



APPLICATION FOR SIGN PLACEMENT PERMIT
ACME TOWNSHIP
Grand Traverse County, Michigan
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690
Phone (231) 938-1350 Fax (231) 938-1510

Please complete this form and submit to the Acme Township Zoning Administrator with the following:

- Drawings, to scale showing:
Wall-mounted signs: fully dimensioned building elevation drawings for sides on which sign(s) to be placed, showing all existing and proposed sign placement(s) with dimensions.

Freestanding signs: Site plan showing all existing and proposed buildings & structures, proposed sign location, accurate distances from lot lines and other structures, full sign support structure and sign face(s) with all dimensions, including gross height.

All applications should include color drawings of signs and indicate if internally or externally lighted.
- If you are not the property owner, a letter signed by the owner authorizing you to apply as their agent.
- Appropriate application fee – see attached Acme Township Schedule of Fees

1. **Street Address where sign(s) are to be located:** _____
2. **Property Tax ID Number:** _____
3. **Property Owner’s name, address, telephone number and e-mail address:** _____
4. **Applicant’s name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if different)** _____
5. **Description of Sign(s): Attach required drawings and other separate sheets as needed.** _____
6. **Are signs to be:** Permanent Temporary - dates requested: _____

Affidavit: The undersigned affirms that he/she is the _____ (owner, agent, lessee, or other interested party) involved in this petition and that the foregoing answers, statements and information are in all respects true and, to the best of his/her knowledge, correct. By making this application, the undersigned grants all officials, staff and consultants of Acme Township access to the subject property as required and appropriate to assess site conditions in support of a determination as to the suitability of the proposed project and/or current or future sign permit and zoning ordinance compliance.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Township Use/Official Action:

Use permitted by Section _____ of the Acme Township Zoning Ordinance of 2008 as amended, or has been approved as a special condition by the Zoning Board of Appeals on _____.

Application Number: _____ Date Received: _____ Fee Paid: _____

Total temp. signage days current calendar year: _____ Staff Member Processing Application: _____



**ACME TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE #2004-01
SCHEDULE OF FEES
(REPLACES SCHEDULE ADOPTED AS ORDINANCE #88-5 IN ENTIRETY)
As AMENDED 12/07/04**

LAND USE PERMITS:

Residential

Single family dwellings and/or accessory structures	\$ 75.00
Duplexes/Multi-Family Residential	\$ 50.00/unit
<u>Commercial</u>	\$2.00/100 sq. ft. of land use
	\$150.00 minimum

PLANNING COMMISSION REVIEWS:

Special Use Permit/Site Plan Review*	\$ 800.00
Communications Tower Permit, Add for Consultant Review*	\$5,000.00
Subdivision/Site Condominium/Open Space Development Review*	
1-20 lots	\$ 800.00
Each lot over 20 add	\$ 10.00
Mixed Use Development/Planned Unit Development Review*	\$ 800.00
Zoning Designation Change*	\$ 800.00
Special Meeting – Per meeting, in addition to standard review fee	\$1,100.00

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Any Application for Variance/Appeal of Determination/Interpretation*	\$400.00
Special Meeting - Per meeting, in addition to standard review fee*	\$650.00

SIGN PERMITS:

Site signage for Mixed Use or Planned Unit Developments*	\$200.00
All other permanent or temporary sign permits	\$40.00
Charge for collection/storage of signage placed in violation of ordinance/without permit	
\$50.00 per sign plus legal expenses incurred if necessary to collect.	

* These are minimum fees based on estimated actual costs to process the application. In addition to these fees, Acme Township utilizes an escrow policy that requires these applications to include a minimum escrow balance. The escrow policy is attached.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Paper copies:

Zoning Ordinance (including color zoning map)	\$50.00
Master Plan	\$50.00
If mailed, actual postage expenses will be added	

Electronic copies:

Meeting audio or any data available on CD ROM or 3.5” floppy disk	\$7.50/disk
Audio is formatted to play in both computers and stereos: 1 meeting = 2-4 disks.	
Audio formatted to play in computers only, multiple meetings will fit on one CD.	
Additional charges for labor apply if scope of request requires more than 15 minutes to fulfill	
Cassette tapes of public meetings	\$10.00/cassette
Most meetings are 2-4 45-minute tapes cassette tapes long.	

Many official documents, including the Zoning Ordinance, Master Plan, Parks & Recreation Plan, Yuba Creek Natural Area Management Plan, approved meeting minutes and upcoming meeting agendas are available FREE OF CHARGE at www.acmetownship.org.

Recreational Unit: Means as defined in Part 125 of the Michigan Public Health Code.

Recreational Vehicle: A boat, all terrain vehicle, Recreational Unit, Jet Ski, snowmobile, provided the usage of the boat, all terrain vehicle, Recreational Unit, Jet Ski or snowmobile is solely for recreational purposes.

Regional Sewage Treatment System: That system being planned and implemented as of the effective date of this Ordinance by the City of Traverse City and six of the townships surrounding Traverse City.

Residential Zoning Districts: Means the R-1, R-2, R-3, and R-1MH Zoning Districts, as defined by this Ordinance.

