

**CITY OF ST. MARYS
ELK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE # 261

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ST. MARYS,
CHAPTER 27, PART 1, SECTION 112, DEFINITIONS; CHAPTER 27, PART 3,
SECTION 315, OUTDOOR SIGNS; AND CHAPTER 27, ATTACHMENTS 1-1
THROUGH 2-3**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of St. Marys desires to amend the Zoning Ordinance found at Chapter 27 of the City Code regarding outdoor signs; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Marys desires to provide for the safety of its residents and continuity of its zoning plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Council of the City of St. Marys, Elk County, Pennsylvania, and

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the authority of the same as follows:

1) The definitions section of the zoning ordinance found at Chapter 27, Part 1, Section 112, Sub-section 3 shall be amended to include the following definitions:

OFF-PREMISE ADVERTISING SIGN - a sign containing information or contents other than the name or insignia of the business or activity and a directional arrow or marking thereto which is placed or located on premises other than the property upon which an activity advertised is conducted and which includes any visual communication that is used to bring the subject of a business or activity to the attention of the public .

OFF-PREMISE DIRECTIONAL SIGN - a sign which contains only the name or insignia of the business and a directional arrow or geographical indication to said business or activity which is placed or located on premises other than the property upon which the activity or business is conducted.

BOULEVARD SIGN - any sign which is placed on the property commonly known as the "Boulevard" and more specifically described as the median area between the north bound and south bound lanes of South St. Marys Street from its intersection with Railroad Street to and including its intersection with State Street. Any permit for such a sign shall be subject to all state laws and regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

SPONSORSHIP SIGN - any sign or part thereof which indicates or recognizes a business or other entity which donated time, money, materials or services to the City, its various departments, any governmental entity or department thereof, or a non-profit organization for erection of the sign or for the service or activity for which the sign is erected.

2) Chapter 27, Part 3, Section 315, Sub-section R shall be amended to read as follows:

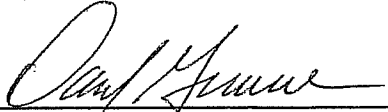
Except in the cases of billboards, as regulated by Section 315.2, and off-premise advertising signs, off-premise directional signs, sponsorship signs, and multi business signs, as regulated by Section 315.2 and this Sub-section, only those signs referring directly to materials or products made, sold or displayed on the premises, to services offered on the premises, and/or to activities conducted on the premises, shall be permitted. Off-premise advertising signs, off-premise directional signs, and sponsorship signs shall all be included in the aggregate square footage allowed per premises as provided for herein. Where there is more than one business located on the premises, the maximum sign area permitted is 200 square feet per premises, not per business, but in any ratio.

3) In Chapter 27, Part 3, Section 315, Subsection 1, Paragraph L, the word "loud" shall be replaced with the word "lewd".

4) The attachment tables for the zoning ordinance in regard to signs, found at Chapter 27, Section 315, Subsection 2, Attachments 1-1 through 2-3 are amended in accordance with the attached tables. The remaining Attachment tables and all other provisions of Chapter 27 shall remain in full force and effect.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of St. Marys, Elk County, Pennsylvania on the 18th day of October, 2010.

ATTEST:


Secretary

CITY OF ST. MARYS

By: 
Mayor

PERMANENT SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sign Type	Maximum Permitted Number	Maximum Permitted Sign Area	Maximum Height/and Minimum Required Setback from Nearest Property Line for Freestanding Signs	Maximum Height of Flat Wall Signs	Maximum Height of Wall/Roof Projecting Signs	Maximum Projection from Wall/Roof for Projecting Signs	Permitted Zones	Other Requirements	Permit Required
Residential development/Neighborhood signs. Such signs shall only list the name of the neighborhood/development and shall <u>not</u> list any names of contractors, realtors, or both	1 per street entrance, but no more than 2 total	1 square foot per dwelling, not to exceed 32 square feet per sign	10 feet/height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	6 feet, but no closer than 10 feet from any lot line	RC, RS, RU, RF & MI	The applicant shall submit a written description of the maintenance responsibilities in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor	Yes
Business signs identifying the name and type of business, any trade-mark of the business conducted on the premise, or any combination thereof, including off-premise advertising signs and off-premise directional signs. This does not include businesses contained within planned centers, as defined herein.	Unlimited	200 square feet per sign aggregate of all sign area on the premises not including one (1) individual flat wall business sign as allowed below	20 feet/height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	6 feet, but no closer than 10 feet from any side or rear lot line and not over a public right-of-way. Such signs shall provide a minimum of 10 feet clearance from the sidewalk to the bottom of the sign	All	No flat wall signs, nor wall projecting sign shall be larger than 15% of the wall area to which the sign is attached. 200 sq. feet aggregate includes all off-premise signs, if any	Yes
Flat wall business signs identifying only the name and trade-mark of the business conducted on the premises, or any combination thereof. This does not include businesses contained within planned centers, as defined herein.	1 per premises	15% of the wall area to which it is attached	Not permitted	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	N/A	All	No flat wall signs shall be larger than 15% of the wall area to which the sign is attached	Yes
On-site directional, entrance, exit, rest room, and other informational signs	4 per lot frontage	2 square feet per sign	10 feet/height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	2 feet	All		No
Billboards									
Shopping center signs									Yes

See Section 412 of this Article.

See following tables within this section.

PERMANENT SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sign Type	Maximum Permitted Number	Maximum Permitted Sign Area	Maximum Height/and Minimum Required Setback from Nearest Property Line for Freestanding Signs	Maximum Height of Flat Wall Signs	Maximum Height of Wall/Roof Projecting Signs	Maximum Projection from Wall/Roof for Wall/Roof Projecting Signs	Permitted Zones	Other Requirements	Permit Required
Signs identifying public and semi-public uses (e.g. schools, churches, utilities, hospitals, libraries, parks, fire stations, post offices, and other similar uses)	1 per lot frontage not to exceed 2 per principal use	64 square feet	20 feet/12 feet	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	10 feet but no closer than 10 feet from any lot line	All		Yes
Residential nameplates identifying name of home, its occupant, or both, not including name listing on mailbox.	1 per dwelling unit	2 square feet	10 feet/height of sign	10 feet	10 feet	6 inches	All		No
Property control signs (e.g., "No Trespassing", "Private Property", "No Hunting or Fishing", "Posted", "Private Drive", or similar type signs).	1 per 25 lineal feet of property line	4 square feet per sign	5 feet/height of sign	Height of wall in which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	6 inches	All	Spacing at no less than 25 foot intervals	No
Community activity signs for the display by a business of a sign that lists events that are taking place within the community as a public service	1	32 square feet	10 feet/height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached	15 feet	CB		Yes

PERMANENT SIGN REQUIREMENTS

<p>Signs owned and associated with uses operated by the City, its departments, municipal authorities, or organizations using city facilities by permission. Official Traffic signs.</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>Unlimited</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Except organizations using City property then permit is required with no permit fee.</p>
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TEMPORARY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sign Type	Maximum Permitted Number	Maximum Permitted Sign Area	Maximum Height/and Minimum Required Setback from Nearest Property Line for Freestanding Signs	Maximum Height of Flat Wall Signs	Maximum Height of Wall Projecting Signs	Maximum Projection from Wall for Wall Projecting Signs	Permitted Zones	Other Requirements	Permit Required
Temporary signs of contractors, architects, mechanics, landscapers, and artisans, displayed only while actual on-site work is in progress	1 per firm whose work is in progress	12 square feet	5 feet/ height of sign	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	Should a sign be left on-site beyond allowable time period, the City may impound it and recover a fee from owner equal to cost of impoundment and storage. All such signs shall be removed within 5 days of final sales transaction or upon rental occupancy, or be subject to City impoundment and a recover fee.	No
Real estate sale, sold, or rent signs when placed upon the property (unit) to be rented or sold, containing a residential use.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 2 signs	12 square feet per sign	5 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	Same as above.	No
Real estate sale, sold, or rent signs when placed upon the property (unit) to be rented or sold, containing a nonresidential use.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 3 signs	32 square feet per sign	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	Same as above.	No
Proposed development signs for residential use.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 2 signs	1 square foot per unit of occupancy, not to exceed 32 square feet	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All but only after final plan is approved.	Such signs shall be removed upon completion of construction of final unit.	Yes

