ARTICLE 8
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

SECTION 8.1 SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS

8.1.1 Residential Plot Plan

For all residential and residential accessory uses not requiring a permit in accordance with **§3.9** (Conditional Use Permits), **§3.10** (Conditional Use District Rezonings) or **§3.11** (Conditional Zoning) must submit a residential plot plan concurrently with any application for a development permit. All residential plot plans must include the following information listed in this definition determined to be applicable to the project in consultation with planning staff.

8.1.101 Name, address of owner and/or applicant

8.1.102 Location of all existing and proposed structures showing distances measured to the property lines

8.1.103 Site Data Table giving information about the zoning, setbacks, and other dimensional requirements listed in the Zoning Ordinance as applicable

8.1.104 Septic system and repair area (Attachment from Environmental Health is acceptable)

8.1.105 Location of driveway and other access points to adjacent road right-of-ways

8.1.106 Location and dimensions of accessory structures and uses (such as pools, outbuildings, and carports)

8.1.107 Scale and north arrow

8.1.108 Other information deemed necessary by the Planner for considering all provisions of this Ordinance.

8.1.109 Some items from the Site Plan Checklist may be required. (For example: floodplain, watershed, impervious coverage, recorded deeds, access easements, septic system easements, etc.)

8.1.2 Detailed Site Plan

All new development, with the *exception* of single family residential permitted by right which follows the requirements for a residential plot plan as listed in **§8.1.1** (Residential Plot Plan) of this Ordinance, will be subject to Detailed Site Plan review by the Moore County Planning Department prior to the issuance of a Zoning Permit, Watershed Permit or Building Permit. All site plans must include the following information listed in the definition of a site plan and determined to be applicable to the project in consultation with planning staff.

8.1.201 Name, address of owner and applicant.

8.1.202 Name, signature, license number, seal and address of engineer, land surveyor, architect, and/or landscape architect, as applicable, involved in the preparation of the plan.

8.1.203 Title block denoting type of application, Land Record Key (LRK#), County, Township, block and lot, and street location.

8.1.204 Vicinity map.

8.1.205 A map to scale showing location of tract with reference to surrounding properties, streets, municipal boundaries as applicable, within one hundred feet (100 ft of property line).

8.1.206 A table of required and provided zoning district requirements, including lot area, width, depth, yard setbacks, building coverage, open space, parking, Highway Corridor Overlay District boundaries, lighting type and location, and planting plan etc.

8.1.207 North arrow and scale.

8.1.208 Acreage of tract to the nearest tenth of an acre.

8.1.209 Date of original site plan, most recent survey and all revisions.

8.1.210 Size and location of any existing or proposed structures with all setbacks dimensioned.

8.1.211 Location, name and dimensions of any existing or proposed streets, easements or rights-of-way, including sight triangles onto adjacent roads.

8.1.212 Copy and/or delineation of any existing or proposed deed restrictions or covenants.

8.1.213 Future development phases. (if applicable)

8.1.214 All existing water courses, floodplains, watershed protection areas or other environmentally sensitive areas on or within 100 feet of site, new % disturbance, area within watershed protection area, maximum built upon area allowed, maximum built upon area encumbered and delineation of all wetlands on the property.

8.1.215 Proposed utilities.

8.1.216 Landscape plan and details and buffers or screening requirements (if applicable in addition to HCOD).

8.1.217 Signage locations.

8.1.218 Site circulation plan showing number of parking spaces, size and type, aisle width, curb cuts, drives, sidewalks, driveways, loading areas, and all ingress and egress areas and dimensions.

8.1.219 Preliminary architectural plan and building elevations.

8.1.220 List of required permits including but not limited to: driveway access permit, airport height restriction permit (as applicable), soil and erosion control permit (as applicable) on-site wastewater disposal permit, septic system information, and other permits necessary for issuance of a zoning permit.

8.1.221 Indication of areas of outdoor activity (outdoor sales, outdoor storage, or outdoor assembly).

8.1.222 Location of solid waste disposal receptacles (dumpsters, recycling areas).

8.1.223 Any other information which the Planning Staff may deem necessary for consideration in enforcing all provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8.2 SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

8.2.1 Applicability

8.2.101 Screening is automatically required on the side and rear lot lines that abut a residential or residential agricultural district for all non-residential uses including intensive home businesses, but not including home occupations, standard as listed under **Article 9** (Specific Use Standards) and **Article 18** (Definitions and Word Interpretations).

8.2.102 Information is to be submitted to the Planning Staff showing details of the proposed barrier as to the location and type of screening. Screening and buffers may also be required under the **Article 11** (Watershed Overlay Districts).

8.2.103 In cases where the use of a building or land is changing, there may be impediments to compliance with this Article. The Planning Department staff shall determine the level of compliance that is practical in these cases.

8.2.2 Screening Types

Unless specified elsewhere in this Ordinance, a screen shall be one of the following:

8.2.201 Type 1 - A seven (7) foot high attractive blind barrier that shall not permit the passage of light from one side to the other and it must also dampen noise where needed. Such barrier may be a decorative masonry wall, a wood plank or basket weave type fence, an open type fence with evergreen vegetation (minimum three (3) feet wide), or the like which is planted facing the adjoining property.

8.2.202 Type 2 - A three (3) foot wide, seven (7) foot high dense evergreen planting that shall be of a species that will normally be expected to reach a height of seven (7) feet in three (3) years time. Low limbs, etc. are not to be trimmed from the planting higher than twenty-four (24) inches from the ground.

