

## SIGN ORDINANCE NOTES #1

This ordinance was adopted by Gulf County on 26 June 2012.

NOTES:

### **Definitions:**

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Illegal sign: Means any sign which was unlawfully erected or which has been determined to be in violation of any provision of Article 6 of the Gulf County Land Development Regulations.

Nonconforming sign: Means a sign that was lawfully erected but no longer conforms to the regulations provided in Article 6 of the Gulf County Land Development Regulations.

Off-premises sign or off-site sign: Means any sign relating in its subject matter to commodities, accommodations, services or activities on a premises other than the premises on which the sign is located.

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Real estate sign: Means a sign advertising the sale, rental or lease of the premises or part of the premises on which the sign is displayed temporarily.

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Sign: Means any device, fixture, placard or structure which uses color, form, graphics, illumination, architectural style or design with text, or writing to advertise, attract attention, announce the purpose of or identify the purpose of any person or entity, or to communicate information of any kind to the public. The term "sign" includes sign structure. The following shall not be considered signs subject to the regulations of this section: artwork, holiday or seasonal decorations, cemetery markers, machinery or equipment signs, memorial signs or tables.

Sign area: Means the total area, as measured in square feet, of a sign surface, including all parts thereof devoted to the background, computed by bounding the exterior of the sign structure or surface with a series of straight or curved lines tangent thereto. The area of a sign painted directly on a wall or awning and signs with letters attached directly to walls or awnings shall be calculated by constructing an imaginary series of straight lines or lines formed, bounded or characterized by curves around the outside of all elements of the sign.

Sign face: Means the part of the sign that is or can be used to identify, display, advertise, communicate information, or for visual representation, which attracts or intends to attract the attention of the public for any purpose.

Sign height: Shall mean the vertical distance measured from ground level nearest the base of the sign to the highest point on the sign.

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**Substantially damaged or destroyed, as it pertains to a non conforming sign:** Means that (a) fifty percent (50%) or more of the upright supports of a sign structure are physically damaged such that normal repair practices of the sign industry would call for, in the case of wooden structures, replacement of the broken supports and, in the case of a metal sign structure, replacement of at least twenty-five (25%) of the length above ground of each broken, bent, or twisted support, or (b) that more than fifty (50%) of a wall or attached sign is physically damaged such that normal repair practices of the sign industry would call for the same to be replaced or repaired.

## **OTHER NOTES**

**Page 20 6.04. Nonconforming signs.** A nonconforming sign that was lawfully erected may continue to be maintained until the nonconforming sign is substantially damaged or destroyed. At such time that the nonconforming sign is substantially damaged or destroyed, the nonconforming sign must either (a) be removed or (b) be brought into conformity with this Article and with any other applicable law or regulation.

## **Temporary Real Estate Signs.**

### **Page 28/6.13-11.01 Number - Real Estate.**

One temporary real estate sign may be displayed on each parcel of land or part thereof that is for sale; however, when more than one dwelling unit or nonresidential space on a parcel of land is for sale, there may be one real estate sign for each such unit or space.

### **Page 29/6.13-11.02 Number - Rental Signs.**

One (1) attached sign either affixed to the structure or displayed from the window that a property is for lease or for recurring short-term rental (less than six months and a day).

### **Page 29/6.13-11.03 Size and Height.**

For residential uses, the temporary real estate sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet in sign area and four (4) feet in height; and for a nonresidential use, the temporary real estate sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in sign area and six (6) feet in height.

### **Page 29/6.13-11.04 Setback.**

Temporary real estate signs shall be setback from any lot line by at least five (5) feet.

### **Page 29/6.13-11.05 Duration.**

Temporary real estate signs shall be removed within seven (7) days following the closing or settlement of a sale, lease or rental of the real estate that was offered for sale, lease, or rent.

**\*\*PLEASE REVIEW 6.03 PROHIBITED SIGNS (PAGE 18 & 19)**

**\*\*PLEASE REVIEW 6.14 ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT (PAGE 31 & 32)**