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**PART 1**  
**ADMINISTRATION**

**A. General.**

**§101. Title.**

These regulations shall be known as the Sign Ordinance of the Borough of Greenville, hereafter referred to as the "Sign Ordinance" or "this Chapter."

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §101.1)

**§102. Scope.**

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to the erection, placement, installation, alteration, enlargement, maintenance, repair or removal of signs within the Borough of Greenville.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §101.2)

**§103. Intent.**

This Part is designed to regulate the number, size, type, location and use of signs in the Borough in order to encourage aesthetically pleasing sign design, enable fair and consistent enforcement, ensure public safety and promote orderly community development.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §101.3)

**B. Duties and Powers of the Code Enforcement Official**

**§111. Scope.**

The code enforcement official, hereafter referred to as the "code official," shall interpret and enforce the provisions of this Chapter.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.1)

**§112. Applications and Permits.**

The code official shall receive sign permit applications and issue sign permits for the erection, placement or installation of signs located within the Borough.

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(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.2)

### **§113. Inspections.**

The code official shall inspect the erection, placement or installation of signs to ensure compliance with this ordinance and conformity with the sign permit application. The code official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon technical issues that arise, subject to approval of the Greenville Borough Council.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.3)

### **§114. Violations.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to erect, install, place, construct, alter, enlarge, repair, maintain or remove any sign in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance. The code official shall pursue legal remedies necessary to ensure compliance with this ordinance including the issuance of violation notices and the prosecution of any person failing to comply with a properly executed violation notice.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.4)

### **§115. Records.**

The code official shall keep official records to include applications received, permits issued, fees collected, violation notices issued and inspection reports.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.5)

### **§116. Liability.**

The code official, or designee, charged with the enforcement of this Chapter, acting in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties described in this Chapter, shall not be personally liable for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of such duties. A suit brought against the code official or employee because in the enforcement of any provision of such ordinances or other pertinent laws or codes implemented through the enforcement of this ordinance or enforced by the enforcement agency shall be defended by the Borough of Greenville until final termination of such proceedings, and any judgment resulting therefrom shall be assumed by the Borough of Greenville. This Chapter shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility of any person owning, operating or controlling any building or parcel of land for any damages to persons or property caused by defects, nor shall the enforcement agency or the Borough of

Greenville be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the reviews or permits issued under this Chapter.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §102.6)

### **C. Permits**

#### **§121. Permits Required.**

Unless specifically exempted, a permit shall be obtained from the code official before the erection, placement or installation of any sign within the Borough. Exemptions from the necessity of securing a permit does not relieve the sign owner or property owner from the responsibility of conforming with the provisions of this Chapter.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §103.1)

#### **§122. Application.**

1. The permit application and permit fee shall be submitted to the code official prior to the issuance of a permit. The application shall be in a written form prescribed by the code official and contain at least the following information:
  - A. Signature approvals of the sign owner and property owner.
  - B. Name and address of the contractor constructing and/or installing the sign.
  - C. Construction documents showing the dimensions, materials, construction and installation details and the sign copy.
  - D. A sketch depicting the location of the sign installation on the property and its relationship to other signs and improvements on the lot.
2. Applications not conforming to the provisions of this Chapter shall be denied by the code official. Upon request of the applicant, the code official shall state, in writing, the reasons for denying the permit.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §103.2)

#### **§123. Permit Suspension.**

Any issued permit shall become invalid and its fee deemed to have been abandoned if the authorized sign installation has not been initiated or completed within six months from the date of the issuance of the permit.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §103.3)

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### **§124. Permit Revocation.**

The code official shall revoke any permit based on false statement, misrepresentation of fact or an installation not in conformity with the application.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §103.4)

### **§125. Permit Fees.**

The sign permit fee shall be paid in accordance with the fee schedule adopted by the Borough.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §103.5)

## **D. Notice of Violations.**

### **§131. Preparation of Notices.**

The code official shall serve a notice of violation, in writing, on any responsible party for the erection, installation, placement, alteration, enlargement, removal or repair of a sign that is in violation of any provision of this Part. The notice shall give the location of the property, a description of the violation, the section reference and a date by which the violation shall be corrected. The responsible party shall be given a reasonable amount of time to correct the violation but under no circumstances more than 30 days.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §104.1)

### **§132. Proper Service.**

The notice of violation shall be deemed properly served if a copy is:

- A. Delivered to the responsible party personally; or
- B. Sent by certified, return receipted mail to the responsible party's last known address; or
- C. Conspicuously posted on the premises for three days and advertised at least once in a local newspaper of general circulation.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §104.2)

**§133. Failure to Comply.**

The code official may pursue legal remedy or prosecution against the responsible party upon failure to comply with the notice of violation.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §104.3)