Right-of-way: A street, alley, or other thoroughfare or easement permanently established for passage of persons or vehicles.

Setback: The distance required between a lot line and a structure.

Setback, front: The minimum required distance, extending the full lot width, between any structure and the front lot line.

Setback, rear: The minimum required distance, extending the full lot width, between any structure and the lot line opposite the front line.

Setback, side: The minimum required distance, extending from the front setback to the rear setback, between any structure and the side lot line.

Shared Waterfront Parcel: Any waterfront parcel to be used by more than one family.

Sign Regulation Definitions:

- 1, Highway Advertising Sign: A structure which is an off premises sign owned by a person, corporation, or the entity that engages in the business of selling the advertising space on that sign.
2. Billboard: See Highway Advertising Sign.
3. Portable Sign: A free-standing sign not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or the ground, trailered or similarly mounted signs or signs on parked vehicles where the sign is the primary use of the vehicle or wheeled object.
- 4, Roof Sign: Any sign which is erected above the roof of a building.
5. Sign: Any identification, description, illustration, display, or device illuminated or non-illuminated which is visible from any public place, or is located on private property and exposed to the public, and which directs attention to a product, service, place, activity, person, institution, business or solicitation, including any permanently installed or situated merchandise; or any emblem, painting, banner, pennant, placard, or temporary sign designed to advertise, identify or convey information, with the exception of window

displays and national, state, municipal, and institutional flags. For the purpose of removal, signs shall also include all sign structures.

Special Use Permit: An approval for a special land use, pursuant to Section 502 of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.

State licensed residential facility: A structure constructed for residential purposes that is licensed by the state under the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act, as defined in that act, MCL 125.3102.

Stream: Shall be as defined by Part 303 of Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, MCL 324.30101 *et seq.*, namely, a river, stream, or creek which may or may not be serving as a drain; or any other body of water that has definite banks, a bed, and visible evidence of a continued flow.

Structure: A structure is any production or piece of material artificially built up or composed of parts jointed together in some definite manner; any construction, including dwelling, garages, buildings, manufactured homes, signs and sign boards, towers, poles, antennae, landfill, sea walls, weirs, jetties, pipes, or other objects, but not including fences.

Township Board: Acme Township Board.

Undeveloped state, land in: A natural state preserving natural resources, natural features, scenic or wooded conditions, agricultural use, open space, or a similar use or condition. Land in an undeveloped state does not include a golf course but may include a recreational trail, picnic area, children's play area, greenway, or linear park. MCL 125.3102(u).

Use: The purpose for which land or a building(s) is arranged, designed or intended, or for which land or a building may be occupied.

Waterfront Parcel: Any parcel of land having frontage along the shore or bank of a lake or stream.

Water Mark: The highest normal water level of the lakes or streams within the Township as determined by the Township Engineer, based on water level history and/or impoundment control. The water mark on Grand Traverse Bay shall be the high water mark, elevation of 581.0. (International Great Lake Datum 1955).

Wetland: Land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life, and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh and which is any of the following:

1. Contiguous to the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream.
2. Not contiguous to the Great Lakes, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and more than 5 acres in size; except this subparagraph shall not be of effect, except for the purpose of inventorying, in counties of less than 100,000 population until the department certifies to the commission it has substantially completed its inventory of wetlands in that county.

7.4. SIGNS:

7.4.1 PREAMBLE

It is recognized that signs, placed upon the premises and/or structures to which they relate, serve a vital communicative function by allowing residents and visitors alike to readily ascertain the availability and location of facilities that serve their needs. It is the purpose of this code to optimize the communicative value of on-premise signs within the landscape and along public thoroughfares by providing for an orderly and equitable means for the presentation and assimilation of the messages that such signs contain.

7.4.2 DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Sign: A sign that no longer identifies or advertises a location, product, or activity conducted on the premises on which the sign is located.

Animated Sign: A sign employing actual motion or the illusion of motion. Animated signs, which are differentiated from changeable signs as defined and regulated by this code, include the following types:

- **Environmentally Activated:** Animated signs or devices motivated by wind, thermal changes, or other natural environmental input. Includes spinners, pinwheels, pennant strings, and/or other devices or displays that respond to naturally occurring external motivation.
- **Mechanically Activated:** Animated signs characterized by repetitive motion and/or rotation activated by a mechanical system powered by electric motors or other mechanically induced means.
- **Electrically Activated:** Animated signs producing the illusion of movement by means of electronic, electrical, or electromechanical input and/or illumination capable of simulating movement through employment of the characteristics of one or both of the classifications noted below:
- **Flashing:** Animated signs or animated portions of signs whose illumination is characterized by a repetitive cycle in which the period of illumination is either the same as or less than the period of non-illumination. For the purposes of this ordinance, flashing will not be defined as occurring if the cyclical period between on-off phases of illumination exceeds four (4) seconds.
- **Patterned Illusionary Movement:** Animated signs or animated portions of signs whose illumination is characterized by simulated movement through alternate or sequential activation of various illuminated elements for the purpose of producing repetitive light patterns designed to appear in some form of constant motion.

Architectural Projection: Any projection that is not intended for occupancy and that extends beyond the face of an exterior wall of a building but that does not include signs as defined herein. See also: Awning; Back-lit Awning; and Canopy, Attached and Freestanding.

Awning: A roof-like covering of canvas or similar material, used as a shelter from sun, rain, etc., and projecting from and supported by an exterior wall of a building.

Awning Sign: A sign displayed on or attached flat against the surface or surfaces of an awning. See also: Wall or Fascia Sign.

Back-lit Awning: An awning whose covering material exhibits the characteristic of luminosity obtained by means of a source of illumination contained within its framework.

Billboard - See Highway Advertising Sign.

Canopy (Attached): A multi-sided overhead structure or architectural projection supported by attachment to a building on one or more sides and either cantilevered from such building or also supported by columns at additional points. The surface(s) and/or soffit of an attached canopy may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light. Similar to a Marquee.

Canopy (Freestanding): A multi-sided overhead structure supported by columns, but not enclosed by walls. The surface(s) and or soffit of a freestanding canopy may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light.

Canopy Sign: A sign affixed to the visible surface(s) of an attached or freestanding canopy. May be internally or externally illuminated. Similar the a Marquee Sign. Refer also to Section III herein for visual reference example.

Changeable Sign: A sign with the capability of content change by means of manual or remote input, includes the following types:

- **Manually Activated:** Changeable sign whose message copy or content can be changed manually on a display surface.
- **Electrically Activated:** Changeable sign whose message copy or content can be changed by means of remote electrically energized on-off switching combinations of alphabetic or pictographic components arranged on a display surface. Illumination may be integral to the components, such as characterized by lamps or other light-emitting devices; or it may be from an external light source designed to reflect off the changeable component display. See also: Electronic Message Sign or Center.

Copy: The graphic content or message of a sign.

Copy Area of Sign: The actual area of the sign Copy.

Directional Sign: Any sign that is designed and erected for the purpose of providing direction and/or orientation for pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

Double-faced Sign: A sign with two faces, back to back.

Façade: That portion of any exterior elevation of a building extending vertically from grade to the top of the parapet wall or eaves and horizontally across the entire width of the width of the building elevation.

Fascia Sign: See Wall Sign

Flashing Sign: See Animated Sign, Electrically Activated.

Highway Advertising Sign: A structure which is an off premises sign owned by a person, corporation, or the entity that engages in the business of selling the advertising space on that sign.

Marquee: See Canopy (Attached). Definition is similar.

Marquee Sign: See Canopy Sign. Definition is similar.

Multiple-Faced Sign: A sign containing three (3) or more faces.

On-Premise Sign: A used to display messages appurtenant to the use of, products sold on, or the sale or lease of the property on which it is displayed.

Parapet: The extension of a building facade above the line of the structural roof.

Political Sign: A sign intended to advance a political statement, cause, or candidate for office.

Projecting Sign: A sign projecting from a building wall or façade with sign face(s) approximately perpendicular to the wall or façade from which it projects.

Roof Line: The uppermost line of the roof of a building or, in the case of an extended facade or parapet, the uppermost point of said facade or parapet.

Roof Sign: A sign mounted on the main roof portion of a building or on the uppermost edge of a parapet wall of a building and which is wholly or partially supported by such building. Signs mounted on architectural projections such as canopies or marquees shall not be considered to be roof signs.

Sign: Any device visible from a public place whose essential purpose and design is to convey either commercial or noncommercial messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations. Noncommercial flags or any other flags displayed from flagpoles or staffs will not be considered to be signs.

Sign Structure: Any structure designed for the support of a sign.

Temporary Sign: A sign of a transitory or temporary nature. Portable signs or any sign not permanently embedded in the ground, or not permanently affixed to a building or sign structure that is permanently embedded in the ground, are considered temporary signs.

Under Canopy Sign or Under Marquee Sign: A sign attached to the underside of a canopy or marquee.

V Sign: A sign containing two faces of equal size, positioned at an interior angle subtending less than one hundred seventy-nine degrees (179°) at the point of juncture of the individual faces.

Vehicle-Mounted Sign: A sign located on vehicles, trailers, and/or semi-trailers and is parked primarily for the purpose of attracting attention to a product or business.

Wall or Fascia Sign: A sign that is in any manner affixed to any exterior wall of a building or structure. Also includes signs affixed to architectural projections that project from a building provided the copy area of such signs remains on a parallel plane to the face of the building facade or to the face or faces of the architectural projection to which it is affixed.

Window Sign: A sign affixed to the surface of a window with its message intended to be visible to exterior environment. Merchandise displays are not considered to be window signs.