TEMPORARY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sign Type	Maximum Permitted Number	Maximum Permitted Sign Area	Maximum Height/and Minimum Required Setback from Nearest Property Line for Freestanding Signs	Maximum Height of Flat Wall Signs	Maximum Height of Wall/Roof Projecting Signs	Maximum Projection from Wall/Roof Projecting Signs	Permitted Zones	Other Requirements	Permit Required
Proposed development signs for commercial uses, industrial uses, other non-residential uses, or any combination thereof.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 2 signs	1 square foot per 1,000 square feet of gross floor area, not to exceed 64 square feet	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	CB, HC, MI, LI & I, but only after final plan approval	All such signs shall be removed upon completion of building construction.	Yes
Special event signs for businesses (e.g., grand openings, change of use or ownership, closeout sale, clearance sale, holiday sale, etc.)	1 per business per event, provided that only one sign per property at a time is permitted.	32 square feet	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	CB, HC, MI, LI & I	Such signs may only be used during four (4) non-consecutive 90 day periods per calendar year, not exceeding 360 days total.	Yes
Roadside stand signs for the sale of agricultural products upon a principal farm property.	2 per roadside stand	10 square feet	5 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached, not exceeding 15 feet	Height of wall to which sign is attached, not exceeding 15 feet	15 feet	All	Roadside stand signs shall only be displayed during seasons when products are for sale.	No
Garage/yard sale signs upon properties conducting such sales.	1 per lot	4 square feet per sign	5 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	See Section 301.8 for additional requirements.	No
Political signs	Unlimited	12 square feet	5 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All Except not permitted on Boulevard	Such signs may only be displayed between 30 days prior to and 5 days after an election.	No
Off-premise open house real estate and public auction signs	2	10 square feet per sign	5 feet/ height of sign	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	Signs may only be erected no more than 24 hours prior to and 2 hours after such open house. No sign is permitted within street right-of-way. No more than one sign per street intersection.	No

TEMPORARY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sign Type	Maximum Permitted Number	Maximum Permitted Sign Area	Maximum Height/and Minimum Required Setback from Nearest Property Line for Freestanding Signs	Maximum Height of Flat Wall Signs	Maximum Height of Wall Projecting Signs	Maximum Projection from Wall for Wall Projecting Signs	Permitted Zones	Other Requirements	Permit Required
Boulevard Signs	1 per non-profit or governmental or charitable entity at any given time	16 square feet	4 feet/ height of sign (Setback from any sidewalk or roadway)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Boulevard area as defined herein	No political signs. Only non-profit, charitable, community events signs permitted. Max time for placement is 2 consecutive weeks. Must be removed within 36 hours of end of event. Should a sign be left on-site beyond allowable time period, the City may impound it, charge a recovery fee of \$50 and deny any application for permit from same entity for one (1) year.	Yes, but no fee for permit
Auctioneer signs for a residential property when placed upon the property at which an auction is to take place.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 2 signs	12 square feet per sign	5 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	All such signs shall be removed within 5 days of final sales transaction or upon rental occupancy, or be subject to impoundment and a recovery fee.	Yes
Auctioneer signs for a non-residential property when placed upon the property at which an auction is to take place.	1 per street frontage, maximum of 3 signs	32 square feet per sign	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	All	Same as above.	Yes

TEMPORARY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sponsorship Signs	Unlimited	Unlimited	10 feet/ height of sign	Height of wall to which sign is attached	Height of wall to which sign is attached.	6 feet, but no closer than 10 feet from any side or rear lot line and not over a public right-of-way. Such signs shall provide a minimum of 10 feet from the sidewalk to the bottom of the sign.	All but only after plan is approved.	Signage plan subject to the review and approval of Planning Commission	Yes, but no permit fee charged
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