**E. Appeals.**

**§141. Filing.**

1. Any person with standing, aggrieved, or affected by a decision of the code official shall be permitted to appeal to the Code Board of Appeals based on a claim that the true intent of the provisions of this Part have been misinterpreted or that the provisions do not fully apply.
2. The Code Board of Appeals shall have no authority to waive the provisions of this Code or grant any variance regardless of any perceived hardship of the applicant.
3. Any sign not explicitly permitted in this Chapter may be allowed only upon approval of the Code Board of Appeals provided that the sign is similar to and not more objectionable to the general welfare than other signs permitted in this Chapter. The Code Board of Appeals may require compliance with conditions necessary to protect and promote the general welfare of the Borough.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §105.1)

**§142. Application and Fee.**

1. The application for a hearing shall be submitted in such a written form as prescribed by the code official within 20 days of permit denial, violation service or just cause. Appeals after the prescribed time limit shall not be considered and the decision of the code official shall be considered final.
2. An appeal application fee shall be paid in accordance with the fee schedule adopted by Borough Council.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §105.2)

**§143. Advertisement.**

Upon receipt of an application in proper form, the code official shall arrange to advertise the time and place of the public hearing. Such advertisement shall be given by at least one local newspaper of general circulation. The notice shall state the nature of the re-

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quest, the location of the property and the time and place of the hearing. The hearing notice shall be conspicuously posted on the subject property.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §105.3)

### **§144. Stays of Proceedings.**

An appeal stays all proceedings from further action unless there is immediate danger to public health or safety.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §105.4)

### **§145. Procedure.**

1. The Code Board of Appeals shall meet within 30 days of the receipt of a valid application provided a quorum of the Board is available. If all the members of the Board are not available for the hearing, either party shall have the right to request a postponement.
2. The appellant, the appellant's representative, the code official and any affected party shall be given an opportunity to testify.
3. The hearing procedure shall not require compliance with the strict rules of evidence but shall mandate that only relevant information be received.
4. The Code Board of Appeals shall affirm, modify or reverse the code official's decision by a concurring vote of the majority of the Board's entire membership, regardless of the number of members in attendance. The Board shall render its decision in writing within 45 days of the completion of the hearing but may announce its decision orally after deliberations.
5. Where the Board fails to render the decision within 45 days, the decision shall be deemed to have been rendered in favor of the applicant unless the applicant has agreed in writing to an extension of time.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §105.5)

## PART 2

### DEFINITIONS

#### §201. General Interpretations.

1. For the purposes of this Chapter and unless otherwise expressly stated, the following words and terms shall have the meanings set forth in this Part.
2. Words used in the present tense include the future; words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular.
3. The terms shall or shall not identify actions that are specifically required or prohibited. The terms shall be permitted or shall not be required identify actions that are allowed but not required and describe options or alternatives.
4. Where terms are not defined, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §201.1)

#### §202. Definition of Terms.

**ABANDONED SIGN** — a sign structure that has ceased to be used, for a period of at least three months, for the display of sign copy. See §403.

**ABANDONED VEHICLE** — an automobile, truck, motorcycle or other wheeled means of conveyance that is inoperable or without current inspection and/or registration.

**ANIMATED SIGN** — a sign employing actual motion or the illusion of motion. Animated sign motion may be electrically, environmentally or mechanically activated.

**ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTION** — any projection that extends beyond the face of an exterior wall of a building that is not intended for occupancy but does not include signs as defined herein.

**AWNING** — an architectural projection or shelter projecting from and supported by the exterior wall of a building and composed of a covering of rigid or nonrigid materials and/or fabric on a supporting framework that may be either permanent or retractable, to include such structures that are internally illuminated. See §605.

**AWNING SIGN** — a sign displayed on or attached flat against the surface or surfaces of an awning. See "wall or fascia or sign," §802 and Table 801.1(1)<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Table 801.1(1) is located at the end of this Chapter.

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**BACK-LIT AWNING** — an awning with a translucent covering material and a source of illumination contained within its framework.

**BANNER** — a flexible substrate on which copy or graphics may be displayed.

**BANNER SIGN** — a sign utilizing a banner as its display surface regardless of its location.

**BUILDING ELEVATION** — the entire side of a building, from ground level to the roofline, as viewed perpendicular to the walls on that side of the building. The area of the building elevation is computed by multiplying the building height times the building width.

**BUILDING SIGN** — any sign permanently attached to any part of a building. See Figures 301.1.

**CANOPY (Attached)** — a multisided overhead structure or architectural projection supported by attachments to a building on one or more sides and either cantilevered from such building or also supported by columns at additional points. The surface(s) and/or soffit of an attached canopy may be internally or externally illuminated.

**CANOPY (Freestanding)** — a multisided overhead structure supported by columns, but not enclosed by walls. The surface(s) and or soffit of a freestanding canopy may be internally or externally illuminated.