7.4.2A. Illustrations of Sign Types and Area Calculations

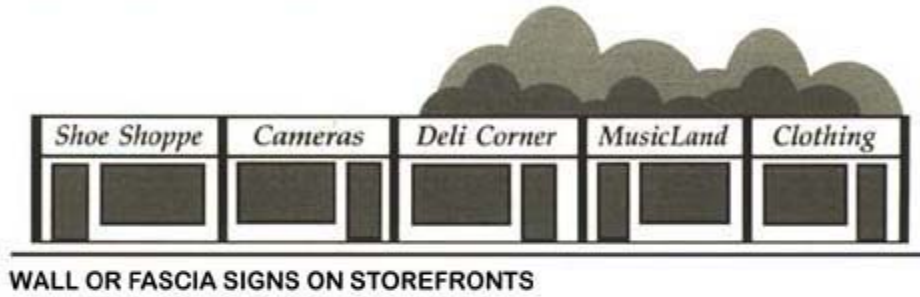
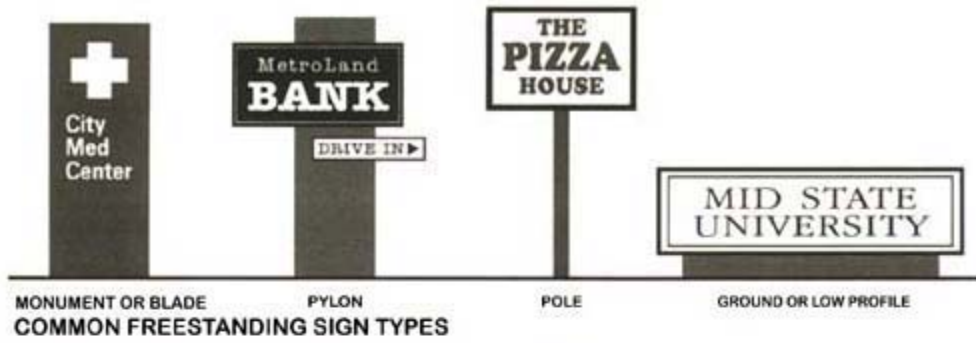


