



## AGENDA

### Madison County Planning Commission & Board of Supervisors Joint Meeting

Madison County Administrative Auditorium  
414 North Main Street, Madison, VA 22727  
Wednesday, July 1, 2026- 7:00 p.m.

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC62By71sBkniEzxfQNAdEA/videos>

**Microsoft Teams:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/249954192470808?p=hJvklJrSt1D9UkBwrg>

#### Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence
- Determine Presence of Quorum
- Microphone Reminder

#### Adoption of Agenda

#### General Public Comment

#### New Business

- Adoption of Minutes – June 17, 2026

#### Public Hearings

- **(Case No. ZOA-05-26-01) Sign Ordinance Amendment**  
The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider amendments to Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12-1-2(16), Article 12-6-14, Article 12-6-15, and Article 12-6-16, and possibly repealing Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12-6-15. These are sign ordinances related to temporary signs, particularly on County-owned property.

#### Upcoming PC Workshop Items

- **(Case No. ZOA-05-26-02) Site Plan Ordinance Amendment (September Public Hearing)**  
Staff has proposed an amendment to the Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Appendix A, Article A.9.1 to establish a limit of site plan validity.
- **(Case No. ZOA-07-26-01) Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance (First Workshop)**  
At the April 28, 2026 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, staff was directed to prepare language for an ADU ordinance in response to SB531, and review that language with a workgroup. The proposed ordinance is ready for review by the Planning Commission.
- **In subcommittee (Case No. ZOA-11-25-01) Ordinance Amendment**  
The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider the adoption of a Rural Services/Contractor Use ordinance to allow for small-medium scale, low-impact, service or contracting businesses in rural areas, where such businesses are accessory to or compatible with agricultural, forestry, and low-density residential uses. This SUP is intended to support economic opportunity while ensuring protection of rural character, minimizing adverse environmental impacts, and preserving compatibility with adjacent properties.

- Other cases as referred by the Preliminary Development Review Committee

**General Public Comment**

**Other Items from the Planning Commission, Staff, or Public**

**Adjournment**

**Full Packet**



Madison, Virginia 22727

## **Madison County Planning Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes June 17, 2026**

The Madison County Planning Commission Workshop meeting was held in the Madison County Administrative Auditorium at 414 N. Main Street in the Town of Madison, Virginia. It was called to order by Vice Chairman Pete Elliott at 6:30 PM.

### **Call to Order**

#### **Determine Presence of a Quorum & Microphone Reminder**

Vice Chairman Elliott determined there was a quorum.

As a quorum was established the following members were present. Vice-Chairman Pete Elliott, Commissioners Clay Jackson, Jim Smith, Steve Carpenter, Nathan Cowan, Anne Gore, and Wayne Dyer. Also, present was Allen Nicholls, Zoning Administrator, and Hannon Wright, County Attorney. Board of Supervisor members present were Chairman Carty Yowell and Supervisor Mike Snider. Planning Commission Chairman Zachary Whitman was absent.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

Cowan made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Carpenter. **Aye: Elliott, Smith, Carpenter, Cowan, Gore, Dyer. Nay: (0); Abstain (0); Absent: Whitman, Jackson.** The motion passed.

#### **General Public Comment**

The Vice Chairman opened the floor for general public comments. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

#### **New Business**

Adoption of Minutes – June 3, 2026

Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes from June 3, 2026, as presented, seconded by Carpenter. **Aye: Elliott, Smith, Carpenter, Gore, Dyer. Nay: (0); Abstain: Cowan; Absent: Whitman, Jackson.** The motion passed.

**(Case No. ZOA-05-26-01) Sign Ordinance Amendment (Second Workshop)**

The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider amendments to Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12-1-2(16) and 12-6-15.

Nicholls - reviewed proposed amendments to the sign ordinance, including a revised definition of a temporary sign and clarification that “election day” means the final day of the election for purposes of the ordinance.

Wright - noted that an alternative to the proposed sign ordinance amendment would be to repeal Section 12-6-15 entirely, resulting in a prohibition on signs at county-owned polling places rather than allowing them during the 36-hour period before and after Election Day.

Smith (as the Chair of the Madison County Electoral Board) - supported the proposed revisions, stating they address legal concerns with the temporary sign definition and clarify “election day,” while noting that restricting signs during early voting would affect many voters who cast ballots before Election Day.

Wright - suggested forwarding both ordinance options—the proposed amendment and full repeal of the section—to the Board of Supervisors, along with the Planning Commission’s recommendation, to ensure transparency and allow full consideration of both alternatives. Additional discussion focused on the potential First Amendment implications of prohibiting all signs at county polling locations, with members noting that a content-neutral ban applied equally to all signs would likely reduce legal risk. Mr. Wright agreed to provide additional legal analysis before the public hearing.

