A BASIC GUIDE TO SIGNAGE IN THE CITY OF FOLSOM

*This guide is not all-inclusive. Exceptions, rules of placement, conditions, time limits, etc., are contained in Folsom Municipal Code (FMC) Chap. 17.59 not covered in this guide.

PURPOSE: To provide broad general guidance and information on the most common sign problems encountered by Code Enforcement.

WHY ARE SIGNS SO STRICTLY REGULATED?

Signs are regulated for the purpose of maintaining the aesthetic appearance of the City, while providing commercial enterprises an avenue to advertise their goods and services.

WHAT SIGNS ARE PROHIBITED?

- Nonexempt signs without permits
- Abandoned Signs
- Any sign located in a required clear-vision triangle
- Billboard signs and off-site directional or identification signs
- Portable signs such as A-frames
- Animated signs
- Roof signs
- Signs erected without permission of property owner
- Any sign which simulates or imitates a traffic sign or signal
- Vehicle signs where the primary purpose of the vehicle is its use as a sign
- Signs in the public right of way

WHAT KINDS OF SIGNS ARE EXEMPT?

- Governmental signs
- Incidental signs
- Civic flags
- Any public notice or warning required by federal, state or local law
- City-sponsored civic signs
- Commemorative wall signs
- House numbers
- Home occupation signs at the residence of currently permitted and licensed home occupations
- Name plates identifying the occupants of dwellings
- Signs prohibiting trespassing and advertising
- Neighborhood watch and alarm signs
- On-site garage/yard sale signs
Real estate signs located on private property

Non-commercial signs on private property

Signs displayed on site during the course of a political event or demonstration

Construction signs (on-site)

Holiday decorations containing no commercial message

Project identification signs of a current/pending development

Temporary community activity signs in designated banner sign locations

Vehicle signs attached to a vehicle used directly for the purpose of business

Window signs

Signs located in the interior of a building

Internal directory signs

Time and temperature signs

Barber poles

One under-canopy sign for a commercial business

Two menu/order boards for a drive-through business

Campaign signs

On-site directional signs

*Although these signs fall into the exempt category, certain restrictions STILL apply.
Before displaying any type of sign, check the FMC for specific restrictions including size, location, time, number of signs, removal, etc!!!

CAN I DISPLAY TEMPORARY SIGNS?

YES, by obtaining a temporary sign permit from the Community Development Department, certain temporary signs are legal:

- Temporary Weekend Directional Signs
- Temporary commercial signs
  - Grand Opening
  - Special Products
- Sale or Event Advertising Banners

WHY DO I SEE ILLEGAL SIGNS IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT?

Historic District signage is governed by a separate ordinance. Ordinance 890 concerning the Historic District can be obtained from the City Clerk.

The sign ordinance set forth in the Folsom Municipal Code is extensive and covers all types of signage. In order to remain in compliance and maintain the high quality of our City’s appearance, please direct any sign questions you may have to:

Code Enforcement
(916) 461-6227/6228

OR
Building/Planning Counter
(916) 461-6201/6202

To apply for a sign permit, please visit our online permitting system, eTRAKiT:
https://etrakit.folsom.ca.us/etrakit/default.aspx