Figure 1003.1
General Sign Types

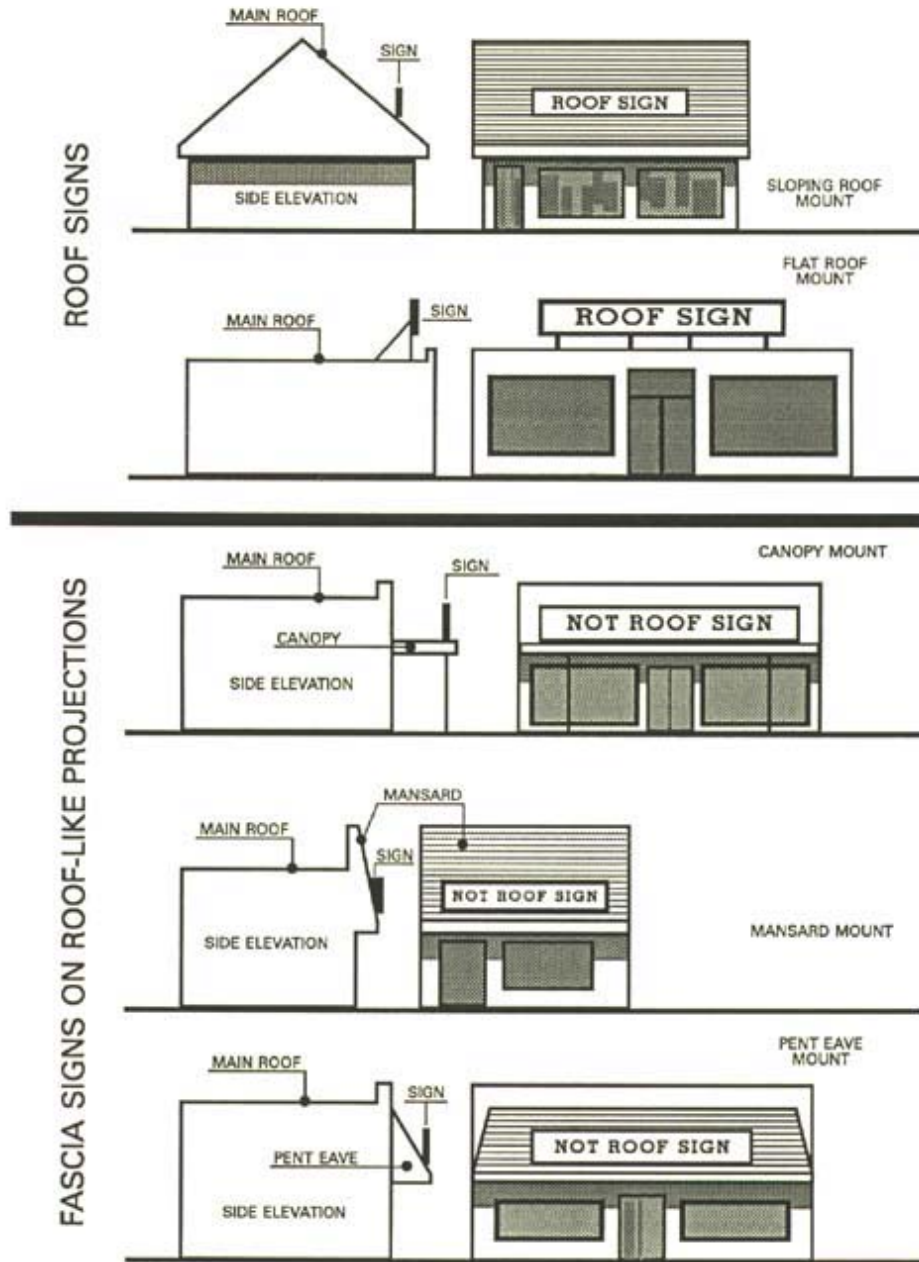


Figure 1003.2
Comparison - Roof and Wall or Fascia Signs



Sign structures

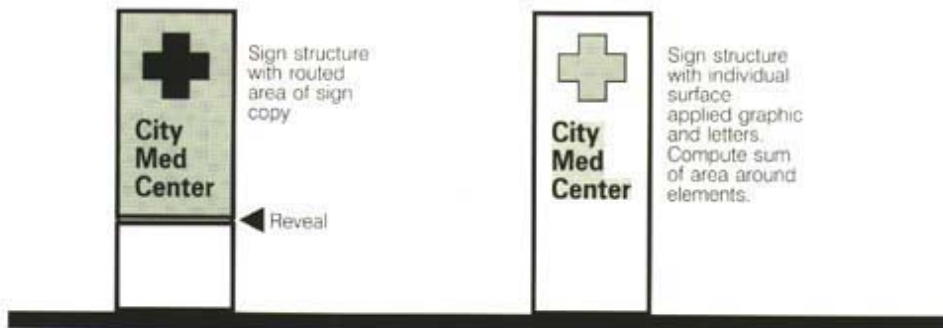


Figure 1003.3
SIGN AREA - COMPUTATION METHODOLOGY
Sum of Shaded Areas Only Represent Sign Area
Signs constructed with panels or cabinets



Figure 1003.4
SIGN AREA - COMPUTATION METHODOLOGY
 Sum of Shaded Areas Only Represent Sign Area for Code Compliance Purposes
 Signs consisting of individual letters, elements, or logos placed on building walls or structures

7.4.3 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- a. No sign, other than those approved by an authorized governmental agency, shall be erected within the lines of any street or public right-of-way.
- b. Signs that attempt or appear to regulate, warn, or direct the movement of traffic or that resemble a traffic-control device are prohibited.
- c. Illuminated Signs shall comply with Section 7.8 Exterior Lighting Standards.
- d. Signs projecting over public walkways may do so only subject to the projection and clearance limits either defined herein or, if not so defined, at a minimum height of ten (10) feet from grade level to the bottom of the sign. Signs, architectural projections, or sign structures projecting over vehicular

access areas must conform to the minimum height clearance limitations imposed by the municipality for such structures.

- e. No sign or sign structure shall be erected at the intersection of any street in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision, nor at any location where by its position, shape, or color it may interfere with or obstruct the view of or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.
- f. Every sign permitted by this ordinance shall be kept in good condition and repair. Any sign becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or otherwise unsafe shall be removed or brought into compliance within ten (10) days of written notice by the Township.
- g. Any sign that no longer advertises or identifies a use conducted on the property on which said sign is erected must be removed within ten (10) days after written notification from the Township.
- h. Revolving, moving, animated, electronic (led, lcd, plasma and similar technology) or flashing signs are prohibited.
- i. Roof Signs are prohibited.
- j. Vehicle-mounted signs are prohibited.
- k. No sign shall be greater than twelve (12) feet tall.

7.4.4 PERMITS

- a. Unless specifically exempted, a permit must be obtained from the Zoning Administrator for the erection and maintenance of all signs erected or maintained in the municipality. Exemptions from the necessity of securing a permit, however, shall not be construed to relieve the owner of the sign involved from responsibility for its erection and maintenance in a safe manner and in a manner in accord with all the other provisions of this ordinance.
- b. No sign shall be enlarged or relocated except in conformity to the provisions herein, nor until a proper permit, if required, has been secured. The changing of movable parts or components of an approved sign that is designed for such changes, or the changing of copy, display and/or graphic matter, or the content of any sign or sign structure shall not be deemed an alteration.
- c. Signs specified in this section are exempt from the permit requirement: 7.4.6.a.1, 7.4.6.a.2, 7.4.6.a.4, 7.4.6.a.5, 7.4.6.a.6, 7.4.6.a.8, 7.4.6.b.1, 7.4.6.b.4, 7.4.6.d.3, 7.4.6.c.8.
- d. Permit fees to erect, alter, or relocate a sign shall be in accordance with the sign fee schedule adopted by the municipality.

7.4.5 AREA OF SIGNS

a. Permanent Signs

1. For signs without integral, well-defined backgrounds: The Copy Area is the sign area of signs that comprise individual elements of

Copy displayed on a surface not specifically designed to serve as a sign background.

