

ARTICLE XII

SIGNS

Section 1200. General Provisions.

Except as specifically excluded from the provisions of this Zoning Resolution, it shall be unlawful for any person to post, display, substantially change, or erect a sign without a permit. A change in the copy only of a sign or advertising device shall not constitute a substantial change.

Section 1201. Permit Application.

Applications for sign permits required above shall be filed by the sign owner or his agent with the City Clerk upon forms furnished by the City. Said application shall describe and set forth the following, and any additional information as may be requested by the City Clerk:

1. The type and purpose of the sign as defined in this Resolution.
2. The cost of construction of the sign.
3. The street address of the property upon which subject sign is to be located and the proposed location of subject sign on subject property. In the absence of a street address, a method of location acceptable to the City Clerk shall be used.
4. The square foot area per sign and the aggregate square foot area if there is more than one sign face.
5. The name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) of the real property upon which the subject sign is to be located.
6. Written consent of the owner, or his agent, granting permission for the placement and/or maintenance of subject sign.
7. The name, address, phone number and business license number of the sign contractor.
8. Business license number of sign owner if appropriate.

Section 1202. Expiration Date.

A sign permit shall become null and void if the sign for which the permit was issued has not been completed within six months after the date of issuance, provided, however, that a six-month extension of the permit shall be granted if an additional permit extension fee has been paid prior to the expiration date of the initial permit.

Section 1203. Sign Permit Fees.

No permit shall be issued until the appropriate application has been filed with the City Clerk and fees have been paid as established by the City Council from time to time.

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Section 1204. Non-conforming Signs.

1. Any permanent sign or advertising device which does not conform to the requirements of the Zoning Resolution shall either be removed or shall be subject to Article VIII Non-conforming Uses, of this Resolution.
2. Any temporary or portable sign shall be removed or made to conform to the provisions of this Resolution.
3. No sign, whether conforming or non-conforming, shall be modified except in accordance with the Zoning Resolution.

Section 1205. Signs and Sign Devices Prohibited.

The following types of signs or advertising devices are prohibited in all zoning districts of The City of Dacula.

1. Roof signs.
2. Sidewalk, A-Type, sandwich or curb type signs.
3. Portable signs.
4. Swinging or projecting signs, unless approval is granted by the City Clerk. In no case, however, shall this type sign exceed two square feet.
5. Animated signs involving motion or sound.
6. Flashing, blinking, or varying light intensity signs except time, temperature and date.
7. Signs on public right-of-way except signs exempt under Section 1207, Paragraph 2.
8. Signs which contain or are in imitation of an official traffic sign or signal or contain the words "stop", "go", "slow", "caution", "danger", "warning", or similar words, except for construction signs and barricades and except when the words are incorporated in the permanent name of a business.
9. Courtesy benches, trash cans, and similar devices on which advertising is displayed.
10. Trailer signs.
11. Signs attached to any street signs or markers, traffic control signs or devices, or attached to or painted on any pole, post, tree, rock, shrub, plant or other natural object or feature.
12. Any sign placed or erected on a property without the permission of the owner.
13. Signs rotating at greater than six revolutions per minute.

The City of Dacula shall be empowered to remove or cause to be removed at the owners expense all prohibited signs.

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Section 1206. Special Permit for Temporary Signs or Devices.

The following types of signs or advertising devices shall be permitted only by issue of a special permit allowing use of this type advertising for a period not exceeding 21 consecutive days. No such special permit shall be issued for the same premises at less than three-month intervals, and in no case shall the same premises be allowed a special permit more than four times in a calendar year. A fee as established from time to time by the City Council shall be charged for each such special permit.

1. Air or gas filled devices.
2. Balloons or streamers.
3. Flags or banners, [except corporate logo flags, official flags of the United States, other nations, the State of Georgia, and other public service entities or any combination thereof are allowed without a permit. (Example given; one (1) U.S. Flag allows one (1) corporate logo flag)].
4. Search lights and similar devices.

Section 1207. Signs Exempt from Specified Provisions of this Resolution.

