

Sec. 32-100.00 - Definitions

Sign shall mean any display, visible beyond the boundaries of the parcel of land on which the display is made, of letters, words, numerals, figures, logos, devices, emblems, pictures, in any combination, by any means for the purpose of attracting attention or making anything known. Every such display shall be deemed a sign whether made on, attached to, or as a part of a structure, surface, or any other thing, including, but not limited to, the window (inside or outside), wall, ground, any rock, tree or other natural object. See sections 32-250.20, et seq.

Sign area shall mean the rectangular area enclosing all advertising elements of a sign. See also sections 32-250.22, et seq.

Sign, awning shall mean a facade sign painted, stamped, perforated, or stitched, or otherwise applied on the valance of an awning. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-400.05 of this chapter, the location of awning signs shall be governed by the requirements for facade signs.

Sign face shall mean the area or display surface used for the message.

Sign, monument shall mean a freestanding sign that is either: 1) a solid structure made of brick, stone, concrete or similar type of material; or 2) constructed on or connected directly to a solid supporting foundation, with no separations between the sign and the base, made of brick, stone, concrete or similar type of material.

Sign structure shall mean the supports, uprights, bracings and framework of any structure, be it single-faced, double-faced, V-type or otherwise, exhibiting a sign.

Sec. 32-250.22. - General regulations for signs.

1.

Except for locational advertising signs, all signs shall be located within respective property lines of the parcel on which the use or activity being advertised is located, and shall not project into any public right-of-way, existing or proposed to be dedicated by the landowner, unless approved as provided by subsection (a) hereafter when located on right-of-way immediately abutting the advertiser's premises. Such signs and their locations shall not obstruct or interfere with traffic, sighting distance, signals and public signs.

(a)

Signs to be located within proposed public right-of-way shall receive written approval from the Virginia Department of Transportation.

(b)

All signs shall be located and maintained in a manner that does not obscure sight distances required by section 600 of the design and construction standards manual.

2.

All signs affixed to building facades shall not project above the wall area of the facade upon which they are located, nor project more than 18 inches beyond the wall. All signs affixed to a roof shall not project above the roof line, and shall be designed so that structural supports are enclosed and not visible. In no event shall any facade sign project more than 18 inches into any required yard or setback. When only one facade sign is permitted, it shall be located near the tenant's main public entrance.

3.

Sign illumination shall be of enclosed lamp design or indirect lighting from a shielded source, and shall not cause a glare or nuisance beyond the property lines. Except for on-site directional signs and minor associated accents, exposed neon signs within HCODs are prohibited, unless a special use permit is obtained.

4.

No sign shall be illuminated by flashing, occulting, revolving or intermittent lighting, nor shall any sign consist of any moving parts. Electronic message board signs are not permitted, unless a special use permit is obtained. The following shall be prohibited:

- (a) Wind activated signs, except as provided for flags in this section;
- (b) Helium-filled or inflated signs;
- (c) Streamers, banners and balloons (except banners may be permitted on light poles within a shopping center or commercial mall parking lot when used as logos or seasonal art not associated with any particular business establishment or product — such banners may be no larger than 18 square feet);
- (d) Portable signs;
- (e) Popsicle signs.

5. An electronic message board sign may be permitted within applicable zoning districts for commercial, industrial, and institutional uses with a special use permit. Electronic message board signs shall be limited to text only and display a fixed message which may be changed up to three times a day, unless modified as part of the SUP. Text shall not scroll or crawl across the screen, and there shall be no flashing, revolving, animation effects, lights of changing degree and intensity or lights or lighting effects that cause glare.
6. Illuminated signs located within 50 feet of a property line that abuts an agricultural or residential district shall only be lighted during the hours of operation. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, subdivision signs and the signs approved in conjunction with a positively proffered rezoning or a special use permit, illuminated signs are prohibited in all agricultural and residential districts.
7. Sign area shall be measured as the rectangular area enclosing all elements of the sign. Freestanding signs shall have no more than two faces. If the two faces are not back-to-back, the angle of separation between the two faces shall be less than 45 degrees. If the angle is 45 degrees or greater, the sign shall be considered as two separate signs and shall be approved only if the site qualifies for two signs. The back of freestanding signs with only one face used for signing area shall be a single color. Sign setbacks shall be measured from the closest projecting edge of the sign. Portions of a sign structure may project no more than three feet from the edge of the sign area, measured from the informational portion of the sign.
8. Signs located on waterfront property shall be permitted both at the water frontage and road frontage, provided all other regulations of this chapter are met.
9. With the exception of permitted shopping center signs, and for sale or lease signs, individual freestanding signs shall not be permitted within the boundaries of a shopping center as defined herein.
10. Motor vehicles (including but not limited to trucks, buses, vans, automobiles and tractors), containing any type of sign (other than painted name, logo, and business information on a commercial vehicle) shall not be parked or placed in any zoning district within sight distance of a public street, easement or private road. This prohibition shall not apply to overnight parking of vehicles where otherwise permitted by this chapter.
11. All freestanding signs shall have a street number for the principal address of the site affixed to the sign. Such numbers shall be large enough to be read from the main road by fire and rescue personnel and the general public.
12. Patriotic flags such as the flag of Prince William County, the Commonwealth of Virginia, United States Armed Forces, the United States of America, and corporate and nonprofit organization flags used in conjunction with patriotic flags shall be permitted. Corporate flags, nonprofit

