

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
REGULATING UNLAWFUL SIGNS AND  
BILLBOARDS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS  
OF MARTHASVILLE, MISSOURI

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF  
MARTHASVILLE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. **PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the general health and welfare of the citizens of and the visitors to the City of Marthasville, Missouri, while at the same time respecting and recognizing the rights and legitimate business interest of the residents and businesses located in and or advertising within the corporate limits of the City of Marthasville, Missouri.

SECTION II. **PERMITS.**

**Permit Procedure:** All billboards shall require a permit prior to being constructed, reconstructed, moved, altered, placed or repaired. Billboard permits shall be issued by the Board of Aldermen.

**Permit Application:** All applications for permits for the erection or relocation of a sign or billboard shall be submitted to the Board of Aldermen and shall contain or have attached at a minimum the following information in either written or graphic form:

1. Application date.
2. Name, address, and telephone number of the sign or billboard owner and, if different, the owner of the land on which the billboard will be erected.
3. Address of the property where the sign or billboard structure will be erected.
4. Location of the sign or billboard on the property in relation to public rights of way, flood plains or flood ways, lot lines, buildings, sidewalks, streets, zoning districts, other existing billboards, and intersections.
5. Drawing(s) of the proposed sign or billboard which shall contain specifications indicating height, perimeter, and area dimensions, means of support, methods of illumination if any, and any other significant aspect of the proposed billboard.
6. A boundary and sign survey showing the property and the proposed sign.

**Permit Fees:** Each application for a billboard permit shall be accompanied by the applicable fees, which shall be established by the governing body of the municipality from time to time.

### SECTION III. UNLAWFUL SIGNS.

1. No sign shall be erected in such a manner that it will, or reasonably may be expected to interfere with, obstruct, confuse, distract, or mislead traffic, or be considered obscene or a nuisance to the general public. City signs used for public or traffic safety are exempt.
2. No commercial sign shall be larger than two hundred forty (240) square feet in area or exceed thirty (30) feet in height, that bears the symbol, trademark or the name of the business. *AT THAT LOCATION.*
3. No commercial sign shall be erected within one hundred (100) feet of any on-premises or freestanding sign.
4. No freestanding, on-premise commercial sign, including the supporting structures, shall be allowed to remain on the property more than six (6) months after the business or uses advertised on the sign have been discontinued.
5. No sign shall be erected or maintained in a location or in such a manner that any portion of the sign will be within twenty-five (25) feet, measured either horizontally, vertically, or at any intermediate angle, of any electric power line wire carrying a voltage in excess of two hundred forty (240) volts, nor shall any sign be within twenty-five (25) feet of a vertical line extended upward from such an electric power line wire.
6. No billboards shall be ~~be~~ allowed, except as provided in SECTION V hereof.
7. No commercial flags shall be allowed except that a business may display one flag no larger than forty (40) square feet, which bears the symbol, trademark or name of the business. No further advertising shall be permitted on such flag.
8. No sign, permanent or temporary shall be affixed to utility or telephone poles, light standards or other similar fixtures.
9. Signs found to be in violation of the requirements of this Ordinance, or that are determined to be a danger to public health and safety may, after fifteen (15) days of an inspection determining said violation, and after notification to the property owner of said violation, be dismantled and removed by the City of Marthasville, Missouri at the owner's expense.

### SECTION IV.

#### PERMITTED SIGNS – RESIDENTIAL

1. Bulletin Board signs not exceeding twenty (20) square feet in area when erected upon the premises of a school, church, library or other permitted institution for the purpose of displaying the name, activities or services therein.
2. Holiday decoration signs.

3. Private sale signs that do not exceed six (6) square feet in area. Said signs shall be removed not later than seven (7) days after the erection of the sign.
4. Real estate signs not exceeding six (6) square feet in area.
5. Construction signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
6. Subdivision signs displaying the name of the property or subdivision not exceeding more than thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
7. Political signs except that said sign shall not be displayed more than sixty (60) days prior to or fourteen (14) days after an election.

**PERMITTED SIGNS – COMMERCIAL**

1. Awning or canopy style signs when permanently attached to the building or structure. The sign will have a minimum clearance of eight (8) feet above the sidewalk or public property.
2. Bulletin board signs not exceeding twenty (20) square feet in area when erected upon the premises of a school, church, library or other permitted institution for the purpose of displaying the name, activities or services therein.
3. Freestanding marquee style commercial center signs pertaining to a planned shopping center, commercial or professional building, not exceeding two hundred forty (240) square feet in area or twenty-four (24) feet in height and set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from any city street, state highway or county road right-of-way, that bears the symbol, trademark or the name of the business.
4. Pole signs not exceeding fifty (50) square feet in area or thirty (30) feet in height and set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from any city street, state highway or county road right-of-way that bears the symbol, trademark or the name of the business. *LOCATION*
5. Construction signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet in area.

**SECTION V. BILLBOARDS.**

Billboard shall be allowed within sixty (60) feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any state highway, city street or county road within the city limits and are subject to the following regulations:

1. Billboards shall be oriented toward traffic on the same highway, city street or county road.
2. No billboard along any state highway, city street or county road within the city limits shall be erected closer than four thousand (4,000) feet from another billboard.

3. No billboard shall be erected closer than five hundred (500) feet from any wet land, 500 year flood plain or flood way.
4. No billboard shall be erected closer than two thousand (2,000) feet from any residential structure.
5. No billboard shall be erected closer than five hundred (500) feet from any church, school or park.
6. No billboard shall be erected closer than two thousand (2,000) feet from any historical site or historical district so designated by the federal, state or city government.
7. No billboard shall be erected closer than one hundred (100) feet from any on-premise freestanding sign.
8. No billboard shall be erected within five hundred (500) feet of an interchange or intersection at grade. Such five hundred (500) feet shall be measured from the beginning or ending of the pavement widening at the exit from or the entrance to the main traveled way.
9. The maximum height of a billboard along any state highway, city street or county road within the city limits shall be thirty (30) feet.
10. The maximum surface area of a billboard along any state highway or county road shall be two hundred eighty-eight (288) square feet. The maximum surface area of a billboard shall along any city street shall be one hundred (100) square feet.
11. Billboards shall have only one sign surface area except that billboards may have two (2) sign surface areas if surface areas are oriented in opposite directions. No V-shaped billboard shall be allowed.
12. External lighting of billboards, such as floodlights, thin line and gooseneck reflectors are permitted, provided the light source is directed upon the face of the sign and is effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed toward any residential structure, or into any portion of the main traveled way of the state highway, city street or county road and the lights are not of such intensity or as to interfere with the residential use of property or to cause glare, impair the vision of the driver of a motor vehicle or otherwise interfere with a driver's operation of a motor vehicle.
13. No billboard shall have wind-actuated elements or any material which glistens or sparkles.

14. No billboard shall be erected closer than five hundred (500) feet from any city access easement.
15. Any billboard constructed prior to passage of this Ordinance shall be grandfathered until altered or changed.
16. Any and all city license fees shall be paid on an annual basis.

SECTION VI. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION VII. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after the passage and approval thereof.

READ TWO TIMES AND PASSED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Marthasville, Missouri, this 13th day of May, 2008.

  
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President of the Board of Aldermen

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR of the City of Marthasville, Missouri, this 13th day of May, 2008.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk