

Temporary Sign Allowance

The table below is an excerpt of Chapter 1163 and summarizes the type, size, height, time limit and permit requirements for temporary signs across the City. For the majority of signs, permits are not required, but all temporary signs must still comply with the temporary sign standards, regardless if a permit is required. Failure to comply with the standards is a violation of the zoning code.

Table 1163.13-1: Temporary Sign Allowances

Message	Non-Commercial Message	Commercial Message			
		Residential Districts ¹	Nonresidential Districts	Nonresidential Districts	Nonresidential Districts (New Use) ²
Zoning	All Districts	Residential Districts ¹	Nonresidential Districts	Nonresidential Districts	Nonresidential Districts (New Use) ²
Time Limit	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	30 days, twice per year	60 days
Maximum Number or Area per Lot	Unlimited	2 signs	12 sq. ft. per each 100 lineal feet of frontage	64 sq. ft.	Equal to number of existing permanent signs
Maximum Area per Sign	32 sq. ft.	8 sq. ft.	12 sq. ft.	64 sq. ft.	Equal to area of permanent sign to be covered
Maximum Height	4 ft.	4 ft.	6 ft.	6 ft.	Equal to height of existing sign to be covered
Permitted Types	Yard, Window	Yard, Window	Yard, Banner	Yard, Banner, Vehicle ³	Banner
Permit Required	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

Note 1: Any conditionally permitted use located in a residential zoning district shall be permitted the same amount of temporary signs with a commercial message as allowed in nonresidential zoning districts.

Note 2: Regulations applicable to the establishment of a new use within an existing building where there is existing permanent sign to be covered by a temporary sign.

Note 3: Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 1163.06.Q, temporary signs may be permitted on vehicles (not trailers) that are operable, display current plates and registration and are parked in paved parking areas in a manner not obstructing traffic circulation.



Sign Code

Summary of Regulations Governing Temporary Signs

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.

Temporary Signs

The City established standards for both permanent signs and temporary signs. A temporary sign is “a sign that is neither permanently anchored to the ground, nor permanently affixed to a structure, nor mounted on a chassis and/or is intended for a limited period of display.” In North Olmsted, temporary signs can include:

- Banner Signs
- Yard Signs
- Window Signs
- Vehicle Signs

The table on the opposite side of this brochure identifies the basic standards for all temporary signs based whether there is a commercial or noncommercial message and also on the timing of sign placement.

Commercial/Noncommercial Message

These sign regulations are written so as to not infringe on a person’s First Amendment/Free Speech rights. For that reason, the City has established standards for temporary signs with commercial speech and signs with non-commercial speech. The rules for each type are identified in the table on the opposite side of this brochure.

- A **commercial message** is “any sign, wording, logo or other representation that, directly or indirectly, names, advertises or calls attention to a business, product, service or other commercial activity.” This includes event signs, real estate signs, contractor signs, hiring signs, etc.
- A **noncommercial message** is any message that does not contain a commercial message that includes free speech opinions, ideological messages, religious messages, political messages, etc.

Prohibited Signs

Only temporary yard, banner, window and vehicle signs are permitted in North Olmsted. All other types of temporary signs are prohibited including the examples below.



Window Signs

Window signs can be used as either a permanent sign or a temporary sign. 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. Below is an image that illustrates what is considered a window area.



In residential districts, temporary signs may be placed in the yard or in a window. In such cases, the window signs count toward the maximum sign area allowed on any given lot.