**CANOPY SIGN** — a sign affixed to the visible surface(s) of an attached or freestanding canopy. See §802 and Table 801.1(1).

**CHANGEABLE SIGN** — a sign with the ability to change content or message copy by means of manual or remote input to include:

**ELECTRICALLY ACTIVATED** – changeable sign whose message copy or content can be changed by means of remote electrically energized on-off switching combinations of alphabetic or pictographic components arranged on a display surface. Illumination may be integral to the components, such as characterized by lamps or other light-emitting devices; or it may be from an external light source designed to reflect off the changeable component display. See "Electronic Message Sign or Center" and §408.

**MANUALLY ACTIVATED** – changeable signs whose message copy or content can be changed manually.

**CLEAR SIGHT TRIANGLE** — a triangle formed by the street lines and a straight line joining said street lines at points which are 30 feet distant from the point of intersection.

**CODE OFFICIAL** — the official who is charged with the administration and enforcement of the ordinance or any duly authorized representative thereof.

**COMBINATION SIGN** — a sign that is supported partly by a pole and partly by a building structure. Considered a freestanding sign.

**COPY** — those letters, numerals, figures, symbols, logos and graphic elements comprising the content or message of a sign, excluding numerals identifying a street address only. See "sign copy."

**DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX SIGN** — a freestanding sign identifying a multiple-occupancy development, such as a shopping center or planned industrial park, which is controlled by a single owner or landlord.

**DIRECTIONAL SIGN** — any sign that is designed and erected for the purpose of providing direction and/or orientation for pedestrian or vehicular traffic. See §708 and Table 701.1(1)<sup>2</sup>.

**DOUBLE-SIDED SIGN** — a sign with two faces, back to back. See §312(1).

**ELECTRIC SIGN** — any sign activated or illuminated by means of electrical energy.

**ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SIGN OR CENTER** — an electrically activated changeable sign whose variable message capability can be electronically programmed. See §504.

**EXTERIOR SIGN** — any sign placed outside a building.

**FASCIA SIGN** — see "wall sign."

**FLASHING SIGN** — see "animated sign."

**FREESTANDING SIGN** — a sign principally supported by a structure or supporting element affixed to the ground, and not supported by a building, including signs supported by one or more columns, poles or braces placed in or upon the ground. See Figures 301.1<sup>3</sup>.

**FRONTAGE (Building)** — the length of an exterior building wall or structure of any single premises oriented to the public way.

**FRONTAGE (Property)** — the length of the property lines(s) of any single premises along a public way.

**GROUND SIGN** — see "freestanding sign."

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<sup>2</sup> Table 701.1(1) is located at the end of this Chapter.

<sup>3</sup> Figure 301.1 is located at the end of this Chapter.

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HOME OCCUPATION — a use carried on entirely within a dwelling unit that is consistent with the provisions set forth in Ordinance No. 1351, the Zoning Ordinance, of the Borough of Greenville [Chapter 27].

ILLUMINATED SIGN — a sign characterized by the use of artificial light, either projecting through its surface(s) (internally illuminated); or reflecting off its surface(s) (externally illuminated).

INCIDENTAL SIGN — a sign, generally informational and without commercial message, that has a purpose secondary to the principle use of the premises. Signs with directives such as "NO PARKING", "ENTRANCE", and "TELEPHONE" are examples. See §708 and Table 701.1(1).

INTERIOR SIGN — any sign placed within a building, but not including "window Signs" as defined by this Chapter. Interior signs are not regulated by this Chapter.

MANSARD — an inclined decorative roof-like projection that is attached to an exterior building facade.

MARQUEE — see "canopy" (attached).

MARQUEE SIGN — see "canopy sign."

MENU BOARD — a freestanding sign oriented to the drive-through lane for a restaurant that advertises the menu items available from the drive-through window, and which has no more than 20% of the total area for such a sign utilized for business identification. See §806.

MULTIPLE-SIDED SIGN — a sign containing three or more faces. See §312(2).

NONCONFORMING SIGN — any sign legally existing at the time of the adoption of this Chapter that does not conform to the provisions of this Chapter.

NOVELTY SIGN — any sign or sign structure which includes, but is not limited to, such objects as tires, automobiles, motorcycles, food products, appliances, tools, animal or plant figures or simulations thereof.

NUISANCE SIGN — any sign or sign structure which emits smoke, visible vapors, particles, sounds, odors or produces movement.

OBSOLETE SIGN — any on-premises or off-premises sign that no longer advertises or identifies a use conducted on the said premises.

OCCUPANCY — the purpose (commercial, manufacturing, educational, institutional, residential, etc.) for which a building or portion thereof is used or occupied.

OFF-PREMISE SIGN — a permanent sign erected, maintained or used in the outdoor environment for the purpose of the display of commercial or noncommercial messages

not appurtenant to the use of, products sold on, or the sale or lease of, the property on which it is displayed. See §410.

