Signs and Standards

**SUBDIVISION CONSTRUCTION SIGNS**
Standard: Only one Sign per Street entrance

**GAS STATION PUMP ISLAND SIGNS**
Standard: Maximum three Square feet

**GASOLINE PRICE SIGNS**
Standard: Maximum one square foot in area

Temporary Signs:
Definition: Any sign advertising a specific event for a short period

Announcing Signs (announcing purpose of a building)
Standard: Maximum 32 square feet in area and 32 square feet in other areas.

Real Estate Signs
Standard: one sign per street frontage, maximum four square feet in and eight square feet in other districts. Allowed only on private property.

Special Event Displays/Banners
Standard: Portable and wind signs/banners that advertise an opening, occasion, or event. Limited to one event per six month period, displayed for no longer than seven consecutive days. Allowed only at event venue.

**Public Signs**

**Definition Signs of a non-commercial nature**

**FLAGS**
Standard: Maximum of 50 square feet each. No more than five per street lot.

**ADDRESS SIGNS**
Standard: Maximum of one square foot in area.

**DIRECTIONAL SIGNS**
Standard: Maximum 30 inches in height and one square foot in area.

**HISTORICAL PLAQUES**
Placed only by agencies recognized by the or State.

**Window DISPLAYS**
For safe of merchandise on file premises of a ground floor establishment and may be placed only on file inside of glass surfaces.

Permits Needed
0 BUSINESS SIGNS
0 DIRECTORY SIGNS
0 GROUND AND GARDEN SIGNS
0 AND PROJECTING SIGNS
0 IDENTIFICATION SIGNS
0 ROOF AND WALL SIGNS
0 MARQUEES AND MARQUEE SIGNS
0 FASCLA SIGNS
0 SECOND FLOOR BUSINESS SIGNS

**Prohibited Signs**

Wind or portable signs that advertise an establishment, service price, product or commodity
Flashing signs

Roof signs on buildings more than one story or above 16 feet

Signs that because of size, location, movement, color content or illumination constitute a traffic hazard by diverting drivers' attention

Any sign advertising an activity not conducted on the premises on which the sign is maintained
Aerial advertising signs

Any sign on a median, light pole, tree or within the right of way of any state or county road

One event banner per six month period and displayed for no longer than seven consecutive days and only at the site of the event

Any flyer or other sign placed on utility poles

Obtaining a Permit
Sign permits may be obtained by contacting: Department of Planning and Permitting

Frank S. Fasi Municipal Building
650 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
The Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) is authorized and empowered to revoke the permit if the sign owner fails to comply with regulations. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) enforces sign violations on State highways.

Anyone can call and make a complaint if he/she believes a sign is in violation. Complaints about signs within the City and County of Honolulu are received at DPP's Building Code Enforcement Branch. Complaints about Signs on State highways are received at the DOT hotline. The Outdoor Circle (TOC) also serves as a clearinghouse for complaints about potentially illegal signs. All Complaints reported to TOC will be referred to the appropriate agency for investigation. When making a complaint be sure to have an address where the sign is located and a detailed description of the sign in question.

DPP Complaints 768-8000
DOT Complaints 831-6714
TOC Hotline 593-0300

Copies of Sign Laws
Copies of the Honolulu County Sign Ordinance and the State of Hawai'i Sign Laws can be found on our website at http://www.outdoorcircle.org/education/sign-ordinances or at most public libraries.

Oahu Sign Regulations
A History of Protection
Hawaii has along standing tradition of regulating the size and placement of signs. In the early 1900s billboards and other inappropriate signs proliferated throughout the islands, particularly on O'ahu. After years of consumer actions and boycotts, The Outdoor Circle in 1926 persuaded the Territorial Legislature to pass Hawai'i's a law banning billboards in the islands. Today Hawai'i is one of only four states that prohibit billboards.

Why Regulate Signs?
0 Regulating signs protects the natural beauty of Hawai'i.
Sign regulations allow businesses and others to display important information while protecting the visual environment.
* Sign laws provide public safety for vehicles and pedestrians by reducing inappropriate distractions.
Sign laws ensure that Hawai'i remains free of all billboards.

General Sign Guidelines
Sign regulations have standards that must be followed. These standards primarily relate to size, location, placement, motion, illumination, height and setbacks. Violators may face stiff penalties including criminal charges. Sign makers and users need to check the law BEFORE creating and/or posting signs. Persons who believe specific signs might be in violation of State or County regulations should double check the standards before making a complaint.