Nicholls - noted that the public hearing notice was intentionally broad, allowing the Board to modify, retain, repeal, or otherwise amend the ordinance, ensuring that all options remain available for consideration during the public hearing process.

The Chairman opened the floor to public comment.

Clint Hyde, Radiant resident - expressed concerns that the proposed sign ordinance language may not provide sufficient clarity regarding sign placement, quantity, ownership, and identification. He also suggested that additional standards, such as sponsor attribution and clearer guidelines for sign use at polling locations, could help prevent confusion, ensure fair access, and reduce the potential for disputes or misunderstandings.

Hearing no additional comments, the floor was closed.

Wright - noted that state law already governs issues such as sign placement near polling locations and certain attribution requirements and cautioned that additional local regulations could raise constitutional concerns. It was also emphasized that the ordinance is intended to remain content-neutral, meaning signs could display a wide range of messages without the County regulating their content.

**(Case No. ZOA-05-26-02) Site Plan Ordinance Amendment (Second Workshop)**

Staff has proposed an amendment to the Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Appendix A, Article A.9.1 to establish a limit of site plan validity.

Nicholls - explained that the proposed ordinance amendment is intended to establish a clear expiration period for approved site plans, noting that while Virginia law requires site plans to remain valid for at least five years, it leaves it to localities to define any longer validity period or expiration standard. He emphasized that the amendment is not intended to hinder active

projects, financing efforts, or phased development, but rather to establish clear, objective standards for when an approved site plan expires if a project is no longer being actively pursued.

Wright - recommended removing the term “complexity” from the proposed ordinance language and limiting the criteria to “size and phasing” to align more closely with state code.

Gore - agreed that “complexity” could introduce ambiguity and potential legal risk because it is difficult to define objectively.

Discussion continued as the commission members explored various hypothetical scenarios and potential outcomes.

The Chairman opened the floor to public comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

### **Informational/Correspondence**

### **Upcoming Public Hearings and Workshops**

#### **(Case No. ZOA-05-26-01) Sign Ordinance Amendment (Public Hearing)**

The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider amendments to Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12-1-2(16) and 12-6-15.

#### **In subcommittee (Case No. ZOA-11-25-01) Ordinance Amendment**

The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider the adoption of a Rural Services/Contractor Use ordinance to allow for small-medium scale, low-impact, service or contracting businesses in rural areas, where such businesses are accessory to or compatible with agricultural, forestry, and low-density residential uses. This SUP is intended to support economic opportunity while ensuring protection of rural character, minimizing adverse environmental impacts, and preserving compatibility with adjacent properties.

**Other cases as referred by Preliminary Development Review Committee.**

### **Other Items from the Planning Commission, Staff, or Public**

#### **General Public Comment**

The floor was opened for public comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

#### **Adjournment**

Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Smith. **Aye: Elliott, Jackson, Smith, Carpenter, Cowan, Gore, Dyer. Nay: (0); Abstain (0); Absent: Whitman.** The motion passed.

End of Minutes:

Attest:

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Zachary Whitman, Chairman of Planning Commission

Date:

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Allen Nicholls, Secretary of Planning Commission

Date:



## **Madison County, Virginia – Planning Commission**

Date: July 1, 2026

Agenda Item: The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to consider amendments to Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12-1-2(16) and 12-6-15.

Prepared and presented by: Allen Nicholls, Planning and Zoning Administrator

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### **Sign Ordinance Amendment**

Case Number: ZOA-05-26-01

The proposed amendments to Article 12 revise the definition of “temporary sign” to clarify that such signs are not permanent and are typically intended for short-term display, including banners, inflatables, A-frames, and lawn signs. The amendments also establish dimensional standards by limiting temporary signs to no more than two display sides and a maximum size of 6 square feet, while removing the existing requirement that temporary signs describe a seasonal or brief use conducted on the same property and the requirement that such signs conform to the size standards for directional signs. Additional amendments to Section 12-6-15 clarify that election-day sign regulations apply to “the final day of the election”.

#### **Public Comment**

Written comments regarding suggested changes to the sign ordinance have been provided by Clint Hyde. His written comments are provided in a document below.

Proposed requirements for sign ordinance changes:

Point: Rules for private property are different from rules for public/county property.

I would argue that the simple rule should be no signs on county property except that the county places them itself, and those signs may not be political in any way.

But if we are going to allow “private signs” to be placed on county property:

1. The Madison County Zoning Administrator is the designated authority for signs. If the ZA is unavailable, a designated deputy can act in his/her place.
2. There is a size limit of six total square feet. If the sign is not rectangular an approximate size measurement is sufficient.
3. There is a style limit: i.e., a free-standing sandwich sign that weighs less than 10 pounds. Signs of this style can be bought for \$50 on Amazon.
4. Sign information content must pertain to an event. A sign may be placed 36 hours in advance of the event, and removed within 48 hours of its end. A sign making any flavor of political statement associated with an election may be present during the entire period of voting.
5. There is a time limit. That time covers from the beginning of early voting through the day after election, because early voting lasts six weeks.
6. No unattributed signs. Attribution must follow campaign sign rules. (i.e., person/org name at the bottom, large enough to read easily, surrounded by a rectangular box.) Unattributed signs appear to have been placed by the county.
7. No signs from outside Madison under any circumstances regardless of content.
8. Creator of sign must make in-person application for placement. This application is to the County Zoning Administrator or designee, who is the only person authorized to approve a sign. ZA will make the determination that the sign meets requirements. If it does meet requirements the ZA will accompany the applicant and watch the location placement, and approve that placement.
9. There will be a standard procedure for this process, created by the ZA, followed by the ZA, and signed by the ZA and the applicant, and also contain applicant’s contact information.
10. A sign that is deposited on county property without a proper application is to be removed by the ZA immediately upon being reported and destroyed within the hour.
11. Unattributed signs may be removed by anyone at any time.
12. The applicant may request a meeting with the ZA or deputy after initial placement If something appears wrong somehow.
13. A Madison resident may register a complaint about a sign (non-residents are ignored), and request a meeting with the ZA.
14. Any Madison resident may request placing a sign on County property. The ZA is to follow procedure to approve the sign and desired location. The ZA may physically relocate any other signs in that immediate vicinity to accommodate a new one. All signs are to be given equitable placement, in order of application.
15. If an application wishes to change the sign content, a new application must be submitted.
16. Sign content must meet “community standards of propriety”: no foul language, no photographs of children, etc.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TEMPORARY SIGN ORDINANCES

12-1-2.16.

Temporary Sign. A sign, not illuminated, ~~describing a seasonal or brief use being conducted upon the lot or premises upon which the sign is located~~ *and not permanent, and often used for short term display, such as banners, inflatables, A-frames, and lawn signs.* Temporary signs shall conform in size to ~~directional signs~~ *not exceed six square feet per side, and not have more than two sides for display.*

12-6-14.

Temporary signs may be permitted in reasonable number as determined by the Zoning Administrator, provided these are not illuminated and a permit is obtained from the Zoning Administrator, if required, provided that in all zones such signs shall not exceed ~~ten~~ *six* square feet in area *per side and not have more than two sides for display.*

12-6-15.

Unlighted, temporary signs, as defined by this article, erected within 36 hours of polls opening on election day (*meaning the final day the election*), to include special elections, or a nominating caucus for a political party registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, at any polling location property that is owned by the County are permitted. Any such signs at polling places must conform to this article as well as to the requirements of the Virginia Code, including § 24.2-310 and § 24.2-604, and shall not be placed in the "Prohibited Area" within 40 feet from the entrance of polling places. Any signs either not complying with this article and this section, or any signs not removed within 36 hours after the polls close on election day, shall constitute grounds for the Zoning Administrator to have the sign removed and/or destroyed. ~~Except as permitted by this ordinance or as otherwise permitted in Article 12, no signs shall be erected on County-owned property.~~ The Zoning Administrator *or his designee* shall have the authority to have any non-complying signs on County-owned property removed and/or destroyed.

(Proposed) *12-6-16. No temporary signs shall be erected on County-owned property except as permitted by in Article 12.* (This sentence could also be placed as the last sentence in 12-6-14.)

Or, as the alternative discussed by the Planning Commission:

~~12-6-15. Unlighted, temporary signs, as defined by this article, erected within 36 hours of polls opening on election day, to include special elections, or a nominating caucus for a political party registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, at any polling location property that is owned by the County are permitted. Any such signs at polling places must conform to this article as well as to the requirements of the Virginia Code, including § 24.2-310 and § 24.2-604, and shall not be placed in the "Prohibited Area" within 40 feet from the entrance of polling places. Any signs either not complying with this article and this section, or any signs not removed within 36 hours after the polls close on election day, shall constitute grounds for the Zoning Administrator to have the sign removed and/or destroyed. Except as permitted by this ordinance or as otherwise permitted in Article 12, no signs shall be erected on County-owned property. The Zoning Administrator shall have the authority to have any non-complying signs on County-owned property removed and/or destroyed.~~ *Repealed.*