8.2.203 Type 3 - A minimum of twenty (20) feet wide natural vegetative or planted strip. The natural vegetative or planted strip shall be either undisturbed, natural low bushes, shrubs, or trees, or a strip of plantings designed to simulate a wooded natural vegetative area. The trees planted in this screen shall be of such size for the trees to grow to a height of at least twelve (12) feet within three (3) years and the shrubs to grow to a height of two (2) feet within two (2) years. The planting will include a minimum of fifteen (15) trees, at least half evergreen, plus seven (7) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of lot boundary prorated for less than 100 foot sections. Previously existing trees and shrubs shall count toward this requirement.

8.2.3 Screening Location

8.2.301 The width of the screening shall be included as part of the required yard (or setback).

8.2.302 A fence or barrier may also be installed in addition to the required screening, at the discretion of the property owner.

8.2.4 Construction and Maintenance

8.2.401 Screening must be installed or constructed, as appropriate, prior to the issuance of an Occupancy Permit.

8.2.402 Once erected, the screening shall be properly maintained at all times.

8.2.403 The construction and maintenance of all required screening shall be the responsibility of the landowner or developer.

8.2.5 Waiving of Screening Requirements

8.2.501 The screening requirements of this section may be waived by the Zoning Administrator along any boundary that is naturally screened by topography and/or existing vegetation that naturally screens the use from adjoining property.

8.2.502 Development that results in a one-time building footprint expansion of 250 square feet or less, or exterior building remodeling are exempted from the landscaping requirements of this section.

8.2.6 Deferring of Screening Requirements

The required landscaping portion of the screening may be deferred for up to six (6) months, or the next appropriate growing season, whichever comes first. The deferment shall be approved by the Zoning Administrator upon receipt of a landscaping guarantee security payable to Moore County meeting the following requirements:

8.2.601 The developer may deposit cash, cashier's check, an irrevocable letter of credit, or other instrument readily convertible into cash at face value, either with Moore

County or in escrow with a financial institution designated as an official depository of Moore County.

8.2.602 The developer or property owner shall obtain a landscaping plan and guaranteed cost estimate (official bid) from a landscaping firm.

8.2.603 The security shall equal one and a half (1.5) times the entire cost of installing all required landscaping, based on the landscaper's bid.

8.2.604 Any bond must be in the form of a cashier's check, or similar bank check, payable to the County of Moore and valid for a minimum period of six (6) months.

8.2.605 In the case of a failure on the part of the property owner to complete the landscaping, if any funds are not spent in completing the work, the County shall retain, as a service charge, ten (10) percent of its total cost and return the balance to the developer.

8.2.606 That said escrow account shall be held in trust until released by the Planning Director and may not be used or pledged by the developer in any other manner during the term of the escrow

8.2.607 That in the case of a failure on the part of the property owner to complete said improvements, the financial institution shall, upon notification by the Planning Director and submission to the financial institution of an estimate of the amount needed to complete the improvements, immediately pay to Moore County the funds estimated to complete the improvements up to the full balance of the escrow account, or deliver to the County any other instruments fully endorsed or otherwise made payable in full to the County.

8.2.7 Enclosure Requirements

8.2.701 In the residential and residential agricultural districts all outside storage of governmental, commercial, and industrial inventory or equipment or any other use which may represent a public hazard must be enclosed with a fence or wall at least seven (7) feet in height.

8.2.702 In commercial and industrial districts all business, servicing, processing, or storage, except off-street parking and loading, shall be within completely enclosed buildings or enclosed by a wall or fence (including entrance and exit gates) not less than seven (7) feet in height.

SECTION 8.3 PARKING AND LOADING

8.3.1 Applicability

At the time of the erection of any building, or at the time any principal building is enlarged or increased in capacity by adding dwelling units, guestrooms, seats, or floor area, or before

conversion from one type of use or occupancy to another, permanent off-street parking space shall be provided in the amount specified by this Section.

8.3.2 Certification of Minimum Parking Requirements

8.3.201 Each application for a Zoning Permit (except for single family dwelling units) shall include information as to the location and dimensions of off-street parking and the means of ingress and egress to such space.

8.3.202 This information shall be in sufficient detail to enable the Zoning Administrator to determine whether the requirements of this Article are met.

8.3.3 Combination of Required Parking Spaces

8.3.301 The required parking space for any number of separate uses may be combined in one (1) lot, but the required space assigned to the one (1) use may not be assigned to another use except as provided in **§8.3.302**.

8.3.302 One-half (1/2) of the parking spaces required for civic organizations, or similar uses, whose peak attendance will be on a given day(s) and time(s) (e.g. churches) may be assigned to a use which will be closed on the opposite day(s) and time(s).

8.3.4 Remote Parking Spaces

8.3.401 If the off-street parking space required by this Ordinance cannot be reasonably provided on the same lot on which the principal use is located, such space may be provided on any land within reasonable distance of the main entrance to the principal use, provided such land is in the same ownership as the principal use and in the same zoning district.

8.3.402 Said land shall be used for no other purposes so long as no other adequate provisions of parking space meeting the requirements of this Ordinance have been made for the principal use.

8.3.403 In such cases, the applicant for a permit for the principal use shall submit with his application for a Zoning Permit or a Certificate of Occupancy an instrument duly executed and acknowledged, which subjects said land to parking use in connection with the principal use for which it is made available. Such instrument shall become a permanent record and be attached to the Zoning Permit or Certificate of Occupancy application.

