

Charter Township of Larkin
3027 N. Jefferson Road, Midland, MI 48642 (989) 835-6399

Application for Sign Permit

Permit # _____

Permit Fee: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Relationship of Applicant to property: _____

Owner of property if different from Applicant: _____

Address of property: _____

Tax Code of property (parcel number): _____

Dimensions of property: _____

Zoning Classification of property: (Check One)

_____ Zone I (Residential A)

_____ Zone II (Residential B)

_____ Zone III (Residential C)

_____ Zone IV (Residential D)

_____ Zone V (Agricultural)

_____ Zone VI (Professional Office and Service)

_____ Zone VII (Commercial A)

_____ Zone VIII (Commercial B)

_____ Zone IX (Industrial A)

_____ Zone X (Industrial B)

Use or activity to be conducted on property:

Site Plan or drawing of buildings or structures to be placed on property, including existing structures with property lines and set-backs. Next Page. Attach detailed drawing of sign itself following requirements of Article 15.14 of Larkin Township Zoning Ordinance, copy attached.

Fully Executed Zoning Permit Application goes to:

___ Applicant

___ Office Manager (original)

___ Supervisor

___ Township Code Authority

___ Zoning Administrator

___ Zoning Enforcement Officer

Date Sent & Initials of Sender: _____

Signs shall be permitted in accordance with the provisions and regulations of Article 15.14 of Zoning Ordinance 116.

15.14 Signs

1. Statement of Intent. It is the intent of this section to regulate the size and placement of signs. Regulations pertaining to the general use and licensing regulations for all signs shall be defined herein. Principal features of this section are: (1) the restriction of total sign area per site (2) the restriction of sign location to the site of the business or establishment permitted to erect and maintain a sign, and (3) a licensing and fee requirement for a sign permit.

2. General Provisions for Signs. All signs shall be subject to the following general provisions:

A. Off-premise advertising signs are permitted 50 feet within of the right-of-way lines of U.S.-10 Freeway and whose content is directed traffic on U.S.-10 Freeway. Except as so specified for off premise advertising signs, all other sign placement and advertising is specifically restricted to the premises occupied by the business or establishment licensed to erect and maintain a sign.

B. No sign may be erected or maintained which prevents the driver of a motor vehicle from having a clear and unobstructed view of official signs and approaching or merging traffic. All signs shall be placed outside of any State, County, Township or private road right-of-way.

C. No sign is permitted which is illuminated by any flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights. Illumination of signs is permitted only in commercial and industrial zoning districts. All illumination shall be effectively directed or shielded in such manner as to:

1. Prevent beams or rays of light from being directed into the line of vision of the operator of a motor vehicle on the main traveled way of the highway, or otherwise interfere with the driver's safe operation of a motor vehicle.

2. Be of such intensity or brightness to be considered a nuisance to residential properties contiguous to the commercial or industrial use employing the illuminated sign.

3. Any sign that includes electrical installations shall be approved by the Larkin Township Electrical Inspector.

D. No sign may be erected or maintained which moves or has any moving or animated parts.

E. No sign may be erected or maintained upon trees, utility poles or painted or drawn upon rocks or other natural features

F. All signs shall be erected and maintained in the exact location described in the permit.

G. No fee is required for official signs erected and maintained by governmental units, agencies or officers of such units.

H. Any wedge shaped sign with an apex angle of greater than thirty (30) degrees shall be considered two signs for the purpose of calculating total sign area.

I. Signs posting property for the prohibition of hunting or trespassing shall be considered temporary signs and shall be excluded from number, placement and time restrictions.

J. Signs of non-commercial nature and in the public interest, erected by, or on the order of a public safety officer in the performance of his public duty (such as safety signs, danger signs and traffic signs) are excluded from the jurisdiction of the ordinance.

K. Except, as set forth within 15.14.4.D.4, no sign shall project above the roof of any building.

L. A construction sign, announcing the construction of a building, but not including any advertisement of any product.

1. Signs announcing the purpose of the building under construction, during the construction period shall not exceed a maximum of sixteen (16) square feet.

2. Signs shall be confined to the construction site and shall be removed upon the occupancy of the intended use of the project.

M. The supporting structure may not be used to form any part of the sign proper.

3. Temporary Signs. The following temporary signs shall be permitted within the township and shall conform to all general provisions and pertinent placement regulations for the zoning district in which they are located.

A. One real estate sign, advertising the sale, rental or lease of the premises on which the sign is displayed, up to a total of eight (8) square feet. Such signs shall be removed within fourteen (14) days of the sale, rental or lease of said premises.

B. Political campaign signs announcing candidates seeking public political office.

C. Seasonal produce. One sign per household, per calendar year, advertising the sale of produce grown on the premise shall be permitted.

4. General Provisions by Zoning District. The following sign regulations by zoning district apply to every zone in the Township. Only signs as described herein will be permitted in each particular zoning district.

