



SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION

Date Received _____ Received by _____ Permit # _____

APPLICANT

Site Address _____ or PID # _____

Legal Description _____

Property Owner _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

General Contractor _____ License # _____ Phone _____

PROJECT

New _____ Wall Mounted _____ Illuminated _____
Alteration _____ Free Standing _____ Non-Illuminated _____

Sign Size

Length: _____ ft. Width: _____ ft. Height: _____ ft. Total Area: _____ sq ft.

Wall Size

Length: _____ ft. Width: _____ ft. Height: _____ ft. Total Area: _____ sq ft.

Value of Sign: \$ _____

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Two copies of:
 - scaled drawing of sign specifications
 - site plan showing sign location
 - building sign plan for a building with more than one use of building, showing all signs
 - description of existing signage that will remain
- Written consent of owner, if different from the applicant, of any land on which the sign is to be erected
- Permit fee (non-refundable) in the amount of payable to “City of Blue Earth”

SIGNATURE

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO DO ALL WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH BLUE EARTH CITY CODE AND THE RULINGS OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

Name [please print] _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

STOP
BELOW FOR CITY OF BLUE EARTH USE ONLY

PLANNING Zoning Administrator _____ _____ _____ Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____ Subject to Following Conditions:		
BUILDING		
Reviewed by:	_____	Date: _____
FEES		
TOTAL DUE \$		
DATE ISSUED _____ ISSUED BY _____ RECEIPT # _____		

SIGN PERMIT

1040.28. Signs.

Subd. 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Subsection is to protect, insure, maintain and regain the natural and scenic beauty and attractiveness of the roadside throughout the City. By the construction of public roads, the public has created views to which the public retains a right-of-view and it is the intent of these standards to prevent taking of that right. Signs are recognized as accessory uses and are permitted in all Districts subject to the regulations of this Chapter.

Subd. 2. Illegal Signs. No sign shall be allowed that is a hazard to the public health, safety, convenience, welfare, or that prevents ingress or egress from any door, window or fire escape; that tends to accumulate debris as a fire hazard, or that is attached to a standpipe or fire escape.

Subd. 3. Design Restrictions. Signs shall not resemble, imitate, or approximate the shape, size, form or color of railroad or traffic signs, signals or devices. No sign shall be placed so as to obstruct or interfere with traffic visibility or traffic control.

Subd. 4. Private Signs. Private signs are prohibited within the public right-of-way of any street or easement.

Subd. 5. State & Federal Right-of Ways. All signs on State and Federal highways right-ofway shall conform to State and Federal sign regulations.

Subd. 6. Signs Permitted. The following signs will be permitted in all Districts subject to the specific standards indicated:

A. One sign on each side of a non-conforming business establishment where there is access to that business establishment, announcing without display or elaboration only the name and occupation of the proprietor and not to exceed four (4) feet in height and ten (10) feet in length.

B. Wall signs on any conforming use building or business establishment not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the wall area for businesses in commercial districts.

C. Multi-tenant business centers may have one wall sign per business which has an exclusive exterior entrance. A second wall sign may be allowed if a tenant has an additional exclusive exterior entrance on a second wall. All wall signs shall not exceed more than twenty percent (20%) of the wall area occupied by the tenant.

D. Projecting signs, including canopy and awning signs, as well as wall signs will be permitted within the Central Business District. Projecting signs and awnings shall have a minimum clearance of seven (7) feet above a public sidewalk. Such signs shall not project more than six (6) feet from the building. The entire awning shall be counted towards the maximum sign area if the awning is internally lit. Projecting signs must further comply with any county or state requirements for such signs, if any.

E. Wall signs in residential zones shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the wall area used for retail purposes.

F. Wall signs shall not project above the roof level of any building.

G. Real Estate signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in area which advertise the sale, rental, or lease of the premises upon which the sign is temporarily located. Real estate signs shall be composed of a metal or other non-bendable material and have an appearance of professional quality. All real estate signs shall be either attached to the structure which is for sale or rent or placed directly into the ground. The affixing of signs to trees and utility posts is prohibited.

H. Warning signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet.

I. Memorial signs, tablets and names of buildings and date of erection when out into any masonry surface or when constructed of metal and affixed flat against a structure, not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet.

J. Official signs such as traffic control, parking restrictions, information and notices.

K. Political signs are allowed in any district on private property with the consent of the owner of the property. Such signs must be removed within seven (7) days following the date of election or elections to which said signs applied.

L. Construction signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet in area shall be allowed in all zoning districts during construction. Such signs shall be removed when the project is completed.

M. Temporary signs or banners when authorized by the Council.

N. In non-residential districts, pylon signs no higher than thirty-five (35) feet and no greater than 100 square feet per side of the sign.

O. In residential districts, pylon signs shall be limited to sixteen (16) square feet in area and shall not exceed seven (7) feet in height.

P. All other signs shall require a conditional use permit.

Subd. 7. Non-Conforming Signs. Signs lawfully existing at the effective date of this Chapter may be continued although the use, size or location does not conform with the provisions of this Chapter. However, it shall be deemed a non-conforming use.

Subd. 8. Sign Maintenance.

A. Painting. The owner of any sign shall be required to have such sign properly painted at least once every two (2) years, if needed, including all parts and supports of the sign, unless such parts or supports are galvanized or otherwise treated to prevent rust.

B. Area Around Sign. The owner, or lessee of any sign or the owner of the land on which the sign is located shall keep the grass, weeds or other growth cut and the area free from refuse between the sign and the street and also for a distance of six (6) feet behind and at the ends of said sign.

Subd. 9. Obsolete Signs. Any sign which no longer advertises a bona fide business conducted or a product sold shall be taken down and removed by the owner, agent or person having the beneficial use of the building, or land upon which the sign may be found within ten (10) days after written notice from the Zoning Administrator.

Subd. 10. Unsafe or Dangerous Signs. Any sign which becomes structurally unsafe or endangers the safety of a building or premises or endangers the public safety, shall be taken down and removed by the owner, agent or person having the beneficial use of the building, structure, or land upon which the sign is located within ten (10) days after written notification from the Zoning Administrator.

Subd. 11. All permanent signs, of non-public origin, located within the city limits of the City of Blue Earth, shall require an administrative permit issued by the City.

Permits may be obtained from the Administrator's Office, located in City Hall. Administrative permit fees for permanent non-public signs will be set in the city's fee schedule, as periodically determined by issuance of the Council. Permits shall be obtained prior to the placement of any new signs, or within 90 days of the permanent placement thereof. Signs permanently placed on or before October 31, 2003, shall be exempt from this subdivision.