8.3.404 In the event such land is ever used for other than off-street parking space for the principal use to which it is encumbered and no other off-street parking space meeting the terms of this Ordinance is provided for the principal use, the Certificate of Occupancy or Zoning Permit for such principal use shall become void.

8.3.5 Parking Lot Requirements

Where parking lots for more than five (5) cars are permitted or required, the following provisions shall be complied with:

8.3.501 The lot may be used only for parking and not for any type of loading, sales, repair work, dismantling or servicing, but shall not preclude convention exhibits or parking of rental vehicles.

8.3.502 All entrances, exits, and drainage plans shall be approved and constructed before occupancy.

8.3.503 A strip of land five (5) feet wide adjoining any street line or any lot zoned for residential uses shall be reserved as open space, guarded with wheel bumpers and planted in grass and/or shrubs or trees.

8.3.504 Any parking lot of more than five (5) cars which is adjacent, along the side or rear property lines, to property used or zoned for residential uses, shall be provided with screening as described in **§8.2.2** (Screening Types).

8.3.505 Only one (1) entrance and one (1) exit sign no larger than two (2) square feet prescribing parking regulations may be erected at each entrance or exit.

8.3.506 The use of streets, sidewalks, alleys or other public rights-of-way for parking or maneuvering to and from off-street parking spaces is prohibited, except where such maneuvering is necessary in the use of driveways for access to and from single-family and two family dwellings.

8.3.507 All off-street parking areas shall be so arranged that ingress and egress is by forward motion of the vehicle.

8.3.508 Parking area edges shall be protected by suitable curbing, wheel guards, or other means to prevent vehicular encroachment on a public right-of-way or on adjacent property, and to protect the public right-of-way and adjoining properties from the damaging effects from surface drainage from parking lots.

8.3.509 Any lighting of parking areas shall be shielded so as to cast no light upon adjacent properties and streets.

8.3.6 Minimum Parking Requirements

The number of off-street spaces required by this Ordinance shall be provided on the same lot with the principal use except as provided in **§8.3.3** (Combination of Required Parking Spaces) and the required number of off-street parking spaces specified for each use shall be considered as the absolute minimum. In addition, a developer shall evaluate his own needs to determine if they are greater than the minimum specified by this Ordinance.

Use	Parking Requirements
Air, motor and rail freight terminals	Two (2) parking spaces for each three (3) employees, plus one (1) space for each vehicle in the operation.
Airports, Railroad Passenger Stations and Bus Terminals	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats for waiting passengers, plus two (2) spaces for each three (3) employees, plus one (1) space for each vehicle used in the operation.
Animal Training Facility	Three (3) parking spaces for every four (4) employees on largest shift, plus one (1) space for each individual bedroom on site.
Auditoriums	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats in the largest assembly room
Banks	One (1) parking space for each two hundred (200) square feet of gross floor space, plus one (1) space for each two (2) employees.
Beauty and Barber Shops	One (1) parking space for each service chair plus one (1) additional parking space for each employee.
Bed and Breakfast Operations	One (1) parking space for each room to be rented plus residential requirements.
Bowling Alleys	Two (2) parking spaces for each alley plus one (1) space for each 300 square feet of gross floor space for affiliated uses such as restaurants, bars and the like.
Camp or Care Center	One (1) parking space for each employee and one parking space for each five (5) beds.
Cemeteries	One (1) parking space for each employee.
Churches	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats.
Civic Clubs, Fraternal Lodges or Community Centers	One (1) parking space for each two hundred (200) square feet of gross floor space, plus one (1) space for each two (2) employees.
Clinics	Five (5) parking spaces for each doctor plus one (1) parking space for each employee.
Day Care Facilities and Preschools	One (1) parking space for each employee plus one (1) parking space for every (5) students.
Dwellings, Duplexes	Two (2) parking spaces per dwelling unit.
Dwellings, Multi-Family	Two (2) parking spaces per dwelling unit.
Dwellings, Single-Family	Two (2) parking spaces per dwelling unit.
Fire Stations	One and one-half (1 1/2) parking spaces per employee or fireman on duty at one time.
Funeral Homes	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats in the chapel or parlor.
Golf Courses	Four (4) spaces for each hole.
Greenhouse and Nurseries	One (1) parking space for each employee.
Home Occupations	One (1) parking space per home occupation in addition to residence requirements.
Hospitals and Sanitariums	One (1) parking space for each employee on the longest shift plus (1) parking space for each two (2) beds.
Hotels	One (1) parking space for each two (2) rooms to be rented, plus one (1) additional parking space for each (2) employees, plus additional parking spaces as may be required for any commercial or business uses located in the same building.
Human Services Facilities	One (1) space for every two (2) beds, plus one (1) space for each employee on the largest shift
Industrial Uses	Three (3) parking spaces for each four (4) employees on the largest shift.
Libraries	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats provided for patron use.
Mobile Homes	Two (2) parking spaces per mobile home plus one (1) for the office in a mobile home park.
Motels, Tourist Homes and Guest Houses	One (1) parking space for each room to be rented plus one (1) space for each employee.
Nursing, Retirement and Convalescent Homes	One (1) parking space for each five (5) beds intended for patient use.