organization flags, and patriotic flags shall be limited to one each per lot and are subject to the limitations identified in Schedule A. The limitations in Schedule A shall not apply to patriotic flags erected as public signs by the Prince William County Board of Supervisors on public lots or on private lots in the commercial, office and industrial districts. Prior to erecting a patriotic flag on a private lot, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors shall enter into an agreement with the owner of such lot. The agreement shall be recorded in the land records of Prince William County.

13.

For purposes of this section, the building front shall be deemed the part of the building containing the main entrance, as determined by the zoning administrator.

(Ord. No. 94-1, 1-11-94; Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04; Ord. No. 08-12, 2-5-08; Ord. No. 09-30, 5-19-09)

Sec. 32-250.23. - Consideration of modification of sign provisions.

1.

The board of county supervisors may approve signs that are not in accordance with the standards set forth in these sign provisions by approval of a specific proffer or conditions of a special use permit, provided that the standards that will apply shall be (in the case of a rezoning) specifically proffered by the applicant and accepted by the board of county supervisors, or (in the case of a special use permit) the standards that will apply shall be made a part of the conditions of approval.

2.

In considering a request for a modification of the standards of this section, the board may approve or deny the request in the case of a rezoning in accordance with the general criteria of section 32-700.43.4., and in the case of a special use permit in accordance with the general criteria of section 32-700.54. In addition, the following factors shall be considered by the board more specifically:

(a)

The nature of the proposed use, including such factors as whether the use is a destination or one that relies more on drive-by visibility.

(b)

The character of the existing area and the impact on the visual appearance of adjacent and nearby properties and rights-of-way, particularly entrances to the county from the interstate highways or surrounding jurisdictions, and the major streets leading from those entrances.

(c)

Whether a unique situation exists, causing a need that is not recurring in nature.

(d)

The area's designation on the county's comprehensive plan.

(e)

The existence of a special visual obstruction or difficulty in locating the use, making the application of the general provisions of this section too restrictive.

(f)

Whether the use and/or proposed sign is within a Highway Corridor Overlay District (HCOD).

(Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04; Ord. No. 09-30, 5-19-09)

Editor's note—

Former section 32-250.23 derived from Ord. 94-1, adopted Jan. 11, 1994, and entitled "Special Sign Regulations for Certain Uses" was repealed pursuant to Ord. 04-78, adopted Dec. 21, 2004. The provisions contained in new section 32-250.23 were previously part of section 32-250.24, and were relocated herein pursuant to Ord. No. 04-78.

Sec. 32-250.24. - "Schedules A and B"—Location, number, size, height and setbacks for signs.

Signs shall be permitted, and their number, size, height and setbacks governed, in accordance with the provisions of "Schedule A, Sign Regulations", and Schedule B, "Sign Regulations for Highway Corridor Overlay Districts (HCODs)".

(Ord. No. 94-1, 1-11-94; Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04; Ord. No. 09-30, 5-19-09)

SCHEDULE A, Sign Regulations

Note—

See Schedule B for Highway Corridor Overlay District (HCOD) signage standards.

Note—

Areas within RPC, Residential Planned Community, and planned development districts, shall adhere to the sign regulations applicable to the uses constructed therein.