The following types of signs are exempt from the requirements of this Resolution unless otherwise expressly prohibited under Section 1205 of this Resolution. However, all these signs shall meet maximum height and setback requirements as specified in Section 1211.

1. Non-illuminated real estate signs, excluding portable signs, not in excess of 32 square feet in all zoning districts, provided such signs are located on the lot or building for sale, lease or being constructed, are not located on any public right-of-way, and are limited to one sign per road frontage, except in all residential districts where sign area shall not exceed six (6) square feet for individual lot/home sales. A non-illuminated construction sign, excluding portable signs, not in excess of 32 square feet in all zoning districts, provided such sign is located on the lot or building being constructed and is limited to one sign per road entrance, except in all residential districts where sign area shall not exceed six (6) square feet for individuals lot/home sales. Such signs shall be removed within 10 days after the subject lot or building is leased or sold or construction is completed respectively. Parcels in residential districts, exceeding three (3) acres in size, not located in a final recorded subdivision, may have a real estate or construction sign of up to 32 square feet.
2. Signs of a non-commercial nature and in the public interest, erected by, or on the order of, a public officer in the performance of his duty such as public notices, safety signs, danger signs, trespassing signs, traffic and street signs, memorial plaques, signs of historical interest, and the like.
3. Signs on private property prohibiting trespassing, hunting or directing traffic movement, each not exceeding three (3) square feet in area, and not advertising any business, service or product. Such signs shall not be allowed on any public right-of-way.

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Section 1207. Signs Exempt from Specified Provisions of this Resolution. (Continued)

4. Credit card or bank instant teller identification signs up to three square feet per card or six square feet total area. Such signs shall be located at least ten feet from the pavement of any street. A maximum of two (2) signs is allowed.
5. Any sign not visible from public thoroughfares or any sign within a business, office, mall, or totally enclosed area.
6. Non-illuminated church, civic, school, hospital, or other quasi-public signs not exceeding four (4) square feet in area. However, no such sign shall be allowed on any public right-of-way.
7. On premises temporary signs advertising festivals, special public events, etc., provided such signs are set back at least ten feet from any street pavement, and not placed on any street right-of-way, and do not exceed 16 square feet in area. Such signs shall be allowed for a maximum period of 15 consecutive days, after which they must be removed.
8. On premises directional signs including exit/entrance, shipping/receiving, or other directional information not to exceed six square feet in area or four feet in height. These signs are to give traffic directional information only and shall not be used to advertise products or services.

Section 1208. Maintenance and Appearance of Signs.

1. All signs shall be maintained in good condition, so as to present a neat and orderly appearance. The City Clerk may cause to be removed after due notice any sign which shows gross neglect or becomes dilapidated.
2. The City Clerk shall give the owner ten (10) days written notice to correct the deficiencies or to remove the sign or signs. If the Owner refuses to correct the deficiencies or remove the sign, the City Clerk shall have the sign removed at the expense of the Owner.

Section 1209. Illumination of Signs.

Only permanent signs shall be allowed to be illuminated provided that:

1. The light from any illuminated sign shall not be of an intensity or brightness which will interfere with the peace, comfort, convenience, and general welfare of residents or occupants of adjacent properties.
2. No sign shall have blinking, flashing, or fluctuating lights or other illuminating devices which have a changing light intensity, brightness or color except those depicting only time, temperature, or date.
3. No colored lights shall be used at any location or in any manner so as to be confused with or construed as traffic control devices. Neither direct nor reflected light from primary light sources shall create a hazard to operators of motor vehicles.
4. Signs located within any residential district may only be indirectly illuminated.

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Section 1210. Signs Permitted and Regulated in Zoning Districts According to Purpose of Such Signs.

If not otherwise stated, any sign not specifically permitted in a zoning district as provided under this Section, shall be prohibited in that district, except as otherwise provided for under this Resolution. See Section 1211 (Sign Table) for number permitted, setbacks, maximum height and size.