Use	Parking Requirements
Offices	One (1) parking space for each two hundred (200) square feet of gross floor space.
Private Clubs and Lounges	One (1) parking space for each two (2) seats at bars and one (1) parking space for each four (4) seats at tables.
Public Buildings	One (1) parking space for each employee plus one (1) parking space for each five (5) seats in the largest assembly room.
Public Utility Buildings	One (1) parking space for each employee.
Recreational Facilities (no spectators)	One (1) parking space for each employee plus one (1) parking space for every two (2) participants at full capacity.
Recreational Facilities (with Spectators)	Same as recreational facilities without spectators plus one (1) parking space for every four (4) spectator seats.
Research and Development Facility	One (1) parking space for every full-time employee per shift. No on-street parking allowed.
Restaurants and Cafeterias	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats at tables, and one (1) parking space for each two (2) seats at counters or bars plus one (1) parking space for each two (2) employees.
Retail Uses Not Otherwise Listed	One (1) parking space for each three hundred (300) square feet of gross floor area.
Riding Stables and Academies	One (1) parking space for each employee plus one (1) parking space for every three (3) stalls or horses (whichever is more). Horse trailers are not to be stored in required parking spaces.
Rooming and Boarding Houses	One (1) parking space for each room to be rented plus one (1) parking space for each employee.
Schools, Elementary and Junior High	One (1) parking space for each classroom and administrative office, plus (1) parking space for each employee and one (1) large space for each bus.
Schools, Senior High	One (1) parking space for each twenty (20) students for which the building was designed, plus one (1) parking space for each classroom and administrative office plus one (1) parking space for each employee, plus one (1) large space for each bus.
Schools, College or Technical	One (1) parking space for every six (6) students, based upon the maximum number of students attending classes at any one time, plus one (1) space for each administrative office, plus one (1) space for each professor or teacher.
Service Stations	Five (5) parking spaces for each service bay.
Shopping Centers	One (1) parking space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
Solar Collector Facility	One (1) parking space for each one (1) employee.
Stadiums or Arenas	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats in the stadium or arena.
Stores, Department	One (1) parking space for each one hundred fifty (150) square feet of gross floor area.
Stores, Retail Food	One (1) parking space for each one hundred fifty (150) square feet of gross floor area.
Theaters, Indoor	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats up to 400 seats, plus one (1) space for each six (6) seats above 400.
Video Arcades	One (1) parking space for every four (4) game machines plus one (1) space for each employee.
Wholesale Uses	One (1) parking space for each employee on the largest shift plus 1 space per 300 square feet of retail sales or customer service area plus 1 space per vehicle used in the operation.

8.3.7 Design Standards for Parking Spaces and Lots

8.3.701 All parking spaces shall have minimum dimensions of nine (9) feet in width and eighteen (18) feet in length.

8.3.702 All access or backup aisles shall conform to the following minimum dimensions:

Parking Angle	One-Way Traffic	Two Way Traffic
0 degrees	12 feet	24 feet
30 degrees	12 feet	22 feet
45 degrees	14 feet	20 feet
60 degrees	18 feet	24 feet
90 degrees	24 feet	24 feet

8.3.8 Access Standards

8.3.801 Where parking or loading areas are provided adjacent to the public street, ingress and egress thereto shall be made only through driveways not exceeding twenty-five (25) feet in width at the curb line of said street, except where the Zoning Administrator finds that a greater width is necessary to accommodate the vehicles customarily using the driveway.

8.3.802 Where two (2) or more driveways are located on the same lot, other than a mobile home park, the minimum distance between such drives shall be thirty (30) feet or one third (1/3) of the lot frontage, whichever is greater; however, this provision shall not apply to any commercial or industrial planned development. Driveway locations in such developments shall be approved by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

8.3.803 Businesses adjacent to, or integrated in, a shopping center or cluster of commercial facilities shall use the common access with other business establishments in the center.

8.3.804 No driveway shall be located closer than twenty-five (25) feet to any street intersection.

8.3.9 Off-Street Loading Requirements

The off-street loading space required by this Article shall be provided for standing, loading, and unloading operations either inside or outside a building, on the same lot with the use served, and shall conform to the following standards:

8.3.901 Access aisles or apron spaces shall be of sufficient width to allow for proper backing and/or turning movements.

8.3.902 Required off-street loading areas including drives and access aisles shall be paved with an all-weather hard surface material.

8.3.903 Loading spaces and access ways shall be located in such a way that no truck or service vehicle using such areas shall block or interfere with the free, normal movement of other vehicles on a service drive or on any off-street parking area, public street, aisle or pedestrian way used for general circulation. In addition, the off-street loading facilities shall be designed and constructed so that all maneuvering of vehicles for loading and unloading purposes shall take place entirely within the property lines of the premises.

8.3.904 Loading area edges shall be protected by suitable curbing to prevent encroachment on a public right-of-way or on adjacent property, and to protect the public right-of-way and adjoining properties from the damaging effects of surface drainage from off-street loading areas.

8.3.905 Driveways shall be provided as required in **§8.3.8** (Access Standards).

8.3.906 Any lighting of loading areas shall be shielded so as to cast no light upon adjacent properties and streets.

8.3.907 Any off-street loading areas and access ways adjacent, along the side or rear property lines, to property used or zoned for residential purposes, shall be provided with screening meeting the standards described in **§8.2** (Screening Requirements).

8.3.10 Minimum Off-Street Spaces Required

8.3.1001 Uses which normally handle large quantities of goods, including but not limited to industrial plants, wholesale establishments, storage warehouses, freight terminals, hospitals or sanitariums, and retail sales establishments shall provide off-street loading facilities in the following amounts:

Gross Floor Area (square feet)	Minimum Number of Spaces Required
5,000- 20,000	1
20,001 – 50,000	2
50,001 – 80,000	3
80,001 – 125,000	4
125,001 – 170,000	5
170,001 – 215,000	6
215,001 – 260,000	7
260,001 +	7 + 1 for each additional 45,000 sq. ft.