Type of Sign	Districts Where Permitted	Number Permitted Per Lot	Maximum Size Per Face	Maximum Height for Freestanding Signs	Minimum Setback for Freestanding Signs
Business/ Institutional (not including mall, shopping center, and home business signs)	All districts for non-residential uses only				
Freestanding signs		One freestanding sign along each street frontage	0.5 square foot per foot of frontage along public ROW; maximum 80 square feet	20 feet in commercial and industrial districts 15 feet in all other districts	10 feet, or one foot for each foot in height, whichever is greater
Facade signs		Single tenant buildings: Two Three for corner lots in commercial, office, and industrial districts. Multi-tenant building ⁶ :	3 square feet per foot of building ⁷ or unit width ⁸		

		One per unit Two for end/corner units			
Changeable copy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All districts for non-residential uses only •Homeowner/property owner association event advertising signs (may be offsite from event but within association boundaries) 	<p>Permitted as a portion of other permitted business/institutional signage on the property.</p> <p>One per lot; maximum three per association's jurisdictional boundary.</p>	Maximum of 50 percent of sign face.		
Directional	All districts for non-residential uses only	Any number necessary to direct traffic within a site	3 square feet	3 feet	3 feet
Flags	All districts	One of each type (see section 32-250.22.11)	Maximum flag dimensions in accordance with maximum pole height:	Maximum pole height in accordance with maximum flag dimensions:	One foot for every foot in height
			4 feet by 6 feet	25 feet	
			5 feet by 8 feet	30 feet	
			5 feet by 9.5 feet	35 feet	
			6 feet by 10 feet	40 feet	
Home Business	All agricultural and residential districts, and residential areas of planned development districts	One	4 square feet	5 feet	5 feet
Mall	B-1 and planned development districts				
Mall signs (freestanding –maximum of 70% of advertising area for		One per 1,000 feet of public street frontage. Separate freestanding signs for pad sites not permitted	0.5 square foot per foot of frontage; maximum 200	20 feet ¹⁰	20 feet from public right-of-way and 100 feet from all

tenant list)			square feet		off-site freestanding signs
Individual store entrance facade signs		One per exterior public entrance, or two for end units, whichever is greater	2 square feet per linear foot of unit width (measured along unit front) cumulative		
Main mall entrance signs		One per exterior public entrance, located at the entrance	2 square feet per linear foot of entrance width		
Motor Vehicle Fuel Station	As permitted in association with the use in non-residential and planned development districts	Two canopy signs (in addition to other signs permitted for business uses)	20 square feet		
Off-site ¹¹ Advertising	B-1, M-1, and M/T, for non-residential uses only, with a special use permit	One	100 square feet	40 feet	One foot for each foot in height of the sign from all property lines and 50 feet from all other off-site advertising signs
Restaurant Preview/Menu Boards ¹²	As permitted in association with the use in non-residential and planned development districts	One (in addition to other signs permitted for business uses)	Maximum length: 8 feet	6 feet	10 feet
Secondary ¹³	All districts	Any number necessary for public convenience	6 square feet ¹⁴	5 feet ¹⁵	5 feet from all property lines
Shopping Center	As permitted in the B-1, B-2, and				

	planned development districts				
Shopping center signs (freestanding –maximum of 70% of advertising area for tenant list)		One per 1,000 feet of public street frontage. Separate freestanding signs for pad sites not permitted	0.5 square foot per foot of frontage, maximum 100 square feet	20 feet ¹⁶	20 feet from public right-of-way and 100 feet from all off-site freestanding signs
Facade signs		One for interior units Two for end units	Two square feet per foot of unit width, cumulative		
Subdivision	All agricultural and residential districts, and residential areas of planned development districts	One at each entrance to a subdivision, unless part of an entrance feature	64 square feet	10 feet	10 feet, or one foot for each foot in height, whichever is greater, from all rights-of-way
Temporary	All districts			10 feet ¹⁷	One foot for each foot in height, from all property lines.
Temporary activities		One freestanding sign (located within the approved temporary activity area) One facade sign (where a temporary structure is approved)	32 square feet	32 square feet	
Non-residential properties		One freestanding sign per public street frontage; two maximum One facade sign	32 square feet		

		per building or unit			
Political/ campaign signs, community/ civic events, construction sites		One for 0 to 600 feet of public street frontage Two for 601 to 1,200 feet of public street frontage Three for 1,201 to 2,400 feet of public street frontage Four for more than 2,400 feet of public street frontage	32 square feet for non- residential properties¹⁸ 16 square feet for residential properties		