2. For signs with integral, well-defined backgrounds: The area of the backgrounds that are or appear to be specifically designed as backgrounds to the Copy is the area of the sign.
3. Only one face will be used to determine the sign area of double-faced signs.
4. For V-Signs with an interior angle greater than 90°, the sign area is the sum of both sign faces; otherwise, the area is the same as for double-faced signs.

b. Temporary Signs

1. Sign Area for temporary signs will include the Copy Area and the sign structure, excluding supports necessary for display.
2. Sign Area for irregularly-shaped temporary signs may be approximated with smallest convex simple polygon (including rectangles, trapezoids, etc.) and/or circle.

7.4.6 REGULATION BY ZONE

a. All Zoning Districts, On-Premise Signs Permitted: In addition to any signs designated as permissible in the General Provisions and/or in any other sections of this ordinance, the following signs and/or sign types are permitted in all zones:

1. One (1) non-illuminated Real Estate sign, up to nine (9) square feet in area so long as the property is available for sale, lease or rental. All signs must be removed within ten (10) days after execution of an agreement of sale, lease, or rental.
2. Signs with the copy “NO HUNTING” or “NO TRESPASSING.”
3. One (1) temporary sign per premise for each contractor or artisan performing work on the parcel. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in area.
4. One (1) Political sign that does not endorse political parties, candidates, or issues subject to an election. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in area.
5. Political signs that endorse political parties, candidates for election, or other issues subject to election are allowed two (2) months prior to an election and must be removed three days following said election.
6. Seasonal signs advertising the sale of agricultural products. Such signs are limited to sixteen (16) square feet; must be located on private property, with written permission of the land owner; and may be directional in nature. Any one parcel is limited to one (1) sign per advertiser.

7. Memorial signs or historical signs or tablets, provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet.
8. Directional signs with maximum area of two (2) square feet.
9. Traffic control signs or other signs authorized by law or policy of the Michigan Department of Transportation or Grand Traverse County Road Commission, or signs required for traffic or parking control in planned developments.
10. One non-illuminated sign per premises advertising a home occupation. Such signs are limited to two (2) square-feet in area.

b. Residential Zoning Districts, On-Premise Signs Permitted

1. Name plates and numbers identifying the occupant and locations of dwelling units provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed two (2) square feet.
2. One non-illuminated sign displaying the name of a platted or condominium subdivision or apartment complex for each separate street entrance. Such signs may not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in area and be set back at least five (5) feet from any right-of-way. The sign and sign structure may not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet or have a height greater than six (6) feet.
3. One sign per premises for permitted non-residential or permitted institutional uses provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet.
4. Temporary signs advertising garage sales or similar sale signs. Up to three (3) signs are allowed, provided they are on private property and are removed promptly after the sale is concluded.
5. Temporary signs advertising a temporary “open house” for the sale or lease of a house or building. Such signs are limited to two (2) square feet of area, must be located on private property, and must be removed after the “open house” has concluded.
6. On multiple-family dwellings, one (1) wall sign per elevation. Such signs may not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area.

c. Commercial Zoning Districts, Excluding B-4, On-Premise Signs Permitted

1. All signs permitted in Residential Zoning Districts.
2. One free-standing per premises indicating businesses on said premises. Such signs may be up to thirty-two (32) square feet in area, up to twelve (12) feet tall, and set back at least ten (10) feet from any street right-of-way; signs no taller than eight (8) feet are allowed a size bonus of twenty (20) percent. For a planned shopping

center, the free-standing sign may identify the center per se and not the individual occupants.

3. Temporary signs not previously specified. Such signs are limited to sixteen (16) square feet in area and may be displayed for no more than sixty (60) days in any calendar year.
4. Wall signs, provided the total area of said signs do not exceed twenty (20) percent of the area of the façade or one-hundred (100) square feet, whichever is less.
5. Canopy-, marquee-, or architectural-projection signs. Such signs' copy area may not exceed twenty (20) percent of the area of the face of the canopy, marquee, or arch-projection.
6. Awning signs. The maximum copy area for awning signs is twenty (20) percent of the background/backlit area of the awning.
7. One (1) projecting sign for each building façade, up to four (4) square feet in area.
8. Window signs. Such signs are limited to twenty (20) percent of window area.
9. Signs displaying the price of gasoline at gasoline stations, not to exceed six (6) square feet in area.
10. One (1) directional signs and/or sign that consist only of words "washing," "lubrication," "repair," or similar above each service bay of an automobile service station. Such signs may not exceed four (4) square feet in area.
11. Corporate logo or institutional flags. Such flags are limited to thirty-five (35) square feet in size.

d. Agricultural Zoning Districts, On-Premise Signs Permitted

1. All signs permitted in Residential and Commercial Zoning Districts.
2. One non-illuminated sign advertising the sale of farm products grown on the premises or related products and merchandise supplemental to products grown on the premises. Such signs may not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area nor be placed closer than ten (10) feet from a street right-of-way.
3. Names of occupants and other identification painted on or otherwise made part of the surface or roof of a barn and other necessary buildings pertaining to and identifying the owner and/or activity of the farm unit, provided such identification is not for advertising.
4. Memorial or historical signs such as "Centennial Farms" signs and/or other signs representing awards won by the farm unit and/or its proprietors.

e. B-4 Zoning Districts, On-Premise Signs Permitted

1. All signs permitted in Residential, Commercial, and Agricultural Zoning Districts.

SECTION 7.4 AMENDED 05/11/2010 EFFECTIVE 06/04/2010 AS ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 007.