8.3.1001 Uses which do not handle large quantities of goods, including but not limited to office buildings, restaurants, funeral homes, hotels, motels, apartment buildings, and places of public assembly, shall provide off-street loading facilities in the following amounts:

Gross Floor Area (square feet)	Minimum Number of Spaces Required
5,000 - 80,000	1
80,001 – 200,000	2
200,001 – 320,000	3
320,001 – 500,000	4
500,001 +	4 + 1 for each additional 180,000 sq. ft.

8.3.11 Design Standards for Off-Street Loading

8.3.1101 Each off-street loading space shall have minimum dimensions of fifteen (15) feet in width and thirty (30) feet in length.

8.3.1102 All off-street loading spaces shall have a minimum vertical clearance of fifteen (15) feet.

8.3.12 Vehicle Storage in Residential Districts

8.3.1201 No inoperative or unlicensed vehicles shall be permitted to be parked or stored longer than (14) fourteen days (except in the RA and RE zoning districts).

8.3.1202 In the RA and RE Districts, storage of inoperative or unlicensed vehicles shall be permitted in the rear yard only.

8.3.13 Mobile Home and Trailer Parking and Storing

It shall be unlawful to park or otherwise store for any purpose whatsoever any mobile home or trailer within any zone district except as follows:

8.3.1301 At a safe, lawful, and non-obstructive location on a street, alley highway, or other public place, providing that the trailer or mobile home shall not be parked for more than 24 hours;

8.3.1302 Within a mobile home park, provided, however, the mobile home shall either have a North Carolina or HUD Label of Compliance permanently attached thereto.

8.3.1303 On any other lot or plot provided that trailers, as defined in **Article 18**, shall be stored in a garage or carport or in the rear or side yard.

SECTION 8.4 SIGNS

8.4.1 Purpose

8.4.101 The purpose and intent of this Section is to support and complement the various land uses allowed in the County of Moore by the adoption of policies and regulations concerning the placement of signs.

8.4.102 Moore County recognizes that the outdoor placement of signs is a legitimate use of private property but that the erection of signs should be controlled and regulated in order to promote the health, safety, welfare and enjoyment of travel on and protection of the public investment in streets and roads in Moore County and to promote the reasonable, orderly and effective display of such signs, displays and devices.

8.4.103 It is also the intent of this Section to prevent signs from dominating the visual appearance of the area in which they are located and to enhance the aesthetic environment of the Moore County area.

8.4.2 Sign Plan Required

8.4.201 A Sign Plan shall be submitted to the Zoning Administrator in addition to requirements of **§3.4** (Sign Permit).

8.4.202 The Sign Plan submitted should show a detailed drawing of the sign, approximately to scale, showing the design including dimensions, method of attachment or support, and source of illumination.

8.4.203 The Sign Plan should also include a site plan approximately to scale indicating the location of the sign relative to property lines, easements, street right-of-ways, buildings and other signs.

8.4.3 Location of Signs

8.4.301 All signs, including the supports, frames, and embellishments thereto, must comply with location requirements outlined in this Ordinance.

8.4.302 Signs may not be attached, affixed, or painted on any light standard or other utility pole, any tree, or other natural object.

8.4.4 Traffic Safety Precautions

8.4.401 No permanent sign, or part thereof, shall be located within a sight distance area as defined by NC Department of Transportation and/or Moore County nor within the public right-of-way.

8.4.402 No sign shall make use of the words “STOP”, “SLOW”, “CAUTION”, “DANGER”, or any other word, phrase, symbol, or character in such manner as is reasonably likely to be confused with traffic directional and regulatory signs.

8.4.403 No sign shall be erected so that, by its location, color, nature, or message, it is likely to be confused with or obstruct the view of traffic signals or signs, or is likely to be confused with the warning lights of an emergency or public safety vehicle.

8.4.5 Illumination of Signs

8.4.501 All signs illuminated under the provisions of this Section shall be constructed to meet the requirements of the National Electric Code.

8.4.502 Signs which contain, include, or are lighted by any flashing, intermittent, or moving lights are prohibited, except those giving public information such as time, temperature and date. Electronic changeable message signs shall not be considered a flashing or intermittent sign if operated in accordance with the regulations found in **§8.4.21** (Electronic Changeable Message Signs).

8.4.503 The letters or message of internally illuminated signs shall consist of non-reflective material.

8.4.504 Flame as a source of light is prohibited.

8.4.6 Exempt Signs

The following types of signs are exempted from the application of the regulations of this section with the exception of **§8.4.4** (Location of Signs) and **§8.4.5** (Traffic Safety Precautions):

8.4.601 Unlighted signs, bearing only property identification numbers and names, mailbox numbers, the name of the occupant of the premises, or other identification *of premises not of a commercial nature.* Such signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet in area per occupant. If more than one (1) sign or nameplate is required, the total allowable signs shall not exceed eight (8) square feet.

8.4.602 Signs on private property for noncommercial purposes, such as private parking signs, signs on newspaper tubes, "No Trespassing" signs, and signs warning of animals.

8.4.603 Governmental flags and insignia, when not displayed in connection with a commercial promotion.

8.4.604 Holiday decorations in season.

8.4.605 Local notices and warnings, regulatory, informational, or directional signs erected by any public agency or utility.

8.4.606 Integral decorative or architectural features of buildings, including signs which denote only the building name, date of erection or street number. Such signs shall be permitted as exemptions when cut into any masonry surface or implanted with a metal plate.