Key:

- ⁶ The distinction between multi-tenant buildings with or without shared entrances was removed.
- ⁷ For the purposes of this section, the building front shall be deemed the part of the building containing the main entrance, as determined by the zoning administrator (section 32-250.22).
- ⁸ The limitation of 36 square feet for signage in all other districts was removed. Unit width shall be as determined by the zoning administrator.
- ⁹ These signs were formerly identified as "Activity Signs", a separate sign type. To minimize confusion and reflect actual practices, all permitted business/institutional signage may have a maximum of 50 percent of the advertising area as changeable copy.
- ¹⁰ Limitation allowing only a 12-foot high freestanding signs in planned development districts was removed.
- ¹¹ These signs were formerly identified as "locational" signs, which was confusing. The name was changed to reflect an accurate description.
- ¹² These signs are typically intended to be located for viewing by customers using drive-up/drive-through service, not as business signs.
- ¹³ The term "secondary sign" replaces "informational sign" and includes, but is not limited to, signs that hang below a canopy, or are oriented internally to the development.
- ¹⁴ The permitted advertising area decreased from nine square feet to six square feet. The exception allowing 32 square feet for church bulletin boards was removed and incorporated into the provision for changeable copy on business signs.
- ¹⁵ The exception allowing church bulletin boards to have maximum height of ten feet was removed.
- ¹⁶ Limitation allowing 12-foot high freestanding signs in planned development districts was removed.
- ¹⁷ Ten feet represents an increase in height allowed for temporary activities and political/campaign signs (formerly six feet).
- ¹⁸ 32 square feet is now the standard area allowed for temporary signs on non-residential property. Temporary lease and all other permitted signs were formerly permitted 50 square feet.

SCHEDULE B, Sign Regulations for Highway Corridor Overlay Districts (HCODs)

Note—

Signage not specifically addressed in this schedule shall be allowed in accordance with Schedule A. This is a more permissive standard for HCODs created after February 20, 1996, which only allowed certain types of freestanding signs.

Type of Sign	Number Permitted Per Lot	Maximum Size Per Face	Maximum Height	Minimum Setback
Business/ Institutional (not including mall, shopping center, and home business signs)				
Freestanding signs - Prior to February 20, 1996	One freestanding sign along each street frontage	0.5 square foot per linear foot of frontage along public ROW; maximum 80 square feet	10 feet	10 feet
Freestanding signs - After February 20, 1996²⁰	One	Rural Parkway: 60 square feet Suburban Parkway: 40 square feet Urban Parkway: 40 square feet Rural Arterial: 60 square feet Suburban Arterial: 40 square feet Urban Arterial: 40 square feet	10 feet	10 feet
Facade signs - Prior to February 20, 1996	Single tenant buildings: Two Three for corner lots in commercial, office, and industrial districts. Multi-tenant building²¹: One per unit Two for end/corner units	a) Any portion located within 100 feet of the edge of right-of-way: 1.5 square feet per foot of building or unit front. Maximum: 150 square feet b) Located more than 100 feet from the edge of right-of-way: 2 square feet per foot of distance greater than 100 feet from edge of right-of-way c) For buildings with more than one story		

		of occupied use: cumulative area shall be calculated in accordance with a) and b), above per story of building, and allocated in any proportion among faces of the building d) Cumulative maximum: 400 square feet or pursuant to section 32-250.24, whichever is less		
Facade signs - After February 20, 1996	Single tenant buildings: Two Three for corner lots in commercial, office, and industrial districts. Multi-tenant building: One per unit Two for end/corner units	1.5 square feet per foot of building front or unit width within 100 feet of right-of-way 2 square feet per foot of building front or unit width greater than 100 feet from the right-of-way 400 square feet cumulative maximum		
Changeable Copy - Prior to February 20, 1996	Prohibited.			
Changeable Copy - After February 20, 1996	Permitted as a portion of other permitted business/institutional signage on the property.	Maximum of 50 percent of sign face.		
Directional				
Prior to February 20, 1996	Any number necessary to direct traffic within a site	3 square feet	3 feet	3 feet
After February 20, 1996	One per entrance, one per drive-through window	3 square feet ²²	3 feet	3 feet
Off-site Advertising	Prohibited			
Shopping Center ²³				
Freestanding signs - Prior to February 20, 1996	One freestanding sign along each street frontage	0.5 square foot per linear foot of frontage along public ROW; maximum 80 square	10 feet	10 feet

