



# Zoning Bulletin - Signs

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This bulletin is intended to help inform residents and businesses of Boxborough on the requirements for signs. Whether it's a knee-high lawn sign or a wall mounted business sign, there are rules that apply to keep people safe and prevent nuisance.

## **Lawn signs**

Lawn signs are allowed in all districts in Town but must adhere to certain timelines for removal. Signs need to be far enough from the street to prevent obstruction of sight lines at driveways and street corners, and cannot interfere with the public right of way. Political signs should be removed within 2 days of an election, and event or tradesman signs should be removed within 7 days of the event or completion of work. Lawn signs must be on your property and cannot be located in the public right of way.

## **Permanent signs (*free-standing, wall mounted, etc...*)**

Most permanent signs are only allowed in the Town's business and commercial districts. These signs are subject to a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals, including installing a new sign or changing an existing sign. For information on filing a permit, you can email [landuse@boxborough-ma.gov](mailto:landuse@boxborough-ma.gov) or call **(978) 264-1722**.

## **Signs that are not allowed in Boxborough**

Unfortunately, certain signs just aren't allowed in Boxborough. These include:

- Neon, animated, or electronic display signs
- Billboards, roof, and trailer style signs

or...

- Any sign that creates a traffic hazard or obstructs sight lines

## **Questions or concerns?**

For more information on anything in this bulletin, please contact the building department. If you see a sign that is placed in a way that does not conform, please contact the Building Commissioner Edward Cataldo at 978-264-1726 or email [ecataldo@boxborough-ma.gov](mailto:ecataldo@boxborough-ma.gov).

*This information is provided as a simplified guide and is not all inclusive of the Boxborough Zoning Bylaw or State Building Code. Please refer to the most recent version of these documents or contact the Building Commissioner for complete details. It is the responsibility of any sign or property owner to maintain compliance with all local, state and federal laws.*

# Common Sign Types



Lawn Signs

Free Standing Signs

Monument  
and  
Directory  
Signs

Wall Mounted  
and Building  
Signs

Lawn signs are allowed by right for political purposes or advertising business in Boxborough. Be aware of time limits and we recommend placing signs at least 20 ft from the edge of the road.

Free Standing, Monument, and Wall mounted signs typically require a special permit, and are only allowed in the various business and commercial districts of Boxborough. The special permit requirement includes any changes to an existing sign of this type.

To file a new permit, or to modify an existing sign, please contact the Office of Land Use and Permitting by emailing [landuse@boxborough-ma.gov](mailto:landuse@boxborough-ma.gov) or calling (978) 264-1722.