**ON-PREMISE SIGN** — a sign erected, maintained or used in the outdoor environment for the purpose of the display of messages appurtenant to the use of, products sold on or the sale or lease of, the property on which it is displayed.

**PARAPET** — the extension of a building facade above the line of the structural roof.

**PERSON** — an individual, corporation, partnership or any other group acting as a unit.

**POLE SIGN** — see "freestanding sign."

**POLITICAL SIGN** — a temporary sign intended to advance a political statement, cause or candidate for office. A legally permitted outdoor advertising sign shall not be considered to be a political sign. See §710 and Table 701.1(1).

**PORTABLE SIGN** — any sign or sign structure not permanently attached to the ground or to a building or building surface. See §506 and Table 701.1(1).

**PROJECTING SIGN** — a sign other than a wall sign that is attached to or projects more than 18 inches from a building face or wall or from a structure whose primary purpose is other than the support of a sign. A projecting sign is considered a building sign. See Figures 301.1, §804 and Table 801.1(1).

**REAL ESTATE SIGN** — a temporary sign advertising the sale, lease or rental of the property or premises upon which it is located. See §709 and Table 701.1(1).

**RESPONSIBLE PARTY** — any person who erects, installs, places, alters, enlarges, removes or maintains a sign, or any person who uses the property upon which the sign is located, or any person who owns or leases the property upon which the sign is located.

**REVEAL** — a border consisting of a line, groove, decorative feature or contrasting surface which serves to delineate the sign face from the remaining portions of a sign.

**REVOLVING SIGN** — a sign that revolves 360 degrees about an axis. See also, "animated sign."

**ROOF LINE** — the top edge of a peaked roof or, in the case of an extended facade or parapet, the uppermost point of said facade or parapet.

**ROOF SIGN** — a sign mounted on, and supported by, the main roof portion of a building, or above the uppermost edge of a parapet wall of a building and which is wholly or partially supported by such a building. Signs mounted on mansard facades, pent eaves and architectural projections such as canopies or marquees shall not be considered to be roof signs. See Figures 301.1, §805 and Table 801.1(1).

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**SIGN** — any device visible from a public place that displays either commercial or non-commercial messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations. Flags of a governmental body shall not be considered a sign.

**SIGN AREAS** — the area of the smallest geometric figure, or the sum of the combination of regular geometric figures, which comprise the sign face. The area of any double-sided or "V" shaped sign shall be the area of the largest single face only. The area of a sphere shall be computed as the area of a circle. The area of an oval shall be computed as 80% of the area of a rectangle with the equivalent height and width. See Part 3B.

**SIGN COPY** — those letters, numerals, figures, symbols, logos and graphic elements comprising the content or message of a sign, exclusive of numerals identifying a street address only.

**SIGN FACE** — the surface upon, against or through which the sign copy is displayed or illustrated, not including structural support, architectural features of a building or sign structure, nonstructural or decorative trim, or any areas that are separated from the background surface upon which the sign copy is displayed by a distinct delineation, such as a reveal or border. See Figures 301.1.

- A. For panel or cabinet type signs, the sign face shall include the entire area of the sign panel, cabinet or face substrate upon which the sign copy is displayed or illustrated, and the open space between the separate panels or cabinets.
- B. For sign structures with routed areas of sign copy, the sign face shall include the entire area of the surface that is routed, except where interrupted by a reveal, border or a contrasting surface or color.
- C. For signs painted on a building or for individual letters or graphic elements affixed to a building or structure, the sign face shall comprise the sum of the geometric figures or combination of regular geometric figures drawn closest to the edge of the letters or separate graphic elements comprising the sign copy to include the open space between the separate groupings of sign copy on the same building or structure.
- D. For sign copy enclosed within a painted or illuminated border or for sign copy displayed on a background contrasting in color with the color of the building or structure, the sign face shall comprise the area within the contrasting background or within the painted or illuminated border.

**SIGN STRUCTURE** — any structure or framework supporting a sign.

**SUSPENDED SIGN** — a sign attached to the underside of a canopy or marquee. See Table 801.1(1).

**TEMPORARY SIGN** — a sign intended to display either commercial or noncommercial messages of a transitory or temporary nature. Portable and lightweight plastic banner signs shall be considered temporary signs unless set in a permanent frame. See §513.

**V SIGN** — signs containing two faces of approximately equal size, erected upon common or separate structures, and positioned in a "V" shape with an interior angle between faces of not more than 45 degrees with the distance between the sign faces not exceeding three feet at their closest point. See §312(1).

**WALL OR FASCIA SIGN** — a sign that is, in any manner, affixed to any exterior wall of a building or structure and that projects not more than 18 inches from the building or structure wall, to include signs affixed to the architectural projections of a building, provided the copy area of such signs remains on a parallel plane to the face of the building facade or to the face or faces of the architectural projection to which the sign is affixed. See Figures 301.1, §313 and Table 801.1.