		feet		
Freestanding signs - After February 20, 1996	One per 1,000 feet of public street frontage	80 square feet	10 feet. Must be monument-style and landscaped at base.	10 feet. Permitted in buffer if part of an entrance feature.
Facade signs - Prior to February 20, 1996	One for interior units Two for end units	a) Any portion located within 100 feet of the edge of right-of-way: 1.5 square feet per foot of building or unit front. Maximum: 150 square feet b) Located more than 100 feet from the edge of right-of-way: 2 square feet per foot of distance greater than 100 feet from edge of right-of-way c) For buildings with more than one story of occupied use: cumulative area shall be calculated in accordance with a) and b), above per story of building, and allocated in any proportion among faces of the building d) Cumulative maximum: 400 square feet or pursuant to section 32-250.24, whichever is less		
Facade signs - After February 20, 1996	One for interior units Two for end units	1.5 square feet per foot of building front or unit width within 100 feet of right-of-way 2 square feet per foot of building front or unit width greater than 100 feet from the right-of-way 400 square feet cumulative		

		maximum		
Subdivision				10 feet, or one foot for each foot in height, whichever is greater, from all rights-of-way
Prior to February 20, 1996	One at each entrance to a subdivision, unless part of an entrance feature.	64 square feet	10 feet	
After February 20, 1996	One at each entrance to a subdivision, unless part of an entrance feature. May be placed on each side of an entrance, with each sign meeting the bulk requirements	40 square feet	10 feet. Must be monument-style and landscaped at base.	10 feet. Permitted in buffer if part of an entrance feature.
Temporary Prior to February 20, 1996	Pursuant to Schedule A			
After February 20, 1996	One facade sign per building or unit	32 square feet	10 feet	One foot for each foot in height, from all property lines, located outside the buffer
Non-residential properties	One freestanding sign per public street frontage; two maximum			
Political/campaign signs, community/civic events, construction sites	One for 0 to 600 feet of public street frontage Two for 601 to 1,200 feet of public street frontage Three for 1,201 to 2,400 feet of public street frontage Four for more than 2,400 feet of public street frontage	4 square feet	6 feet	
Residential properties	One	4 square feet	8 feet	

Key:

²⁰ All sign regulations for HCODs created after February 20, 1996, are also located in section 1000 of the Design and Construction Standards Manual. An update of the DCSM to be consistent with this schedule may be necessary.

- ²¹ The distinction between multi-tenant buildings with or without shared entrances was removed.
- ²² The DCSM currently has a standard of 4 square feet for these signs, which is greater than is what is allowed in non-HCOD areas. DCSM update is required.
- ²³ Freestanding shopping center signs are permitted a maximum of 70 percent of advertising area for tenant list.

Sec. 32-250.25. - Sign permits—Generally.

1. Except for public signs and certain temporary signs (as set forth in section 32-250.26), no sign two square feet or greater in size shall be erected, constructed, reconstructed, altered or repaired until a sign permit has been issued by the zoning administrator. The zoning administrator shall issue such a permit upon application and payment of a fee as set by the board of county supervisors, provided all standards of these provisions shall be satisfied.
2. A sign permit may be combined with a building permit or other such county permit. The sign permit is null and void should the sign not be erected within six months from the date of issuance, or if any information in the sign permit application is found to be false or inaccurate.
3. An application for a sign permit, in addition to other items that may be required for combined permits, shall include scale drawings of the sign showing all dimensions, height, copy, colors, type of material, structural and architectural supports or backgrounds, method and hours of illumination, and a scaled location plan of the site showing the following:
 - (a) Proposed location of the sign, with setback distances from all property lines to the closest projecting edge of the sign;
 - (b) Location, type and size of all other signs on the property;
 - (c) For facade signs, the location of the building with distances from all property lines, and the length (in feet) of all facades of the building upon which a sign will be placed as well as the projection (in inches) from facade or wall;
 - (d) Location and name of abutting streets;
 - (e) Zoning classification of the site and all adjacent properties.

(Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04)

Sec. 32-250.26. - Same—Requirements for temporary signs.