- A. The following types of signs shall be permitted and regulated within R-1100, R-1200, R-1400, R-1100CZP, R-1200CZP, R-1400CZP, R-MD and MH districts:
 - 1. Real estate signs not to exceed 32 square feet (Reference Section 1207 for such signs up to 32 square feet in size). Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the subject lot or building is leased or sold or construction is completed respectively.
 - 2. Signs pertaining to the sale or lease of lots or dwellings within a residential development (Reference Section 1207 for such signs up to six (6) square feet in size). Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the subject lot or building is leased or sold or construction is completed respectively.
 - 3. Permanent signs identifying only the name of a residential development.
 - 4. Church bulletins, signs identifying cemeteries, public or private recreation facilities, churches, public buildings and facilities.
 - 5. Political signs (See Section 1213).
 - 6. Signs identifying telephone towers and substations.
 - 7. Signs identifying day care facilities or private schools.
 - 8. Accessory announcement signs for public and non-commercial uses.

- B. The following signs shall be permitted and regulated in the O-I, C-1, C-2, C-3, M-1 and M-2 districts:
 - 1. All types of allowed signs identifying uses permitted within the zoning districts.
 - 2. Business signs for an individual establishment.
 - 3. Political signs.
 - 4. On-premises signs or banners relating to the initial opening or final closing of a business or service, provided such signs shall not exceed 32 square feet each and shall not be closer than ten (10) feet to the pavement of any street or on any public right-of-way.
 - 5. Real estate signs in excess of 32 square feet (Reference Section 1207 for such signs up to 32 square feet in size). Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the subject lot or building is leased or sold or construction is completed respectively.

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Section 1211. Maximum Heights, Maximum Sizes, Setback Requirements and Number of Signs Permitted and Regulated in the City.

The following table on pages 12-7 through 12-9 provides information regarding restrictions on signs as permitted by zoning districts within the City. Ground signs, wall signs, and marquee signs are examples of the type signs that shall be permitted and regulated in accordance with the requirements of this Resolution. This Section is intended to allow signs only in zoning districts as listed under Section 1210. All types of allowed signs identifying uses permitted within the zoning districts.

Such signs shall be approved for a maximum period of 21 consecutive days for initial opening signs and 30 consecutive days for final closing signs, after which they shall be removed.

SECTION 1211 (SIGN TABLE)

TYPE OF SIGN PURPOSE OR USE	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	SETBACK FROM RIGHT-OF-WAY (1)	MAXIMUM SIZE PER SIGN ALLOWED	NUMBER AND TYPE PERMITTED																														
1. Business signs for an individual establishment on an individual lot.	5 ft. 10 ft. 20 ft.	0 - 5 ft. > 5 ft. or < 20 ft. 20 ft. or >	<p><u>GROUND SIGNS</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Gross Sq. Ft. Space</u></td> <td><u>Sign Size</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 10,000</td> <td>75 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10,001 - 50,000</td> <td>100 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50,001 - 100,000</td> <td>150 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100,001 - ></td> <td>200 s.f.</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>WALL SIGNS</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Gross Sq. Ft. of Building Space</u></td> <td><u>Max. Sign Size per Bldg. Elevation</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 2,500</td> <td>36 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,501 - 15,000</td> <td>60 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15,001 - 50,000</td> <td>100 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50,001 - ></td> <td>200 s.f.</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Gross Sq. Ft. of Building Space</u></td> <td><u>Aggregate Total all Wall Signs</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 2,500</td> <td>72 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,501 - 15,000</td> <td>120 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15,001 - 50,000</td> <td>200 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50,001 - ></td> <td>400 s.f.</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Gross Sq. Ft. Space</u>	<u>Sign Size</u>	0 - 10,000	75 s.f.	10,001 - 50,000	100 s.f.	50,001 - 100,000	150 s.f.	100,001 - >	200 s.f.	<u>Gross Sq. Ft. of Building Space</u>	<u>Max. Sign Size per Bldg. Elevation</u>	0 - 2,500	36 s.f.	2,501 - 15,000	60 s.f.	15,001 - 50,000	100 s.f.	50,001 - >	200 s.f.	<u>Gross Sq. Ft. of Building Space</u>	<u>Aggregate Total all Wall Signs</u>	0 - 2,500	72 s.f.	2,501 - 15,000	120 s.f.	15,001 - 50,000	200 s.f.	50,001 - >	400 s.f.	<p><u>GROUND SIGNS</u></p> <p>One sign structure per road frontage not to exceed maximum allowable square footage. *</p> <p><u>WALL SIGNS</u></p> <p>Sign square footage may not exceed 50% of the total permitted sq. footage on any building elevation. Total of all signs on all elevations shall not exceed the total sq. footage listed.</p>
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2. Major sign for planned office, commercial, industrial or retail center.	5 ft. 10 ft. 20 ft.	0 - 5 ft. > 5 ft. or < 20 ft. 20 ft. or >	<p><u>GROUND SIGNS</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Gross Sq. Ft. Space</u></td> <td><u>Sign Size</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 10,000</td> <td>75 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10,001 - 50,000</td> <td>100 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50,001 - 100,000</td> <td>150 s.f.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100,001 - ></td> <td>200 s.f.</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>WALL SIGNS</u></p> <p>Total area of signs to be 25% of gross floor area. Maximum sign size shall not exceed 400 square feet.</p>	<u>Gross Sq. Ft. Space</u>	<u>Sign Size</u>	0 - 10,000	75 s.f.	10,001 - 50,000	100 s.f.	50,001 - 100,000	150 s.f.	100,001 - >	200 s.f.	<p><u>GROUND SIGNS</u></p> <p>One sign structure per road frontage not to exceed maximum allowable square footage. *</p> <p><u>WALL SIGNS</u></p> <p>Number of signs is only limited by the total square footage allowed.</p>																				
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(1) No sign shall be located closer than ten (10) feet to the back-of-curb of a public roadway.																																		
* Multiple sign faces are permitted on each sign structure. However, total faces shall not exceed total permitted square feet. Properties with multiple road frontages may transfer a maximum of 50% of the allowable square footage from one road frontage to the other.																																		

SECTION 1211 (SIGN TABLE)

TYPE OF SIGN PURPOSE OR USE	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	SETBACK FROM RIGHT-OF-WAY (1)	MAXIMUM SIZE PER SIGN ALLOWED	NUMBER AND TYPE PERMITTED
3. Business signs for individual establishments, shops, etc. within a planned commercial center.	Not greater than height of wall.	N/A	<u>WALL SIGNS</u> Gross Sq. Ft. Max. Sign Size per <u>Building Space</u> <u>Building Elevation</u> 0 - 2,500 36 s.f. 2,501 - 15,000 60 s.f. 15,001 - 50,000 100 s.f. 50,001 - > 200 s.f. Gross Sq. Ft. of <u>Building Space</u> <u>Aggregate Total of</u> 0 - 2,500 72 s.f. 2,501 - 15,000 120 s.f. 15,001 - 50,000 200 s.f. 50,001 - > 400 s.f.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> Not allowed. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Signs may not exceed 50% of the total permitted square footage on any building elevation. The total of all wall signs on all elevations shall not exceed the total square footage listed.
4. Business signs for individual offices, etc. within a planned office or industrial center.	Not greater than height of wall.	N/A	20 square feet or five (5%) percent of the wall areas, whichever is greater.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> Not allowed. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> One (1) per building elevation per tenant.
5. Church bulletins, signs identifying public recreation facilities, public buildings, etc.	5 ft. 10 ft.	0 - 5 ft. 5 ft. or >	75 square feet within residential districts. In non-residential districts, size shall be same as permitted for business signs.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> One per road frontage. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> 50 sq.ft. per building.
6. Private school, In non-residential districts, size shall be same as permitted for business signs.	5 ft 10 ft.	0 - 5 ft. 5 ft. or >	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> 16 sq. ft. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> 16 sq. ft.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> One per road frontage_ <u>WALL SIGNS</u> One per road frontage
7. Permanent entrance sign identifying the name of a commercial/office/ industrial development and its' developer.	16 ft.	0 ft.	50 sq. ft.	Two per road frontage_

(1) No sign shall be located closer than ten (10) feet to the back-of-curb of a public roadway.