**WINDOW SIGN** — a sign affixed to the surface of a window with its message intended to be visible to and readable from the public way or from adjacent property. See Table 801.1(1).

**WORKMANLIKE** — executed in a skilled manner with the use of proper tools, methods and materials.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §201.2)



**PART 3**

**SIGN TYPES AND COMPUTATION METHODS**

**A. Examples**

**§301. General Sign Types and Area Computations.**

Examples of the general sign types and examples of sign area computations are depicted in Figures 301.1(1) through 301.1(4)

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §301.1)

**B. Individual Sign Area Computations**

**§311. General.**

1. The sign area shall be determined by combining the area(s) of the smallest square, circle, oval, rectangle, triangle or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the sign face. The area of an oval shall be computed as 80% of the area of a rectangle with the equivalent height and width.
2. In computing the sign area of an individual sign that consists of more than one section, segment, part or module, the open area between such sections shall be included in computing the sign area.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §302.1)

**§312. Double and Multiple Sided Signs.**

1. Double Sided Signs.
  - A. Double sided signs shall be regarded as one individual sign provided all of the following requirements are met:
    - (1) The sign faces have identical graphics and wording; and
    - (2) The angle of the "V" created by the intersecting sign faces does not exceed 45 degrees; and
    - (3) The distance between the backs of the sign faces does not exceed 36 inches when measured at the point where the distance between the backs of the sign faces is the least.

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- B. The area of a double sided sign shall be the area of the largest single face only.
2. Multiple Sided Signs. Multiple sided signs shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §302.2)

### **§313. Wall Signs.**

1. For wall signs, the entire building elevation, including windows and doors, for that side of the building shall be used in computing the maximum permitted sign area. See definitions.
2. The maximum permitted sign area for a wall sign shall be dependent upon the numbers of stories and/or height of the building. The maximum permitted wall sign area shall be computed as follows:
  - A. The maximum allowable sign area for a one story building not exceeding 15 feet in height shall be 15% of the building elevation.
  - B. The maximum allowable sign area for a two story building not exceeding 30 feet in height shall be 10% of the building elevation.
  - C. The maximum allowable sign area for a building exceeding 30 feet in height shall be 5% of the building elevation up to a maximum of 40 feet in building height.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §302.3)

## **C. Sign Height**

### **§321. Maximum Height.**

The maximum height of a sign shall be computed by measuring the distance from normal grade to the top of the highest component of the sign or its framework.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §303.1)

### **§322. Minimum Vertical Clearance.**

The minimum vertical clearance of a sign shall be computed by measuring the distance from normal grade to the lowest component of the sign face.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §303.2)

**§323. Normal Grade.**

1. Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of:
  - A. The existing grade prior to construction; or
  - B. The newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign.
2. Where the normal grade cannot be reasonably determined as above, the normal grade shall be considered to be the lower of the following:
  - A. The elevation of the nearest point in the crown of a public street; or
  - B. The elevation of the principal entrance of the principal structure on the zone lot.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §303.3)

**D. Setback**

**§331. Setback.**

The required setback of a freestanding sign shall be computed by measuring the distance from the edge of the public cartway to the nearest edge or surface of the sign except as provided in §803 and Table 801.1(1) for pole signs.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §304.1)



## PART 4

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### **§401. Conformance to Codes.**

Any sign hereafter erected shall conform to the provisions of this Chapter, the International Building Code and all other applicable ordinances or regulations of the Borough of Greenville.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.1)

#### **§402. Removal of Signs.**

1. The code official shall remove or cause to be removed any sign in the Borough that was erected, installed, maintained or repaired in violation of the provisions set forth in this Chapter. Any sign that in the opinion of the code official constitutes an immediate danger shall be removed or caused to be removed by order of the code official.
2. When the owner of the property upon which the sign is located fails to comply with the removal order within the time prescribed, the code official shall cause the sign to be removed, either by an available public agency or by contract or arrangement with private persons. The cost of such removal shall be charged against the real estate upon which the sign is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.2)

#### **§403. Abandoned and Obsolete Signs.**

Abandoned and obsolete signs are not permitted and shall be removed at the expense of the property owner in accordance with §402.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.3)

#### **§404. Workmanship.**

All permanent signs shall be constructed, erected, installed, maintained and repaired in a professional, workmanlike manner. Durable, weather resistant components and materials shall be used in the construction and fabrication of all permanent signs. Signs fabricated of painted wood sheathing (plywood, OSB) or of any paper product and exposed to the elements shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.5)

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

### **§405. Maintenance and Repair.**

All signs shall be kept in good condition and repair. Any sign that is in disrepair, not securely attached or deemed unsafe by the code official shall be made to conform to the provisions of this Chapter by written notice from the code official to the property owner.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.5)