8.4.607 Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property, provided such signs are not illuminated, or are indirectly illuminated, bear no advertising matter, and do not exceed four (4) square feet in area per display surface.

8.4.608 The act of manually changing advertising copy of messages on any sign designed so that letters, numbers symbols and other similar characters attached to the sign can be manually changed in the field to indicate a different message, for the use of changeable copy, such as a product price sign.

8.4.609 Price signs at automobile service stations or other establishments engaged in the retail sale of gasoline. One (1) such sign is permitted for each frontage on a public street, provided it does not exceed nine (9) square feet in area. Any such sign shall be affixed to a permitted freestanding identification sign, to a canopy support in the vicinity of the gasoline pumps, or flat-mounted against the wall of a building.

8.4.610 Signs announcing the location of self-service or full service gasoline pumps at any establishment engaged in the retail sale of gasoline. Such signs shall be located in the vicinity of the gasoline pumps and shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in area.

8.4.611 Signs painted on or permanently attached to a currently licensed motor vehicle that is not primarily used as a sign.

8.4.612 Private "For Sale" signs temporarily attached to items or vehicles for sale providing they are no larger than one (1) square foot in size.

8.4.613 Signs used to identify a premises as being utilized by fire, EMS and other emergency services agencies. Such signs shall conform to the height, display area and setback allowed for Institutional signs.

8.4.7 Dimensional Requirements for Signs

8.4.701 All signs located within the Moore County planning jurisdiction must meet the dimensional requirements shown below:

Sign Type		Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area (sq. ft.)	Maximum Height (ft)	Minimum Setback from Property Lines and Street Rights-of Way (ft)	Additional Specific Sign Type Standards
Freestanding	Pole	1 per street frontage	36	30	10	
	Monument			6		
	Portable	1 per site	36	6		See "Sign, Portable" in Article 18
Attached	Wall	1 per street frontage	Cannot exceed 20% of wall surface area facing street	Cannot exceed roofline of structure	N/A	See "Sign, Wall" in Article 18
	Canopy	1 sign per business establishment		A clear distance of at least seven and one-half (7.5) feet between ground level and the bottom of the sign must be maintained	N/A	
	Roof	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	
Institutional	Any Type	1 per street frontage	50	10	10	
Off-Premises Advertising	Single Use Displayed	1 per street frontage (exception exists for lots with 5 or more acres)*	36	6	10	See 8.4.9 (Off-Premise Advertising Signs (excluding Billboards)
	Multiple Uses Displayed		50	15	10	

Sign Type		Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area (sq. ft.)	Maximum Height (ft)	Minimum Setback from Property Lines and Street Rights-of Way (ft)	Additional Specific Sign Type Standards
Industrial Park	Freestanding Monument	1 at each entrance of an industrial park	Main Entrance (50)	Main Entrance (10)	Not closer than 20 feet to any street right-of-way or 30 feet to any other property line.	See "Sign, Industrial" in Article 18
			Additional Entrance (32)	Additional Entrance (6)		
Multi-Tenant/Shopping Centers in Single Ownership	Freestanding	1 at each entrance	Main Entrance (50)	Main Entrance Allowed Height/Distance from Street 20/50 25/50 to 100 30/100 or more	No closer than 20 feet to any street right-of-way or 30 feet to any other property line	See "Sign, Multi Tenant" in Article 18
			Additional Entrance (32) Monument type only	Additional Entrance (6) Monument type only		

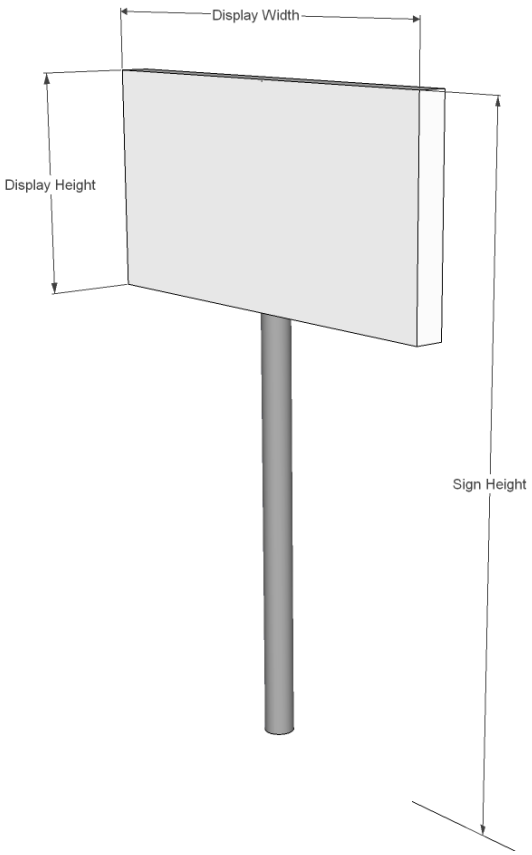
Sign Type		Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area (sq. ft.)	Maximum Height (ft)	Minimum Setback from Property Lines and Street Rights-of Way (ft)	Additional Specific Sign Type Standards
Electronic Changeable Message		1 per street frontage	30% of total allowable sign area, or 25 square feet whichever is less	10	10 ft, and a minimum of 25′ from any property zoned or used for residential purposes.	See 8.4.11 (Electronic Changeable Message Signs)
Temporary	Real Estate	1 per street frontage (exception exists for lots with 5 or more acres)**	Residential Properties (4)	6	N/A	See "Sign, Real Estate" in Article 18
			Nonresidential/Approved Planned Development (16)			
	Construction	1 per site	Single Family/ Duplex (6)	10	10	See "Sign, Construction" in Article 18
			Multifamily/Nonresidential (16)			
	Yard/Garage Sale Signs	1 per site	4	3	N/A	See "Sign, Yard or Garage" in Article 18
	Grand Opening & "Coming Soon"	1 per site	16	6	10	See "Sign, Grand Opening" in Article 18
	Auction	1 per site	16	6	10	See "Sign, Auction" in Article 18

