



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ZONING

Quick Guide to Temporary Sign Regulations

While local jurisdictions may not regulate sign content; regulation of size, placement and duration are allowed. When placing temporary signs, please ensure compliance with the following regulations:

Properties in Residential, Public Open Space, or Waterfront zones:

- If the property is used for residential purposes, max sign size is four square feet.
- If the property is used for non-residential purposes, max size is 24 square feet.
- Temporary signs may be freestanding, wall mounted or placed in windows.
- Window signs should not cover more than 20% of window area.
- Freestanding signs cannot exceed six feet in height.

Properties in Industrial zones:

- Max size: 1.5 square feet for every linear foot of building frontage or 60 square feet; whichever is larger.
- Temporary signs may be freestanding, wall mounted or placed in windows.
- Window signs should not cover more than 20% of window area.
- Freestanding signs cannot exceed nine feet in height.

All other properties:

- Max size: one square foot for every foot of building frontage or 40 square feet, whichever is larger.
- Cannot be located more than 20 feet above the ground.
- Temporary signs may be freestanding, wall mounted or placed in windows.
- Window signs should not cover more than 20% of window area.
- Freestanding signs cannot exceed five feet in height.

Temporary signs are allowed for up to 90 days; there must be a 30-day interval (when the sign is not displayed) in between each 90-day display.

No signs are permitted on public property or within public rights-of-way.

For more information, please contact Zoning staff at 703-746-4333 or pczoning@alexandriava.gov