### **§406. Sign Replacement.**

1. Any sign or part of a sign may be replaced with new materials provided the sign is not enlarged, moved, or used to display a different message. A different message shall include, but not be limited to, the identification of a different use or replacement with a different name for the same use.
2. Such replacement shall not require a new sign permit or fee provided a sign permit was obtained and a fee paid for the existing sign.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.6)

### **§407. Lighting of Signs.**

1. Internally or externally lighted signs for nonresidential uses shall be permitted provided the sign conforms with the provisions set forth in §504.
2. Lighted signs for residential uses are prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.7)

### **§408. Changeable Messages.**

1. Changeable messages on signs for nonresidential uses shall be permitted provided they conform in all other respects to this ordinance and provided the message does not change more than four times in any 24 hour period. The sign copy shall be static.
2. Time/temperature signs are permitted for nonresidential uses provided they conform in all other respects to this Chapter. The time/temperature sections of the sign shall not exceed 10 square feet in area.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.8)

**§409. Nonconforming Signs.**

A legal nonconforming sign shall be permitted to continue in its use until the time the sign is abandoned or becomes obsolete, subject to the following limitation: Sign repairs, or replacements are permissible provided such changes do no increase the degree of nonconformity of the sign and conform with the provisions set forth in §406.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.9)

**§410. Off-Premises Signs.**

Off-premises signs are permitted in the Borough of Greenville subject to the following provisions.

A. Signs Located on Private Property.

- (1) Signs erected, displayed, or installed on nonresidential private property may advertise or identify a use located on a different property in the Borough provided the sign conforms to the provisions of this Chapter. Such a sign shall require a sign permit and shall be included in the computation of the maximum sign area for the subject property.
- (2) An off-premises sign shall not be located on any residential property.

B. Signs Located on Public Property. Signs erected or installed on public property or in the public right-of-way may direct attention to a use on another property subject to all of the following limitations:

- (1) The sign shall conform to all of the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the governmental bodies, departments or agencies having jurisdiction over the public property or right-of-way. Signs placed in the right-of-way of a state road shall meet the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regulations.
- (2) The sign message shall be directional only. No advertising of any kind shall be permitted.
- (3) The sign shall be flat and rectangular in shape, shall have a dark blue background with white lettering and shall be installed in a location determined by the jurisdiction having authority. The sign shall have a maximum sign area of two square feet.
- (4) Each sign shall require annual permit renewal and the permit fee shall be charged at the rate of \$15 per square feet annually.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §401.10)



**PART 5**

**PROHIBITED SIGNS**

**§501. Traffic Visibility.**

1. No sign or sign structure shall be erected at the intersection of any streets or along any street in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision. No sign or sign structure shall be located where by its position, shape, or color interferes with, obstructs the view of or can be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.
2. At an intersection, no sign or sign structure shall be located within a 30 foot clear site triangle at a height of less than 10 feet from grade to the bottom of the sign except for a single support that is less than seven inches in diameter and used to support a pole sign.
3. Traffic visibility shall take precedence over any other permitted sign use.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.1)

**§502. Imitation of Official Signage.**

1. Any sign that by its location, color, size, shape, message, illumination or nature may be confused with an official traffic control sign, signal or device shall be prohibited.
2. Any sign that uses admonitions such as STOP, GO, SLOW, LOOK, DANGER or YIELD that may be confused with official signs of a government, public utility or emergency service shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.2)

**§503. Signs on Public Property.**

1. Signs, sign structures, or sign frameworks, shall not be permitted on public property or in a right-of-way except as provided elsewhere in this Chapter.
2. Greenville Borough Council may erect, install, place or display signage on Borough property provided the sign conforms with the safety provisions of this Chapter.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.3)

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

### **§504. Lighting.**

1. Signs which blink, flash or have animated, rotating, pulsating or scrolling light shall not be permitted except when in use as a temporary holiday decoration.
2. The illumination from any sign, permanent or temporary, shall not cast any direct light or significant glare onto any residential use or onto any public street. Lighting directed toward a sign shall be shielded such that it illuminates only the sign face.
3. Strings of bare bulbs shall be limited to 15 watts each and shall be mounted to a rigid, dark and opaque background.
4. The operation, by a person, of any light fixture that produces blinking, flashing, rotating, pulsing or scrolling light visible from any point on public property or in the right-of-way shall be prohibited regardless of its association with any sign.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.4; as amended by A.O.)

