eighteen (18) inches from the wall to which it is attached. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot.
- e. For Sale or For Rent Signs: There shall be no more than one sign per zoning lot: except, that on a corner lot, one sign shall be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard. No sign shall exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and shall not be placed closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. For Sale or For Rent signs shall be removed after fourteen (14) days of closure or rental of property.
- f. Advertising Signs: Advertising signs shall be prohibited in the Residential Districts.

Section 5 Business/Commercial District

A. In the Business/Commercial Districts, signs shall be regulated as follows:

- 1. Non Residential Uses: Non flashing business signs are permitted subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Area: The gross surface area, in square feet, of all business signs, on a zoning lot, shall not exceed two (2) times the lineal feet of street frontage on such zoning lot or four (4) times the lineal feet of building frontage on such zoning lot, not to exceed a maximum gross area of four (4) hundred square feet. A principal building on a corner lot shall be deemed to have a frontage equal to the length of the sides of such buildings which abut a street;
 - b. Projection and Height: No SURFACE MOUNTED sign, when attached to the wall of building or structure, shall project more than eighteen (18) inches from the face of the wall of such building or structure. No sign, when attached CANTILEVERED PERPENDICULAR to the wall of a building or structure, shall project more than sixty (60) inches from the face of the wall of such building or structure.
 - c. Advertising Signs: Advertising signs shall be prohibited in the Business/Commercial District.

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- d. Setbacks: Signs in the Business/Commercial District shall have a minimum front yard and side yard set back of eight (8) feet. Such signs may not be closer than eight (8) feet to any other zoning lot. On a corner zoning lot, identification signs shall be permitted on each street side, but shall not create a visibility hazard or nuisance.

Section 6 Industrial District

- A. Industrial District: In the Industrial District signs shall be regulated as follows:
 - 1. In the Industrial Districts signs are permitted subject to the same conditions and regulations specified in the Business/Commercial District; except that the gross area, in square feet of all business signs shall not exceed for than four (4) times the lineal feet of frontage of such zoning lots, not to exceed a maximum gross area of six hundred eighty (680) square feet. Such signs shall not project more than forty (40) feet above the grade level.

Section 7 Fines

- A. Thirty (30) days after written notification, by the Village, there shall be a fine of fifty (\$50.00) dollars per calendar day for the first ten (10) days, after which, the Village will send to the Village Attorney, and one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per day will be affixed, after the first ten (10) days, as well as attorney fees, court costs and related cost.