Sign Standards for the Wawona Town Planning Area

From Wawona Town Plan

O. "Sign", means any structure or device displaying advertising in the form of lettering, pictures, symbols, lights, banners, or other format. (The State of California, or any other familiar flag is not included in this definition.)

B. Signs: Only those permanent signs related to an allowed use and which do not exceed one (1) square foot in area for a residential use or do not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area for a commercial use are allowed; only those temporary signs that do not exceed four (4) square feet in area for advertisement of the sale or rental of property are allowed. No illuminated signs are allowed, save and except illuminated signs shall be allowed within store windows. Signs may be placed only on the property on which the associated use occurs, or on the property which is advertised for sale or rental. Signs shall be subdued in appearance, harmonizing in design and color with the surroundings, and shall not be attached to a tree or shrub. Road signs shall conform to National Park Service sign design standards. Signs for identification of public rights-of-way and public facilities shall be provided by the National Park Service. A nonconforming sign may continue for a period not to exceed two (2) years from the effective date of these regulations. At the end of this period, it must be removed.

Nothing contained herein shall prohibit persons residing in Wawona from displaying name identification signs on street corners which shall comply with the above standards.

From County Code, Section 17.108.190

1. Off-site signs are prohibited unless specifically permitted by the principal zone.

2. A sign or signs, which convey specific information as described herein, shall be a permitted use on all parcels within the county, including parcels within town planning areas with or without adopted specific plans, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any regulatory language in any specific plan, existing or adopted in the future. Such signs shall include, but not be limited to, outline tubing signs, however such signs shall contain no flashing lights or moving parts. Such signs shall be limited to a maximum aggregate area of 3 sq. ft. per business, which shall be in addition to the sign area permitted by this title or by other specific sign standards adopted pursuant thereto. An additional 3 sq. ft. of informational signage, in accordance with the standards contained herein, may be approved for businesses which have a second public entrance, provided that no more than 3 sq. ft. of informational signage is visible from any location on any public right-of-way. Such signs shall be installed inside a building, and shall be limited to the following information:

a. OPEN, or CLOSED
b. VACANCY, or NO VACANCY
c. HOURS OF OPERATION

Such signs shall not advertise the business or contain the business logo or trademark, and shall not advertise or identify products sold within or services provided by the business.

3. All signs which do not conform with the standards of this title shall be considered non-conforming and shall be permitted to remain on a parcel for a period of 15 years from May 1, 1991 or until such sign becomes an illegal sign or is subject to any of the following conditions:

   a. The sign is remodeled beyond a change in facial copy or relocated.
   b. The property owner requests permission to expand, remodel or enlarge the building or land use on the parcel containing the sign and the sign is affected by the construction.

4. Unless otherwise prohibited by this chapter, signs may be illuminated provided such illumination does not shine light upon a public street or on to an adjacent parcel or in any way create a public safety hazard. No sign shall be illuminated after 11:00 p.m. or close of business, whichever occurs last, or prior to 6:00 a.m.

5. The following exterior signs shall be prohibited:

Moving or rotating signs; sign with flashing, moving, or animated illumination except signs which display time and temperature information; advertising signs that include the words “Stop, Look, Listen” or any word, phrase, symbol, lights, motion, sound, fumes, mist, or other effluent that may interfere with, mislead, or confuse the driving public; portable signs except for temporary real estate signs which advertise the particular property; signs on inflatable advertising devices when the device is attached or secured to the ground or building and signs extending above the peak of the roof.

6. Illegal signs, as defined by this title, shall be considered a zoning violation and a public nuisance and subject to the abatement procedures established in section 17.144 of this title.

7. Political signs, as defined by this title, shall comply with all of the following conditions:

   a. No political sign shall be placed within the right-of-way of any state highway.
   b. No political sign shall be placed within the easement or right-of-way or on or over any portion of a county maintained road.
   c. No political sign shall impair traffic safety, sight distance, or traffic flow on any county maintained road, privately maintained county easement, or state highway.
   d. No political sign shall be placed on county property.
   e. No political sign shall be placed sooner than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled election.
Wawona Standards

f. All political signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election.
g. No individual political sign shall be larger than thirty-two (32) square feet.
h. Political signs shall contain no outline tubing, flashing lights, or moving parts.
i. These standards shall apply to all political signs throughout Mariposa County, including in planning areas, unless there are specific standards established for a political sign in the adopted area plan for a planning area.