The information in this document is for guidance purposes only. Please refer to the Development Standards and Regulations for the complete set of the county's official regulations.
IS A PERMIT NEEDED?

**YES**
- Individual letters
- Illuminated signs
- Multi-faced signs
- Sculptural signs
- Building-mounted signs
- Freestanding signs
- Electronic signs
- Off-site directional signs

**NO, BUT INQUIRE FOR SPECIFIC RULES**
- Most flags
- Art
- Merchandise
- Vehicular signs
- Cornerstones
- Menu display boxes
- Signs not legible from property lines
- Address numbers
- Most small residential signs
- Pennants
- Official notices
- Warning signs
- Election signs
- Real estate signs
- Temporary signs

HOW MANY SIGNS ARE ALLOWED?

- Only one freestanding sign for lots or parcels with less than 500 feet of frontage along streets.
- Up to two freestanding signs for lots or parcels with more than 500 feet of frontage along streets.
- Only one building-mounted sign per street frontage or commercial/industrial tenant.

HOW LARGE CAN THE SIGN BE?

Before that question can be answered, you’ll need to know what zone district the sign will be in.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE DISTRICTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C-3, C-4, or C-5</td>
<td>Agricultural, Industrial, C-0, C-1, or C-2</td>
<td>R-3, R-4, CO, PL, or MH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FREESTANDING SIGNS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. Height: 36 feet</td>
<td>Max. Height: 25 feet</td>
<td>Max. Height: 12 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. Area: 160 square feet</td>
<td>Max. Area: 100 square feet</td>
<td>Max. Area: 40 square feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDING-MOUNTED SIGNS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. Area: 15% of wall</td>
<td>Max. Area: 5% of wall</td>
<td>Max. Area: 40 square feet</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

IS LANDSCAPING NEEDED AROUND MY FREESTANDING SIGN?

- Yes, at the base of the sign
- 250% of total sign area
WHAT’S PROHIBITED?

- Signs over a public or private roadway or right-of-way
- Signs that obstruct traffic safety (within sight-distance triangles)
- Signs attached to public infrastructure
- Signs attached to landscaping
- Signs obstructing building and fire safety practices
- Roof-mounted devices and signs
- Advertising devices with search lights or beacons
- Graffiti
- Signs with flashing or blinking lights
- Signs that emit sounds or visible matter
- Signs with animation
- Signs with balloons or pennant devices
- Signs that mechanically move or rotate
- Signs mounted on a vehicle or equipment
- Temporary advertising devices
- Signs painted on storage containers or trailers

OTHER COMMON QUESTIONS...

Sign regulations can be found in Section 4-14 of the Adams County Development Standards & Regulations.

**Election Signs**
- Allowed only on private property
- Allowed only 30 days before election
- Allowed 10 days after election
- Maximum Area: 32 square feet
- Illumination
- Number of signs limited by lot size

**Temporary Signs**
- Allowed only on private property
- Maximum Area: 32 square feet
- Displayed only twice a year
- Displayed less than 14 consecutive days
- Multi-tenant properties are limited to five temporary signs at any given time

**Yard Sale Signs**
- Less than 16 square feet
- Located in public right-of-way
- Located on telephone or utility poles

**Real Estate Signs**
- Allowed only on private property
- Maximum Area: 32 square feet
- Allowed only on subject property
- Illumination
- Number of signs limited by lot size

**Electronic Signs**
- Each message remains for 10 seconds
- Required mechanism to prevent flashing in a malfunction
- Instantaneous transition
- Animation or video
- Automatic brightness control

- Located on hydrants or electrical equipment boxes
- Yard sales limited to two per calendar year