



The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound
Community Services Department
Building & By-law Division

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PORTABLE SIGN PERMIT PROVISIONS

Permits:

A permit must be obtained from the City's Building & By-law Division before a portable sign is placed on a property. Portable signs are to be used to advertise special events at a particular business, not as a permanent means of advertising. Portable signs can not be placed for more than 21 consecutive days on a property. After 21 days the portable sign must be removed and can not be replaced on the same lot for a minimum of eight (8) weeks. The permit fee (\$50) is the same whether the sign is placed for one (1) day or the maximum 21 days.

Definition:

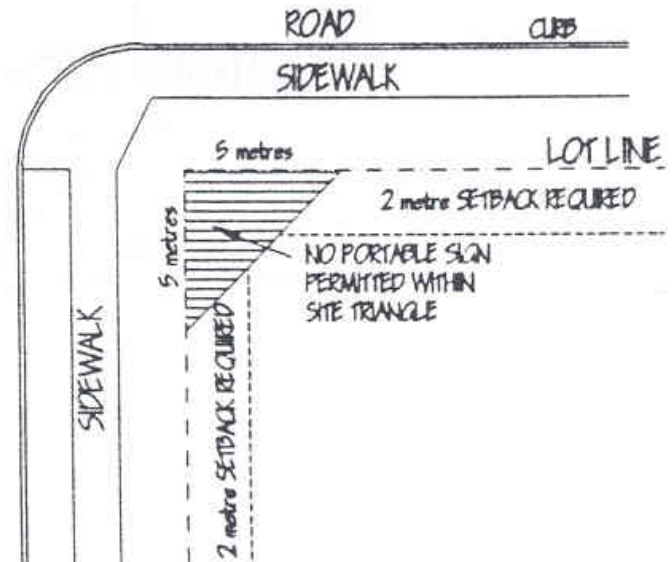
Portable signs may advertise a business or event on the property they are located or a business or event at another location. Portable signs must be temporary, and must be positioned without permanent means of anchorage to the ground. Multiple businesses on the same lot could share a single sign permit for the maximum 21-day period provided the same sign is used, only the message on the sign face is changed and the sign is removed for the required eight (8)-week period.

As an alternative to portable signs, permanent signs with interchangeable messages may be permitted. Contact the Building & By-law Division to obtain details on sign by-law requirements for permanent signage.

Location:

Portable signs are not permitted in the downtown or the inner harbour area, but may be permitted in many commercial, industrial, and institutional zones. There may be exceptions. Check with the Building & By-law Division to see if a portable sign is permitted on your property.

Portable signs must be located at least two (2) metres from any lot line along a street. On corner lots portable signs can not be placed within a site triangle formed from the point the lot lines meet five (5) metres along each lot line, as illustrated at right:

**Lighting:**

Portable signs can not be lighted so as to direct glare on to the street or adjacent properties. Portable signs can not include flashing lights if they are within 30 metres of an lot zoned residential or any home located in a residential/commercial area.

Maximum Size:

Portable signs can not exceed 3.75 square metres (40 square feet) in sign area.

Maximum Number:

Only lots with **more than** 100 metres of total frontage on a street in highway commercial areas and 200 metres of total frontage in special commercial and industrial areas may be allowed more than one (1) portable sign. In most cases only one (1) portable sign is permitted on any particular property at one time.

Enforcement:

Make sure you check with the City's Building & By-law Division before you order or erect a portable sign. The City can issue tickets for portable signs placed without a permit and/or located improperly each day a portable sign is placed illegally.