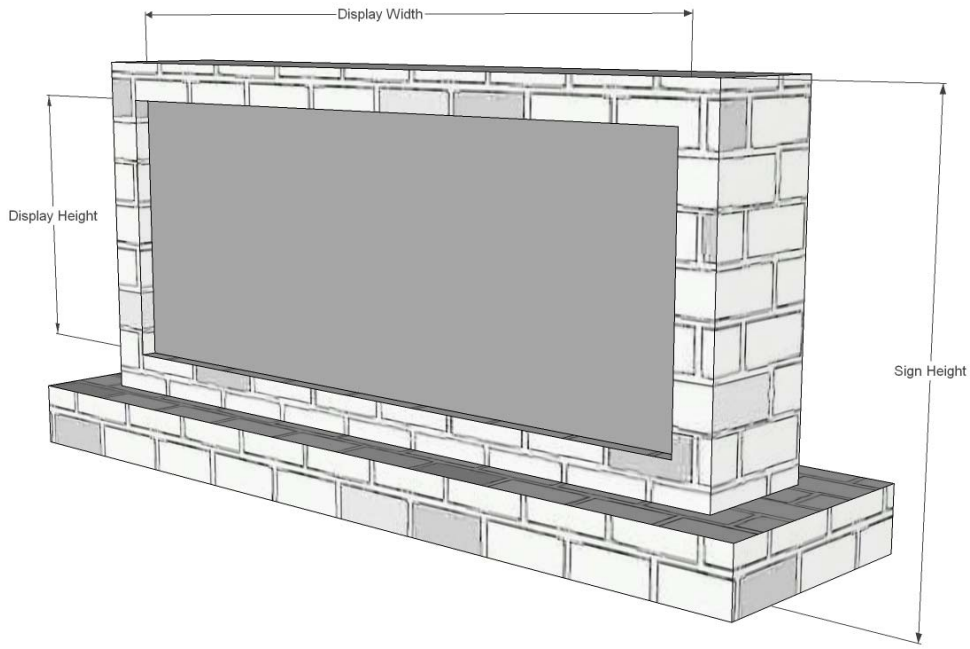
Notes:

* For premise/lots of five (5) acres or more in size and having a street frontage greater than four hundred (400) feet, a second sign may be erected if the total display area of both signs does not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet (second sign shall also not exceed six (6) feet in height).

** For premise/lots of five (5) acres or more in size and having a street frontage greater than four hundred (400) feet, a second sign may be erected if each sign does not exceed sixteen (16) square feet.

Campaign signs, provided they are placed only on private property with the permission of the property owner or occupant, do not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in display surface in all districts, and are free standing and not attached to any pole, fence, tree, or any other natural or manmade object. Such signs may be displayed not more than thirty (30) days prior to the election and must be removed within seven (7) days following the election.





8.4.8 Computation of Sign Area

8.4.801 The surface area of a sign shall be computed by including the entire area within a single, continuous, rectilinear perimeter of not more than eight (8) straight lines, or a circle, oval, or ellipse, enclosing the extreme limits of the writing, representation, emblem, or other display, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the backdrop or structure against which it is placed, but not including any supporting framework or bracing that is clearly incidental to the display itself.

8.4.802 If the sign consists of more than one section or module, all of the area, including that between sections or modules, shall be included in the computation of the sign area.

8.4.803 With respect to two-sided, multi-sided, or three dimensional signs, the surface area shall be computed by including the **total of all sides**, designed either to attract attention or communicate information, **that can be seen at one time** by a person from any vantage point.

8.4.9 Off Premise Advertising Signs (excluding billboards)

Off-premise advertising signs (excluding billboards) are permitted in the RA, B-1, B-2, RE, RA-5, RA-2, and RA-40 Zoning Districts subject to the following:

8.4.901 For premise / lots of five (5) acres or more in size and having a street frontage greater than four hundred (400) feet, a second sign may be erected if the total display area of both signs does not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet (second sign shall also not exceed six (6) feet in height).

8.4.902 An off-premise advertising sign displaying multiple businesses may be used as the allowed sign(s) per premise, as long as the sign does not exceed fifteen (15) feet in height, fifty (50) square feet in total display area.

8.4.903 Off-premise advertising signs, not including billboards, shall not advertise a business, institution, or industry (including home occupations) on a premise farther than four (4) miles measured in a straight line distance from the sign to the closest parcel boundary on which the business, institution or industry is located.

8.4.904 A business, institution, or industry shall not erect more than three (3) off-premise advertising signs anywhere within the County's planning jurisdiction.

8.4.905 No residential development, business, institution, or industry with frontage on any of the following roadways: US Highway 1, US Highway 15-501, NC Highway 2, NC Highway 5, NC Highway 22, NC Highway 24/27, NC Highway 211, NC Highway 690, or NC Highway 705 is eligible to use this type of signage.

8.4.906 Signs must be placed on a legal lot of record and the applicant shall provide a notarized statement from all owners of property allowing the off-premise advertising sign to be erected on their property.