1. Temporary signs shall only be permitted when the proposed sign meets the definition of "temporary sign" in the zoning ordinance.
2. A deposit/guarantee of not less than \$50.00 is required upon submission of the temporary sign permit application. The deposit/guarantee will be refunded only after inspection by the planning office proves that the sign was removed prior to the assigned expiration date. If an approved temporary sign permit is not removed by the assigned expiration date, a violation notice and correction order will be issued and forfeiture of the deposit/ guarantee will result.
3. For freestanding signs, the maximum number of sign faces is two. If the two faces are not flush together (back-to-back) then the angle of separation between the two faces must be less than 45 degrees. If the angle is 45 degrees or greater, then the proposal will be considered as two separate signs and approved only if the site qualifies for two signs.

4.

Permitted time period for temporary signs requiring a permit is as follows:

(a)

Temporary commercial activity signs can only be approved for the same period of time permitted for the activity;

(b)

"Now hiring," "now open" and "grand opening" event signs can be permitted for a maximum of 60 days (no renewals permitted);

(c)

"Coming soon" or "future home of" signs can be permitted for one year, and may be renewed thereafter for successive periods of one year each. Regardless of such period of approval, the permit for a temporary sign shall automatically expire 15 days after a permit for any permanent sign for the same project is approved;

(d)

Political and campaign signs, community or civic event signs calling attention to events, etc., should be posted to be erected no earlier than 90 days prior to the event, and during the period the event is being conducted. They shall be removed by the person(s) responsible for the sign within five days after the last date of the event or activity;

(e)

Signs dealing with construction projects, including builders, developers, engineers, finance companies, associated consultants, or real estate matters (for sale, for lease, now selling), may be approved for one year, and may be renewed thereafter for successive periods of one year each, during the time occurring. A request for renewal shall require submission of a complete sign permit application no less than four weeks prior to the assigned expiration date. Regardless to such period of approval, the permit for a temporary sign shall automatically expire 15 days after a permit for a permanent sign for the same project is approved.

(f)

Temporary for sale or lease signs shall be removed by the person(s) responsible for the sign within 15 working days after the property is sold or leased.

(Ord. No. 94-1, 1-11-94; Ord. No. 94-28, 5-3-94; Ord. No. 02-76, 7-3-02; Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04)

Sec. 32-250.27. - Same—Temporary signs exempt from sign permit.

For sale or lease signs shall be permitted without a sign permit provided they are no larger than 16 square feet for residential uses and 32 square feet for nonresidential use and are set back from all property lines one foot for each foot in height of the sign, and there are no more than two such signs on any lot. All other temporary signs two square feet or larger in size shall require a sign permit, except as listed below:

1.

Political and campaign signs shall be exempt from permit requirements, so long as they comply with the regulations contained in sections 32-250.26.1, 32-250.26.3, and 32-250.26.4, above, and the applicable provisions of Schedules A and B. Property owners wishing to place political and campaign signs on their property may request modifications of the requirements through the special use permit process.

2.

Up to three temporary signs for the sale of a private residence and advertising an "open house" event shall be permitted without a sign permit and may be placed on- or off-site for up to four hours before and up to two hours after the activity and may contain an arrow. The signs cannot exceed four square feet in size. The signs cannot exceed three feet in height and only one such sign shall be permitted per lot. The signs shall be placed on private property only with the consent of the owners.

(Ord. No. 02-76, 7-23-02; Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04)

Sec. 32-250.28. - Public signs.

Public signs shall not require a sign permit; however, they shall be subject to the standards in Schedule A, except for patriotic flags erected as public signs by the Prince William County Board of Supervisors on public lots or on private lots in the commercial, office or industrial district.

(Ord. No. 04-78, 12-21-04; Ord. No. 08-12, 2-5-08)

Sec. 32-250.29. - Removal of signs.

Whenever a sign becomes structurally unsafe, as determined by the county building official, or endangers the safety of a structure, premises or the public, or is erected or maintained in violation of this chapter, or is abandoned or the use with which it is associated is abandoned or discontinued within the meaning of section 32-601.21, the zoning administrator may, by the issuance of a violation notice and correction order, order such sign to be made safe and comply with this ordinance, or be removed. Failure to comply with the notice (as set forth in the provisions of Part 1000 of this chapter) shall constitute grounds for the zoning administrator to have the sign removed, and the cost thereof shall be borne by the person so notified as an addition to any fine imposed by a court of law for a violation of this chapter. If the cost is not paid as an addition to a fine, the county may seek to recover such cost by any means allowed at law or equity.