### **§505. Hazardous Locations.**

1. Any sign which obstructs the free ingress or egress of any window, door, stairway, fire escape or any means of egress location shall be prohibited. No sign shall be attached to a fire escape, standpipe, hose cabinet or similar fixture except as permitted by the Fire Department.
2. No sign shall be placed in a manner that obstructs light or air from entering the building as may be required by borough code or in a location that interferes with the proper functioning of a building.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.5)

### **§506. Portable Signs.**

Portable signs, not of a temporary or transitory nature, shall be prohibited. EXCEPTION: One sign of an A-frame design may be placed on the sidewalk of a nonresidential use during normal business hours only provided the sign is commercially manufactured, has a sign area not exceeding six square feet, and does not interfere with pedestrian traffic in any way.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.6)

**§507. Vehicle and Trailer Signs.**

Any sign attached to or placed upon a trailer or an abandoned vehicle on either public or private property shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.7)

**§508. Home Occupation, Nuisance and Novelty Signs.**

Nuisance, novelty and home occupations signs shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.8)

**§509. Unlawful Use.**

A sign containing information which states or implies that a property is or may be used for a purpose not permitted under the provisions of the Greenville Zoning Ordinance [Chapter 27] or any other unlawful use shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.9)

**§510. Special Occasions.**

Pennants, streamers, pinwheels, balloons, inflatable signs and tethered balloons shall be prohibited except those temporarily displayed as part of a special sale, promotion or community event.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.10)

**§511. Prohibited by Law.**

Signs prohibited by State or Federal law shall be prohibited in the Borough of Greenville.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.11)

**§512. Outdoor Advertising Act.**

Signs and billboards not in compliance with the Pennsylvania Outdoor Advertising Act shall be prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.12)

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

### **§513. Temporary Signs.**

1. All temporary and special occasion signs shall conform with the dimensional requirements and safety provisions of this Chapter.
2. Temporary signs shall not be displayed for more than 30 days in any six month interval.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §501.13)

**PART 6**

**RIGHT-OF-WAY AND PUBLIC PROPERTY**

**§601. Signs of a Governmental Body.**

Any governmental body having jurisdiction may erect signs or display notices that direct or regulate traffic or parking, convey public information, identify public property or provide legal service.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.1)

**§602. Utility Information.**

Public utilities may erect noncommercial signage of the appropriate size regarding its poles, pipes, lines or facilities.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.2)

**§603. Public Transit.**

Public transit providers may erect noncommercial signage of appropriate size and in the appropriate locations to inform passengers of its services.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.3)

**§604. Emergency Situations.**

1. Governments, utilities, emergency services and contractors may display emergency warning signs or safety equipment when performing authorized or permitted work.
2. Only the listed entities may operate a light fixture that produces blinking, flashing, rotating, pulsing or scrolling light in the public space.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.4; as amended by A.O.)

**§605. Projections Over Public Ways.**

1. Signs that project into or over a public space from a location on private property shall be permitted provided that they conform in all other respects to the provisions of this Chapter.

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

2. An awning structure or framework that projects into the right-of-way without its covering, whether permanent or fabric, shall be prohibited regardless of its past or future use as a sign.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.5)

### **§606. Special Occasion Signage.**

Borough Council, upon written request, may approve the temporary erection or display of signs for special occasions provided the signage conforms in all other respects to this Chapter.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §601.6)

**PART 7**

**FEE EXEMPT SIGNS**

**§701. General Requirements.**

1. Fee exempt signs shall be subject to the standards set forth in Table 701.1(1).
2. Exemptions from the necessity of securing a sign permit does not relieve the sign owner or property owner from the responsibility of conforming with the provisions of this Chapter.
3. Freestanding, fee exempt signs that cannot meet the required setback due to the lack of space behind the curb may be erected provided they are placed as close to the building as possible.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.1)

**§702. Official Signs.**

Signs and notices authorized by a court, government, or government agency shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.2)

**§703. Flags.**

The flag of a government, government agency or school shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.3)

**§704. Utility, Transit and Emergency Signs.**

Appropriate, noncommercial public utility, transit and emergency signs shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.4)

**§705. Religious Symbols.**

Religious symbols and displays of seasonal decorations within the public holiday season shall be fee exempt.

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.5)

### **§706. Integral Building Identification.**

Memorial plaques, building identification signs and building cornerstones when cut into a masonry surface or when made of noncombustible materials and installed as an integral part of the building or structure shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.6)

### **§707. Nameplates.**

Nameplates, street address identification or combination nameplate/street address signs shall be fee exempt provided such signs do not contain a commercial message and do not exceed the dimensional requirements set forth in Table 701.1(1).

