



RESIDENTIAL SIGN RULES

This handout summarizes the Town of Tiburon's rules that apply to signs commonly associated with residential uses and is intended to assist residents in understanding and complying with the Town's sign regulations. Complete sign regulations are available on the Town's website at www.ci.tiburon.ca.us.

All Residential Uses. The following sign types apply to all residential uses, including single family, two family, and multi-family residential units, and are allowed without a permit subject to the stated rules.

Building and street address signs. These are typically street address numbers on dwellings. The sign rules are:

- (1) One (1) sign per building for each street frontage
- (2) Each sign shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area
- (3) New street address signs shall comply with the Tiburon Building Code requirements

Temporary construction signs. These on-site signs are typically displayed by a contractor while performing construction-related work on a residential property. The sign rules are:

- (1) Maximum of three (3) signs in number
- (2) Maximum sign area is six (6) square feet per sign
- (3) No illumination is permitted (other than ambient light)
- (4) Signs may be displayed through the duration of construction and shall be removed no later than ten (10) days following completion of construction

Temporary event signs. These signs are typically associated with garage sales or occasional special events such as wedding receptions. The rules are:

- (1) Maximum of four (4) signs in number (may be on-site or off-site)
- (2) Maximum sign area per sign is four (4) square feet
- (3) Maximum total area of all signs combined is eight (8) square feet
- (4) No illumination is permitted (other than ambient light)
- (5) Display times are on the day of the event only, from sunrise to sunset

Real Estate (For Sale) Signs. These signs fall into two categories, as follows:

(1) Temporary on-site real estate "for sale" signs, which are allowed without a permit subject to the following rules:

- (1) Limit one (1) sign per parcel
- (2) Maximum display face area is three (3) square feet
- (3) No illumination (other than ambient light) is permitted
- (4) Signs may be attached or freestanding
- (5) Display time for signs is limited to when the property is on the market and up to ten (10) calendar days thereafter

NOTE: Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 713, real estate signs may include the following information: (1) That the property is for sale, lease, or exchange by the owner or his or her agent; (2) Directions to the property; (3) The owner or agent's name; (4) The owner or agent's contact information.

(2) Temporary off-site real estate “open-house-type” signs, which are typically portable A-frame directional signs, are allowed to be displayed without a permit on Sundays between the hours 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and on Wednesdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., subject to the following rules:

- (1) Signs shall not be placed in the Downtown Tiburon commercial area
- (2) A maximum of three (3) signs per property for sale may be displayed
- (3) A maximum of three (3) square feet of sign area is allowed per sign
- (4) No illumination (other than ambient light) is permitted
- (5) Signs may be placed on private property with the permission of the property owner or legal occupant
- (6) Signs may be placed on the public right of way during these specified times, provided that no sign may be placed so as to obstruct pedestrians or vehicles or render any sidewalk or other pedestrian pathway impassible to persons using wheelchairs or walkers
- (7) No sign may be placed so as to cause damage or create safety hazards

Other Residential Signs

Nameplates, provided that no nameplate exceeds eighteen (18) inches in height

General free speech signs, not to exceed a total combined maximum of eight (8) square feet, are allowed on residential properties at any time without a permit subject to the following rules:

- (1) Non-commercial messages only are allowed
- (2) No illumination is permitted (other than ambient light)
- (3) May be attached or freestanding, except on apartments, where they must be attached
- (4) Maximum height of any freestanding sign is eleven (11) feet

Election Campaign signs (see separate Political and Election Sign handout for details)

Flags are allowed without a permit subject to the following rules:

- (1) No commercial images or messages allowed
- (2) Total display area of all flags (measured one side only) is sixty (60) square feet
- (3) No illumination permitted (other than ambient light)
- (4) One (1) freestanding flag pole allowed per single family or two-family property
- (5) Maximum height of freestanding flag pole is twenty-four (24) feet
- (6) Height of flag limited to no more that one-fourth (1/4) the height of the flag pole
- (7) Number of flags per pole is not limited
- (8) No freestanding flag poles are allowed on multi-family units

Neighborhood signs, which identify the neighborhood or development, may be located near any major street entrance to a neighborhood or housing development, subject to the following rules:

- (1) A Sign Permit is required from the Town (and possibly an encroachment permit as well)
- (2) Maximum height is five (5) feet
- (3) Maximum length is six (6) feet
- (4) Maximum area of display face is twelve (12) square feet
- (5) No illumination is permitted (except ambient light)
- (6) Sign copy must consist of only the name of the neighborhood or development