



## City of Helena

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### Helena Community Development Department

316 North Park Avenue

Helena, MT 59623

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### RE: Sign Regulations

While recognizing the desire for the limited use of signs in residential areas, especially political campaign signs, the Helena City Commission has balanced the beauty and aesthetic quality of these residential neighborhoods with the right of citizens to exercise free speech under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Therefore, in residential zoning districts, each lot may have the following signs:

1. One (1) unlighted sign that is no more than six feet (6') in height and six (6) square feet or less in sign area; and

2. Per Section 11-23-9 (C.8) of City Code an unlimited number of noncommercial signs, such as political campaign signs or signs for civic events, that are not more than five (5) square feet in sign area, not more than thirty inches (30") in height, and removed within five (5) days after the conclusion of the event to which they relate.

In commercial and industrial zoning districts, a lot may have an unlimited number of noncommercial temporary signs that are less than five (5) square feet in sign area. Larger signs are restricted to the size and type applicable to each zoning district. For information on larger signs, please call either the Community Development Department (447-8448) or the City Attorney's Office (457-8595) for the particular regulations for each zoning district.

In addition, the Helena City Code provides other limitations on sign placement, including but not limited to:

Signs may not be located on City right-of-way, including boulevards or other City property (Section 11-23-9-B(4) of the Helena City Code);

Signs may not exceed thirty inches (30") in height if located within the sight distance triangle, which is the area formed by an imaginary diagonal line drawn from curb to curb from a point fifty feet (50') back along each curb from a street corner (Section 11-2-8-E and Section 11-23-9-B(3) of the Helena City Code); and

Signs may not be placed on trees, power poles, or on any other pole or post within the right-of-way (Section 11-23-9-B(4) of the Helena City Code).