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.7)

### **§708. Incidental Signs.**

1. Incidental signs shall be fee exempt provided such signs do not contain a commercial message and do not exceed the dimensional requirements set forth in Table 701.1(1). Any occupancy identification shall be limited to 25% of the sign area.
2. Informational and directional signs exceeding the dimensional requirements set forth in Table 701.1(1) shall not be considered incidental signs and shall meet the provisions set forth in Part 8.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.8)

### **§709. Real Estate Signs.**

1. Real estate sign advertising the sale or rental of the premises upon which the sign is located shall be fee exempt provided the sign does not exceed 10 square feet in area and the sign is removed within 10 days of the sale, rental or leasing of the premises. Off premises real estate signs are permitted provided they advertise property within the Borough.
2. Failure to remove the sign within the prescribed time period shall result in the responsible party being subject to the provisions of §402.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.9)

**§710. Political Signs.**

1. Election and political campaign signs located on private property shall be fee exempt provided the signs do not exceed 10 square feet in area and do not contain any commercial message. Campaign signs shall not be displayed sooner than 45 days prior to Election Day and shall be removed no later than 10 days after Election Day.
2. Failure to remove the sign within the prescribed time period shall result in the responsible party being subject to the provisions of §402.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.10)

**§711. Contractor Signs.**

1. Contractors, developers, architects, artisans and the like may display, without a fee, a sign at the location where they are performing work provided the sign does not exceed 10 square feet in area. Such signs shall not be displayed until after the issuance of a building permit and removed no later than five days after the work is completed.
2. Failure to remove the sign within the prescribed time period shall result in the responsible party being subject to the provisions of §402.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.11)

**§712. Works of Fine Art.**

Works of fine art displayed in conjunction with a commercial enterprise where the enterprise does not receive direct commercial gain shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.12)

**§713. Interior Signs.**

Signs located in the building interior which cannot be viewed from the right-of-way shall be fee exempt.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.13)

**§714. Announcement Signs.**

1. Signs displayed temporarily to advertise special promotions, grand openings, community events or the like shall be fee exempt provided the sign does not ex-

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

ceed the dimensional requirements set forth in Table 701.1(1). Such signs shall not be displayed prior to 10 days before the event and shall be removed no later than five days after the event.

2. Failure to remove the sign within the prescribed time period shall result in the responsible party being subject to the provisions of §402.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §701.14)

**PART 8**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES**

**A. Sign Requirements for all Nonresidential Uses**

**§801. General Requirements.**

Signs shall be subject to the standards set forth in Table 801.1(1).

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.2)

**§802. Awning and Canopy Signs.**

1. The sign face shall not extend beyond the awning or canopy surfaces in any direction except as set forth for suspended signs.
2. Graphic stripping, patterns, color bands or background embellishments shall not be included in the computation of sign area.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.2)

**§803. Pole Signs.**

The supporting pole(s) or structure of the sign shall meet the required setback. The sign face may extend to the public right-of-way but shall not extend beyond the right-of-way line.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.3)

**§804. Projecting Signs.**

1. The sign shall not extend vertically above the building facade. One edge of the sign shall be installed as close as possible to the building facade and the sign shall not extend more than four feet beyond the building facade. No part of the sign or its supporting structure shall extend nearer than four feet to the perpendicular upward projection of any curb line.
2. Signs projecting over a street or alley are prohibited.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.4)

## SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS

### **§805. Roof Signs.**

1. Roof signs shall not be permitted on any building fronting Main Street from the Shenango River to the west side of Mercer Street.
2. Roof signs for nonresidential uses shall be permitted elsewhere in the Borough provided the sign face does not exceed three feet in height.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.5)

### **§806. Menu Board Signs.**

1. Menu board signs shall not exceed 50 square feet in sign area and shall be located adjacent to a drive-through lane and entirely behind the principal structure.
2. Menu board signs are not included in the computation for maximum allowable sign area.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.6)

### **§807. Size, Number and Spacing Requirements for Freestanding Signs.**

1. The number, location, and dimensional requirements of all individual freestanding signs are set forth in Table 801.1(1).
2. The maximum combined sign area for freestanding signs per 200 feet of property frontage under the same property ownership shall be 50 square feet.
3. When a property frontage exceeds 200 feet in length, more than one sign shall be permitted. One freestanding sign for each 200 feet of property frontage and one additional freestanding sign for each remainder of the property frontage exceeding 100 feet of the 200 foot segment shall be permitted.

<b>EXAMPLES:</b>	<b>Number of signs permitted</b>	<b>Length of property frontage</b>	<b>Maximum combined sign area</b>
	1	275 ft.	50 sq. ft.
	2	301 ft.	100 sq. ft.
	3	501 ft.	150 sq. ft.
	4	850 ft.	200 sq. ft.

4. The signs may be spaced closer than 200 ft. apart provided those signs are placed at a street entrance to a lot. No more than one sign may be placed at a street entrance to a lot.

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.7)

**§808. Size and Number Requirements for Building Signs.**

1. The number, location, and dimensional requirements of all individual building signs are set forth in Table 801.1(1).
2. The maximum combined sign area for all building signs per building elevation shall be equivalent to the maximum permitted sign area computed for wall signs as set forth in §313

(Ord. 1416, 5/13/2003, §801.8)