7.8. EXTERIOR LIGHTING REGULATIONS:

7.8.1 DECLARATION OF POLICY AND INTENT:

The Acme Township Board of Trustees finds and declares that the naturally lit night sky is an important aspect of our environment and a resource which contributes significantly to our quality of life by contributing to the public peace and to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of and visitors to Acme Township. The essential public purposes that warrant Township regulation of the use of outdoor light fixtures include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- a. Safety of individuals using outdoor areas for legitimate and necessary purposes after dark;
- b. Minimization of light pollution, which has a detrimental effect on the environment, astronomical research, amateur astronomy, and general enjoyment of the night sky;
- c. Elimination of unnecessary and/or unwanted illumination of adjacent and distant properties;
- d. Conservation of electrical energy-generating resources; and
- e. Protection of vehicular and pedestrian traffic from dangerous glare.

7.8.2 LIGHTING-RELATED DEFINITIONS:

- a. Automatic Timing Device: A device which automatically turns outdoor light fixtures and/or circuits on and off. Photo-electric controls and motion detectors are not considered automatic timing devices for the purposes of this Ordinance.
- b. Cut-off Shielding: A technique or method of construction which causes light emitted from an outdoor light fixture to be projected only below an imaginary horizontal plane passing through the fixture below the light source.
- c. Light Pollution: Artificial light which causes a detrimental effect on the environment, astronomical observation, enjoyment of the naturally-illuminated night sky or causes undesirable glare or unnecessary and/or unwanted illumination of adjacent or even distant properties.
- d. Light Source: The bulb or other element in an outdoor light fixture which emits light.
- e. Motion Detector: A device triggered by motion and used to energize light source(s).
- f. Outdoor Light Fixture: An illuminating device which is permanently installed outdoors, including but not limited to devices used to illuminate signs.

- g.** Security Lighting: Such outdoor light fixtures and/or practices intended to discourage intrusion on the premises by unwanted persons.
- h.** Shielding: In general, a permanently-installed, non-translucent shade, cowl, hood, baffle, or other construction which limits, restricts, or directs light or the visibility of a light source to meet the standards of this Article.
- i.** Yard Lighting: Such outdoor light fixtures and/or practices intended for the convenience, enjoyment, and safety of a property owner or tenant or guest.

7.8.3 OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS:

- a.** Business Zoning Districts and Land Uses: All outdoor light fixtures and lighting practices shall conform with either Item (a) or (b) following, and with all of the remaining items in this Section:
 1. All outdoor light fixtures EXCEPT gas lighting; glass tubes filled with Neon, Argon, or Krypton; and/or small decorative fixtures such as porch lights shall have cut-off shielding that:
 - a) Prevents light sources from being visible beyond the boundaries of the property on which they are installed;
 - b) Prevent lights rays from being directed above an imaginary horizontal plane passing through the fixture below the light source; and
 - c) Protects vehicular and pedestrian traffic from unnecessary and/or dangerous glare from the intense light of directly visible light sources.
 2. Outdoor light fixtures shall be selected and installed to conserve electrical energy by:
 - a) Using fixtures with good optical control to distribute light in the most efficient manner
 - b) Using the minimum amount of light to meet the lighting criteria set forth by the Illuminating Engineers Society of North America (IESNA) for safety and visibility relevant to the land use where the lighting is installed.
 - c) Using sodium light sources where required by this Ordinance and wherever else feasible.
 - d) Energizing light fixtures only when necessary in relation to the land use where the lighting is installed by means of automatic timing devices and/or through the use of motion detection devices on security lighting.
 - e) Acme Township can require light fixtures that are neither integral to the use nor necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare be turned off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise.
 3. Sodium light sources shall be used for street lighting, parking lot lighting and for security lighting when such security lighting is not to be energized by motion detection devices.

4. All outdoor recreational facilities (including but not limited to tennis courts; baseball, football, soccer, and softball fields; ski runs and trails; and golf courses and driving ranges) shall be illuminated with fixtures equipped with cut-off shielding as needed to direct and restrict light to the playing surface, playing air space, and immediately surrounding areas, and to eliminate glare in the night sky and unnecessarily reflected light on adjacent or distant properties.
5. Floodlights shall be directed downward and shielded so that the light source is not visible from roadways or adjacent properties, and shall be located and directed so that light is not unnecessarily reflected onto adjacent properties or into the night sky.
6. In addition to fixture design and shielding, architectural and landscape design features may be incorporated into an outdoor lighting plan in order to comply with the intent and requirements of this Ordinance.
7. The following lighting types and/or practices are **PROHIBITED** as being contrary to the expressed intent of this Ordinance:
 - a) Searchlights, lasers, or other high-intensity lights designed or used primarily to light the sky for advertising or entertainment purposes.
 - b) Broad-spectrum lighting, such as quartz and mercury vapor lighting, due to the broad spectrum of visible light these light sources emit and because of the diffusive and reflective characteristics of such light.
8. The following **LIMITATIONS** apply to outdoor lighting in order to uphold the intent and requirements of this Ordinance:
 - a) Advertising Signs:
 - i. Illuminated advertising signs must be turned off no more than one hour after the close of business and may be turned on no earlier than one hour before the opening of business except by special permission granted as a condition of site plan approval.
 - ii. All fixtures or circuits illuminating advertising signs shall be equipped with automatic timing devices.
 - iii. External illumination shall:
 - a. Be mounted at the top of the sign or sign structure
 - b. Employ cut-off shielding as required to direct the light onto the sign and/or sign structure face only and to shield the light

source from the view of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and adjacent properties.