A. Residential "A", "B", "C" and "D" and Professional Office and Service Zoning Districts.

1. All signs must be licensed pursuant to all the provisions outlined in accordance with this section. All signs shall be placed outside the road right-of-way and twelve (12) feet from any other property line. They must also meet the following, additional criteria:
 - a. Any public or semi-public building or institution may display an announcement or name sign. One (1) wall sign or one (1) ground sign shall be permitted. No sign shall be over twelve (12) square feet in area.
 - b. One sign, not over thirty-two (32) square feet in area, announcing the sale of lots or buildings in any one subdivision.
 - c. One wall sign is permitted on the premises of a legal non-conforming use, not over thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
 - d. One home occupation sign (as defined by this Ordinance) shall be allowed. This sign shall not be greater than four (4) square feet in area.
 - e. One entrance sign, identifying the name of a platted residential subdivision (not over thirty-two (32) square feet in area) is permitted.
 - f. Any Professional Office and Service and any legal non-conforming professional or semi-professional uses are permitted one wall or ground sign, not to exceed four (4) square feet in area. One directory sign of no more than four (4) square feet each is permitted per Professional Office and Service use within a multiple use establishment, but not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet total for the multiple uses.

B. Agricultural Zone District.

1. Signs shall be permitted as set forth in Section 15.15.4 subsection (I) Residential "A", "B", "C", and "D" Zoning Districts except a wall sign or ground sign, if located thirty (30) feet from all property lines and not over twelve (12) square feet in area, will be permitted for all uses specifically set forth in Article 9; Zone IV.

C. Commercial "A" and "B" and Industrial "A" and "B" Zoning Districts.

1. One (1) wall sign or one (1) ground sign per business establishment announcing the name and business transacted shall be permitted.
2. Ground signs or directory signs shall be located at least twelve (12) feet from all road right-of-ways and all property lines and shall provide for a clear vision area for vehicles entering or exiting the premises onto a road or street.

- a. One additional sign (pursuant to this subsection) shall be permitted at the entrance from a second road or street.
3. One directory sign, no more than four (4) square feet per business or establishment, is permitted for any platted commercial or industrial subdivision in which there are multiple use establishments.
4. One directory sign of no more than four (4) square feet per commercial establishment operating within a single building shall be permitted.

D. Sign size, height, and regulation of off-premise advertising signs. The total sign area for all ground, building and directory signs and the regulation of off-premise advertising signs shall be as follows:

1. Ground Signs: The maximum ground sign size shall be one square foot for each lineal foot of lot frontage upon a publicly dedicated road or street. Lots having less than 50 lineal feet of lot frontage shall have a maximum ground sign size of 50 square feet. In no event shall any ground sign exceed 125 square feet, regardless of lot frontage.
2. Wall Signs: The maximum wall sign size shall be one square foot for each horizontal lineal foot of the wall upon which the sign is placed, measured at ground level. Walls having less than fifty (50) lineal feet shall have a maximum wall sign size of fifty (50) square feet. In no event shall any wall sign exceed ninety (90) square feet, regardless of wall length. In computing the size of wall signs, the sign area shall equal the area of the standard geometric figure formed by the wall sign, or the figure formed by its letters if not mounted on a signboard.
3. Temporary Signs: The following types of temporary off-premises signs are permitted upon application to the Township Building Inspector who shall issue permits therefore not to exceed twelve (12) days per calendar year per lot:
 - a. Banners, pennants and signs up to twelve (12) square feet of total area in residential districts and thirty two (32) square feet of total area in non-residential districts for the purpose of advertising real estate, open houses or builders' parade of homes.
 - b. Signs, up to twelve (12) square feet of total area in residential districts and up to thirty-two (32) square feet of total area in non-residential districts for the purpose of advertising the sale of seasonal fruits, vegetables or farm products.
4. Off-premise advertising signs shall not contain a sign area larger than 300 square feet. No off premise advertising sign shall be closer than 500 feet to another off premise advertising sign. Off premise signs shall not be located in any required yard area. Off-premise advertising signs shall not exceed thirty-five

(35) feet in height measured from the ground level, a maximum of 2 signs per structure.

E. Permit - No person shall erect or maintain a permanent sign within the Charter Township of Larkin, Midland County, Michigan, without having first secured a permit to do so from the Larkin Township Building Inspector. All permits issued under this section shall not be transferable to another person or for any alternate use.

1. Application for Permits - An application to erect and/or maintain a permanent sign shall be made to the Larkin Township Building Inspector by the owner of the property on which the sign is to be erected.

2. This application shall be in writing, on forms furnished by the Larkin Township Building Inspector and shall contain the following information.

- a. The name and address of the owner of the site where the sign is to be erected.
- b. A drawing indicating the exact location and exact dimensions of the proposed sign, and indicating the direction and the frontage roads the signs shall face.
- c. The payment of a fee as directed by resolution of the Larkin Township Board.
- d. A description of the content of the sign.
- e. The name of the commercial, industrial or other establishment or individual desiring to advertise.

3. Suspension and Revocation - Said permit shall be subject to revocation by the Township Board upon failure to comply with the rules, regulations and conditions contained herein; or if any of the statements in the application are found to be false. The permit shall be null and void if the original design, content or placement provisions of the sign are changed.

F. Enforcement - The Building Inspector may order the removal of any sign erected or maintained in violation of this Ordinance. He shall give thirty (30) days notice in writing to the owner of such sign, or of the building or premise on which the sign is located, to remove the sign or to bring it into compliance. The Building Inspector may remove a sign immediately and without notice if, in his opinion, the condition of the sign is such as to present an immediate threat to the safety of the public.