



# ILLEGAL ADVERTISING SIGNS

**BE RESPONSIBLE & BE COMPLIANT**

## City of Detroit CODE OF ORDINANCES Secs. 4-1-1 through 4-5-20.

The Detroit sign ordinance is intended to balance public and private interests, while providing for a safe, well-maintained, and vibrant City.

Violations of the sign regulations are deemed a **public nuisance**; they create visual clutter for everyone.

### DID YOU KNOW?

It is unlawful to post, construct, erect, or otherwise display a sign without having been issued a sign permit. The installation, operation, and maintenance of a sign must be conducted by a licensed entity.

Political campaign signs, realtor signs and lost pet signs are temporary signs which also require a permit to be posted on privately-owned property, accessory structures, and fences.

### ILLEGAL SIGNAGE

Signage is never permitted on public structures, utility poles, street berms or boulevards.



### DEFINITIONS

**Advertising sign** means a sign containing a commercial message that is intended to direct attention to a business, profession, commodity, service, or entertainment, that is conducted, sold, or offered elsewhere than on the premises where the sign is located.

**Temporary sign** means a business sign that is intended to be displayed for a limited time.

**Illegal sign** means any of the following:

- A sign posted on public property.
- A sign posted in a prohibited area.
- A sign of the wrong dimensions.
- A permanent or temporary sign without a permit.
- A sign with an expired permit.

### COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

For more information about signs, sign permits and registration/renewal of a sign contractor license, contact the Development Resource Center at (313) 224-2372 or [signs@detroitmi.gov](mailto:signs@detroitmi.gov).

The Advertising and Sign User Guide is available on the city [website](#).

Educational materials provided by GSD Blight to Beauty Corridor Initiative. [detroitmi.gov/blight2beauty](http://detroitmi.gov/blight2beauty)