- iv. Internally illuminated signs shall have a dark background with lighter-colored translucent (NOT transparent) lettering, logos, and/or designs.
 - v. No sign shall incorporate flashing or moving lights and all signs shall comply with the requirements of Section 7.4 of this Ordinance.
- b) Off-Street Parking Areas:
- i. Off-street parking areas shall be illuminated only when in use during regular business hours, for a brief period of time after regular business hours until all members of the public and employees have left the premises, and for a brief period of time before regular business hours when employees are arriving at the premises.
 - ii. If entrance and traffic marker lights along access roads and drives, in parking lots, and/or along pedestrian ways are approved as part of a site plan, they shall be of a sodium type and equipped with cut-off shielding that prevents the light source from being visible to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- c) Security lighting may be approved as part of a site plan, and if approved shall be directed away and/or shielded from view by vehicular and pedestrian traffic and adjacent properties.
- d) Outdoor Display Areas and Architectural Lighting:
- i. Building facades may be lit from the top in a downward direction; employing lighting fixtures with cut-off shielding and any additional shielding that may be required to hide the light source from view by vehicular and pedestrian traffic and adjacent properties.
 - ii. If an outdoor display area, including but not limited to automobile or equipment dealer displays or storage lots, is approved as part of a site plan, such area may be illuminated until 11:00 p.m.
 - iii. Metal halide lighting may be used as a minor portion of a lighting plan if it will reduce disability glare. Such fixtures shall be equipped with full cut-off shielding and project the minimum amount of light necessary for good visibility.

b. Residential Zoning Districts; and Residential and Recreational Land Uses:

1. All outdoor light fixtures shall have cut-off shielding such that no light is emitted above an imaginary horizontal plane passing through the fixture below the light source regardless of type or wattage
SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:
 - a) Gas lighting;
 - b) Glass tubes filled with Neon, Argon or Krypton; and
 - c) Small decorative fixtures such as residential porch lights.
2. Broad-Spectrum lighting, such as quartz and mercury vapor lighting, is PROHIBITED due to the broad spectrum of visible light these light sources emit and because of the diffusive and reflective characteristics of such light.
3. The following LIMITATIONS apply to residential outdoor lighting in order to uphold the intent and requirements of this Ordinance:
 - a) Residential security lighting shall be energized by motion detectors unless otherwise permitted as a condition of site plan or land use permit approval. Security lighting shall be shielded from view by vehicular traffic and adjacent properties.
 - b) Residential yard light fixtures shall employ a sodium light source with full cut-off shielding.

7.8.4 APPROVED MATERIALS:

The provisions of this Ordinance are not intended to prevent the use of any design, material or method of installation that meets the spirit and intent of this Ordinance, even if not specifically prescribed by this Ordinance, provided that such alternative has been approved by the Planning Commission and meets or exceeds Illuminating Engineers Society of North America (IESNA) standards at the time of proposal.

7.8.5 EXEMPTIONS:

The following uses and activities shall be EXEMPT from the Outdoor Lighting Standards of this Ordinance:

- a. Emergency Equipment
- b. Holiday decorations, PROVIDED that decorative exterior lighting shall not include searchlights, floodlights, stroboscopic lights, or lights which create glare or distractions that pose a potential danger to vehicular or pedestrian traffic or unnecessary and unwanted glare in the night sky;
- c. All outdoor light fixtures producing light directly from the combustion of fossil fuels such as kerosene lanterns or gas lamps.

- d. Voluntary compliance with the intent of this Ordinance by any use or facility exempt from its requirements is encouraged.

7.8.6 CONFLICTS:

Where any provision of the statutes, codes or laws of the United States of America, the State of Michigan and/or the County of Grand Traverse conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance, the most restrictive provisions shall apply unless otherwise required by law.

7.9. REVIEW OF BUILDING DESIGN NEAR PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND SITES:

The design of proposed non-residential buildings within 500 feet of the nearest property line of public parks, scenic areas, and the premises on which are located historic buildings and civic buildings, such as township office buildings, schools, libraries, community center, hospital, or cemetery shall first be approved by the Planning Commission before a building permit can be issued. The purpose of this requirement is to prevent the occurrence of inappropriate structural appearance of building designs intended to attract attention of potential customers and patrons in proximity to improvements in which the public has invested tax monies.

7.10. APPLICATION:

All land uses in all Zoning Districts shall be subject to all of the applicable provisions in this Article VII.