**Chairman**  
Carty Yowell

**Vice-Chairman**  
James Jewett

**Board Members**  
Jud Buchanan  
Mike Snider  
Nancy Sharman



**County Administrator**  
Jonathon Weakley

**County Attorney**  
Hannon Wright

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P.O. Box 705  
Madison, Virginia 22727  
PH: (540) 948-7500  
FAX: (540) 948-3843*

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**Ordinance #ZOA-05-26-01**

**WHEREAS**, by Ordinance duly adopted, the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, adopted Appendix 1, Zoning Ordinance of the Madison County Code, which has been amended from time to time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, finds that the following amendments to the Zoning Ordinances of Madison County, Virginia, would promote the health, safety, and general welfare of Madison County, Virginia, and be in accord with the declarations of legislative intent set forth in Virginia Code Section 15.2-2200 (1950, as amended) and the Madison County Comprehensive Plan adopted, as amended, on May 7, 2025,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, that the Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12 be, and is hereby amended to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 12. SIGN REGULATIONS**

~~12-6-15. Unlighted, temporary signs, as defined by this article, erected within 36 hours of polls opening on election day, to include special elections, or a nominating caucus for a political party registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, at any polling location property that is owned by the County are permitted. Any such signs at polling places must conform to this article as well as to the requirements of the Virginia Code, including § 24.2-310 and § 24.2-604, and shall not be placed in the "Prohibited Area" within 40 feet from the entrance of polling places. Any signs either not complying with this article and this section, or any signs not removed within 36 hours after the polls close on election day, shall constitute grounds for the Zoning Administrator to have the sign removed and/or destroyed. Except as permitted by this ordinance or as otherwise permitted in Article 12, no signs shall be erected on County-owned property. The Zoning Administrator shall have the authority to have any non-complying signs on County-owned property removed and/or destroyed. Repealed.~~

All other provisions of Article 12 shall remain in full force and effect.

**ENACTED** and adopted by the Madison County Board of Supervisors on July 1, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carty Yowell, Chairman  
Madison County Board of Supervisors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathon Weakley  
County Administrator

	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
C. Yowell						
J. Jewett						
J. Buchanan						
M. Snider						
N. Sharman						

DRAFT

**Chairman**  
Carty Yowell

**Vice-Chairman**  
James Jewett

**Board Members**  
Jud Buchanan  
Mike Snider  
Nancy Sharman



**County Administrator**  
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**Ordinance #ZOA-05-26-01**

**WHEREAS**, by Ordinance duly adopted, the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, adopted Appendix 1, Zoning Ordinance of the Madison County Code, which has been amended from time to time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, finds that the following amendments to the Zoning Ordinances of Madison County, Virginia, would promote the health, safety, and general welfare of Madison County, Virginia, and be in accord with the declarations of legislative intent set forth in Virginia Code Section 15.2-2200 (1950, as amended) and the Madison County Comprehensive Plan adopted, as amended, on May 7, 2025,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Virginia, that the Madison County Code of Ordinances, Appendix 1, Article 12 be, and is hereby amended to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 12. SIGN REGULATIONS**

Statement of Intent

The following sign regulations are established to assure compatibility of signs with surrounding land usage, to enhance the economy of the County, to protect the public investment in streets and highways, to promote the safety and recreational value of public travel, to preserve natural beauty and to protect tax revenues by promoting the reasonable, orderly, and effective display of Outdoor Advertising.

12-1. *Advertising Outdoors Regulated.*

12-1-1. No person except a public officer or employee in performance of a public duty, shall paste, post, paint, nail, tack, erect, place, maintain, or fasten any sign, pennant, outdoor advertising sign, billboard, or notice of any kind, or cause the same to be done, facing or visible from any public street or public open space, except as provided herein.

12-1-2. Definitions of types and categories of signs regulated by this article are listed below:

1. *Auction Sign.* A sign, not illuminated, advertising an auction to be conducted on or off the lot or premises upon which it is situated. Such signs may be erected not more than one month before the date of the auction advertised and shall be removed within 48 hours of its conclusion.