SECTION 1211 (SIGN TABLE)

TYPE OF SIGN PURPOSE OR USE	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	SETBACK FROM RIGHT-OF-WAY (1)	MAXIMUM SIZE PER SIGN ALLOWED	NUMBER AND TYPE PERMITTED
8. Permanent sign identifying only the name of a residential development.	ft. excluding embellishments which shall not exceed 2 ft. above the max. height of the sign structure.	0 ft.	32 sq. ft. per sign (sign structure must be constructed of brick, stone, masonry or equal architectural material).	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> Two per entrance. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Not allowed.
9. Accessory announcement signs for public and non-commercial uses.	4 ft.	0 ft.	6 sq. ft.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> One per entrance. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Not applicable.
10. Real estate signs in excess of 32 sq. ft. Construction signs or real estate signs for parcels with more than 640 ft. of road frontage (see Section 1108).	10 ft.	10 ft.	One (1) sq. ft. per 20 feet of lot frontage.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> Any combination of signs totaling the max. size allowed. Signs less than 32 sq. ft. do not require a permit. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Not allowed.
11. Signs pertaining to the sale or lease of lots or buildings within a residential development.	10 ft.	10 ft.	32 sq. ft. per entrance	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> One per subdivision/development entrance. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Not allowed.
12. Signs identifying farm products which are produced on the premises, livestock sales pavilion or auction facilities, riding stables and academies.	5 ft. 10 ft.	0 - 5 ft. 5 ft. or >	16 sq. ft.	<u>GROUND SIGNS</u> One per road frontage. <u>WALL SIGNS</u> Not allowed.
(1) No sign shall be located closer than ten (10) feet to the back-of-curb of a public roadway.				

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Section 1212. Political Signs.

Political signs shall be permitted within any zoning district subject to the following restrictions and allowances:

1. A political sign shall not be erected more than 60 days prior to the election which the sign is intended to influence.
2. Any political sign shall be removed within ten (10) days after the final election, including any runoffs, which the sign is intended to influence.
3. Political signs shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.
4. Before any political sign is erected, the permission of the owner of the property upon which the sign is proposed to be erected shall be obtained.
5. Political signs shall not exceed ten feet in height.
6. The City of Dacula is empowered to remove or cause to be removed all political signs not conforming with the provisions of this Resolution without notice to the candidate, individual or organization whose sign creates the non-conformance.

Section 1213. Convenience Stores and Service Stations with Pump Islands.

Convenience stores and service stations with pump islands may have additional signage subject to the following limitations:

1. One sign per canopy face per public street frontage with a maximum of 16 square feet.
2. Spreader bars (signs located under canopy over pumps islands) shall be limited to no more than two signs per spreader bar, not to exceed four square feet per sign. However, total square footage for all spreader bars shall not exceed 24 square feet.
3. Accessory car wash, if a separate drive-through car wash building is on site, one additional wall sign per face of car wash, not to exceed eight (8) square feet, may be permitted. This sign shall be for car wash identification ONLY.

Section 1214. Project Directory Sign.

Such signs are authorized in all non-residential planned subdivisions of land within any non-residential zoning district subject to the following:

1. May not be located within 100 feet of an entrance to a project.
2. One such sign per project entrance (exclusive of driveways).
3. A vehicular storage lane (1-way) must be provided so that the sign may be viewed by an individual in a vehicle.
4. The sign shall not be within the public right-of-way.
5. Setback from right-of-way may be zero (0) feet.
6. Maximum sign area is 100 square feet.
7. Maximum height of the sign shall be eight (8) feet.
8. Name of the project may be listed together with the tenant listing; however, the name of the project shall not be larger than five (5) square feet.
9. These signs shall be permanently constructed and consist of low-maintenance materials such as stone, masonry, metal, ceramic materials, and plastics.