

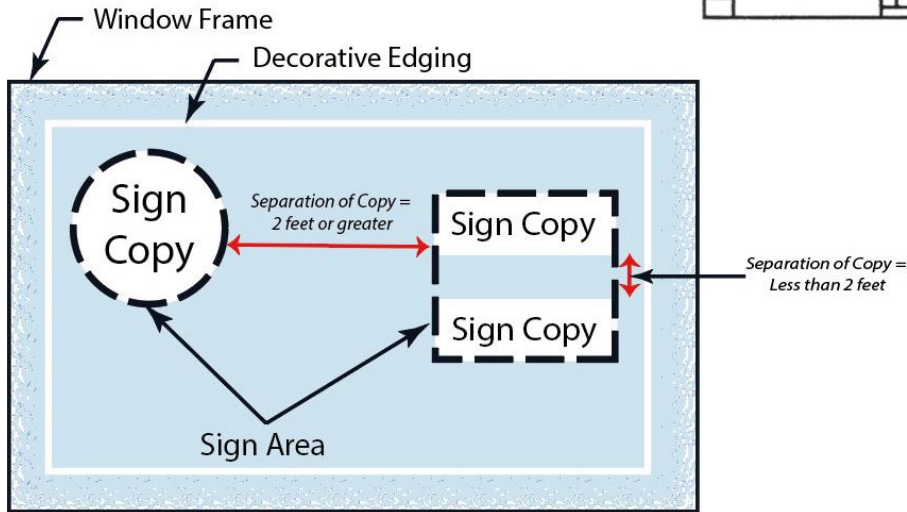
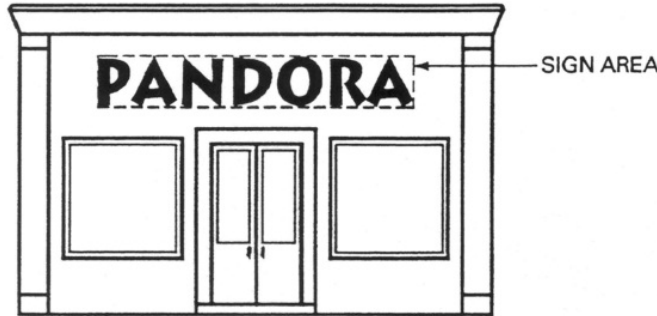
## Window Signs

Window signs can be used as either a permanent sign or a temporary sign. For permanent window signs in nonresidential zoning districts, up to 33% of any window area may be covered by window signs without a permit. This also include window peels that are attached to windows through temporary adhesives.

## Key Measurements

When measuring signs, the sign area includes any sign structure containing sign copy (e.g., text, logos, etc.), any area that creates a distinctive background, or the area that surrounds individual elements. Such measurement is made using the area of a polygon that could be a circle, ellipse, triangle, square, rectangle, trapezoid, pentagon or hexagon.

When multiple pieces of sign copy are located within two feet of each other, then all the pieces are considered together as part of one sign area.



## Sign Code

### Summary of Regulations Governing Permanent Signs

[www.North-Olmsted.com](http://www.North-Olmsted.com)  
(440) 777-8000

Effective December 18, 2020

## Chapter 1163 - Signs

The City of North Olmsted maintains zoning regulations related to the use and installation of signage across the community. In 2020, City Council adopted amendments to those regulations to modernize these rules and clarify the requirements.

This brochure is intended to summarize and provide guidance on these sign regulations but is not a substitute for the legal standards contained in the zoning code. Please see Chapter 1163 of the North Olmsted Codified Ordinances for the complete set of standards.

### Permanent Signs

The code establishes standards for both permanent and temporary signs. A permanent sign is "a sign permitted by this code to be located on the premises for an unlimited period of time and designed to be permanently attached to a structure or the ground." These can be:

- Ground Signs
- Building Signs
- Drive-Through Facility Signs
- Driveway Signs
- Window Signs

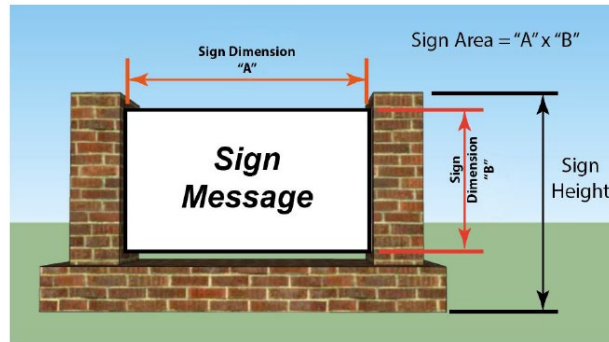
Drive-through facility signs and driveway signs are new sign types created to meet the needs of businesses with drive through operations.

Almost all types of permanent signs require a sign permit unless otherwise stated in the zoning code.

## Ground Signs

Ground signs are freestanding permanent signs meaning they stand alone, typically in the front yard, and are not attached to another structure. These signs traditionally advertise the businesses or activities that take place on the premises.

- The maximum sign area for ground signs is 65 square feet if the sign does not exceed 8 feet in height or a maximum of 50 square feet if the sign does not exceed 12 feet in height.
- Pole signs are prohibited.



### Electronic Message Centers (EMCs)

The code allows for up to 50% of a ground sign to be comprised of an EMC. Such signs are subject to special regulations including:

- The message changes must be static, instant changes (i.e., no video, scrolling or other motion).
- The message may change four times per day.
- The EMC may only consist of one color of light lettering/symbols on a black or dark background.
- EMCs are prohibited in historic districts.

## Building Signs

Building signs are various types of permanent signs that are attached to a building and include wall signs, canopy signs and projecting signs. Updated regulations provide the business or building owner the flexibility to decide what type and what number of building signs to use provided the total sign area of all building signs does not exceed the total allowable sign area.

The general standard is that one square foot of building sign area is allowed per one lineal foot of primary façade width. For multi-tenant buildings, this ratio applies to the individual building unit or tenant space. For buildings that have a secondary façade as defined in the regulations, additional signage up to 40% of the sign area calculated based on the secondary façade width is allowed.



Projecting Sign

Awning Sign



Wall Sign