8.4.907 Verification from the North Carolina Department of Transportation that the sign will not be in violation of any State regulations at its proposed location must be submitted with the sign permit application.

8.4.10 Billboards

8.4.1001 No billboard shall exceed two hundred fifty (250) square feet in gross area or thirty (30) feet in height above ground level or street level, whichever is lower.

8.4.1002 A billboard may have two (2) display sides, including an acute "V" shaped sign of forty-five (45) degrees or less.

8.4.1003 No billboard shall be erected closer than two hundred (200) feet from any property used or zoned for residential purposes and no billboard shall project closer than thirty (30) feet to any building on the same premise / lot, to any property line, or to any street right-of-way.

8.4.1004 No billboards shall be located within one thousand (1,000) feet along the same street frontage of another billboard as measured from the poles.

8.4.11 Electronic Changeable Message Signs

8.4.1101 Electronic changeable message signs shall only be permitted in the Village Business (VB), Neighborhood Business District (B-1), and Highway Commercial (B-2) zoning districts.

8.4.1102 Electronic changeable message signs shall only be permitted to advertise a business or service offered on the premise where the sign is located.

8.4.1103 Electronic changeable message signs shall not include animated or scrolling images, graphics, video active images (similar to television images), projected images or messages onto buildings or other objects.

8.4.1104 Electronic changeable message signs shall not have any moving, rotating, fluttering, blinking, or flashing elements. Animation, video, audio, pyrotechnics, or proximity marketing components are prohibited.

8.4.1105 Advertising messages or information shall remain in a fixed, static position for a minimum of thirty (30) seconds. The change sequence must be accomplished within an interval of two (2) seconds or less.

8.4.1106 No electronic changeable message sign shall exceed thirty (30) percent of the total allowable sign area, or twenty-five (25) square feet whichever is less, and shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height above ground level or street level, whichever is lower.

8.4.1107 Electronic changeable message signs shall be setback a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any property used or zoned for residential purposes.

8.4.1108 Electronic changeable message signs shall have an automatic dimmer (factory set to the illumination intensities set below) and a photo cell sensor to adjust illumination intensity or brilliance of the sign so that is shall not cause glare or impair the vision of motorists, and shall not interfere with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle. The sign shall not exceed a maximum illumination of 7,500 nits (candelas per square meter) during daylight hours and a maximum of 500 nits between dusk and dawn as measured from the sign's face at maximum brightness.

8.4.1109 Electronic changeable message signs shall contain a default design that will freeze the sign in one position with no more than a maximum illumination of 500 nits if a malfunction occurs.

8.4.1110 An electrical engineer's seal is required on all sign shop drawings to ensure all applicable settings required herein are met.

8.4.12 Maintenance and Removal of Signs

8.4.1201 All signs of any nature shall be maintained in a state of good repair.

8.4.1202 No sign shall be allowed to remain which becomes structurally unsafe, hazardous or endangers the safety of the public or property.

8.4.1203 Upon determining that a sign is structurally unsafe, hazardous or endangers the safety of the public or property, the Zoning Administrator shall order the same to be made safe or removed.

8.4.1204 The owner of the sign, the occupant of the premises on which the sign or structure is located, or the person or firm maintaining the same shall, upon written notice by certified mail from the Zoning Administrator forthwith in the case of immediate danger and in any case within ten (10) days, secure or repair the sign or structure in a manner approved by the Zoning Administrator or remove the same.

8.4.1205 If such order is not complied with within ten (10) days, the Zoning Administrator shall remove the sign at the expense of the owner or leasee thereof.

8.4.1206 No sign shall be erected or maintained in such a manner that any portion of its surface or its supports will interfere in any way with the free use or access to any fire escape, exit or standpipe, or so as to obstruct any window so that light or ventilation is reduced below minimum standards required by any applicable law or building code.

8.4.1207 Whenever a sign has been abandoned or advertises an activity, business, product, or service no longer conducted on the premises, such sign, including all of its attendant supports, frames, and hardware, shall be removed within two (2) months of the cessation or vacating of the use or establishment, unless such sign is utilized by a new use or establishment on the premises in conformance with all current regulations of this Ordinance.

8.4.1208 If such sign is not removed, or a sign is erected in violation of the provisions of this Section, the Zoning Administrator shall cause such sign to be removed or brought into compliance in accordance with the method prescribed for nonconforming signs in **§4.4** (Nonconforming Signs).

8.4.13 Prohibited Signs

Unless otherwise permitted as a temporary or Conditional Use, the following signs are prohibited:

8.4.1301 Banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or other similar devices.

8.4.1302 Signs advertising an activity, business, product, or service no longer conducted on the premises upon which the sign is located.

8.4.1303 Off-premises advertising signs, or billboards. Certain off-premise advertising signs, not including billboards, that are to be located in the RA, B-1, B-2, RE, RA-5, RA-2, and RA-40 Zoning Districts are exempted from the prohibition and must adhere to the provisions in **§8.4.19** (Off-Premise Advertising Signs).

8.4.1304 Roof Signs.

8.4.1305 Projecting signs and freestanding signs located within a public right-of-way except when erected by the County, State, or Federal Government.

8.4.1306 Animated, rotating, or other moving, or apparently moving, signs shall be prohibited.

8.4.1307 Any Sign the Zoning Administrator determines obstructs the view of motorists using any street, approach to any street intersection, or which interferes with the effectiveness of or obscrues any traffic sign, device, or signals shall be prohibited.