2. *Business Sign.* A sign either free standing or projecting on wall, which directs attention to product(s), commodity(ies), and/or service(s) available on the lot, premises, or farm upon which it is situated.
3. *Directional Sign.* A sign (one end of which is pointed, on which an arrow is painted or otherwise indicated the direction to which attention is called) not illuminated, four square feet or less in area, giving the name only of a person(s), farm, business, or other establishment.
4. *Free Standing Sign.* A business sign located upon a lot or parcel of ground within the required setback area, not attached to the main building.
5. *General Outdoor Advertising Sign.* A sign which directs attention to a product, commodity, or service not necessarily available on the premises.
6. *Home Occupation Sign.* A sign not exceeding four square feet in area directing attention to a service available on the premises, but which service is clearly a secondary use of the dwelling.
7. *Hunting, Fishing or Trespassing Sign.* A sign, not illuminated, 1 ½ square feet or less in area erected on the appurtenant premises solely as a warning or notice.
8. *Identification Sign.* A sign which identifies or otherwise describes the name, ownership, or location of the lot or parcel of land upon which it is situated.
9. *Illuminated Sign.* A sign, or any part of a sign, which is externally or internally illuminated or otherwise lighted from a source specifically intended for the purpose of such illumination or lighting.
10. *Location Sign.* A sign which directs attention to the approximate location of an establishment from which the advertised products, service, or accommodation may be obtained and not situated upon the premises upon which such establishment is located.
11. *Deleted from ordinance.*
12. *Projecting Sign.* A business sign projecting perpendicularly to the building wall surface to which it is attached, no part of which is more than six feet from the wall surface of the building on which it is erected.
13. *Public Sign.* A sign owned by and erected at the instance of a Federal State or local government agency.
14. *Sale or Rental Sign.* A sign, not illuminated, which designates all or portions of the lot or premises upon which it is located to be for sale or lease. Such signs shall be removed within one week of sale or lease of the lot or premises upon which it is situated. The lettering or message on any one side of such sign may be different from any other side.
15. *Subdivision Sign.* A sign, not illuminated, 40 square feet or less in aggregate area identifying a subdivision and located thereon at the entrance to such subdivision. Said sign shall be no greater in height than six feet, and setback from any right-of-way for proper sight distance.
16. *Temporary Sign.* A sign, not illuminated, ~~describing a seasonal or brief use being conducted upon the lot or premises upon which the sign is located.~~ **and not permanent, and often used for short term display, such as banners, inflatables, A-frames, and lawn signs.** Temporary signs shall conform in size to directional signs **not exceed six square feet, and not have more than two sides for display.**

17. *Wall Sign.* A business sign erected or painted on a building visible from the exterior thereof, no part of which is more than 12 inches from the surface of the building on which it is erected. Such sign may be illuminated by indirect method.

(Ord. No. 2011-4, § 2, 4-12-2011; Ord. No. 2021-8, 8-4-2021)

12-2. *Area Regulations for Signs By Zones.*

12-2-1. *Agricultural, A-1 and Conservation, C-1.*

1. *Business signs.* Maximum size of total surface area 32 square feet.
2. *Church bulletin boards and identification signs.* 40 square feet limit.
3. *Directional signs.* Four square feet limit.
4. *General advertising signs.* 80 square feet limit.
5. *Home occupation signs.* Eight square feet limit per sign.
6. *Temporary signs.* 40 square feet limit.

12-2-2. *Residential, R-1, R-2, and R-3.*

1. Business signs, only to advertise the sale or rent of the premises upon which erected, with a total surface area not exceeding 32 square feet per sign.
2. Church bulletin boards and identification signs, with a total surface area not exceeding 40 square feet per sign.
3. Directional signs, with a total surface area not exceeding four square feet per sign.
4. Home occupation signs, with a total surface area not exceeding eight square feet per sign.
5. Temporary signs with approval from the Zoning Administrator- 40 square feet limit.

12-2-3. *Business B-1.*

1. *Business sign, free standing.* 100 square feet limit.
- 1A. *Business sign, projecting or wall.* Two square feet for each linear foot of building frontage limit.
2. *Church bulletin boards and identification signs.* 40 square feet limit.
3. *Directional signs.* Eight square feet limit.
4. *General advertising signs.* 100 square feet limit.
5. *Home occupation signs.* Eight square feet limit.
6. *Temporary signs.* 40 square feet limit.

12-2-4. *Industrial M-1 and M-2.*

- a. *Business or Industrial Signs.* 150 square feet limit.
- b. *Identification Signs.* 80 square feet limit.
- c. *Directional Signs.* Eight square feet limit.
- d. *General Advertising Signs.* 100 square feet limit.

e. *Temporary Signs.* 40 square feet limit.

12-3. *Setback Requirements.*

Signs with a total surface area less than four square feet per sign may be erected up to the property line. Signs with a total surface area more than four square feet but less than ten square feet per sign shall be located 15 feet or more from any street right-of-way. All signs exceeding ten square feet in total surface area shall setback 25 feet or more from any street right-of-way.

12-4. *Height Regulations.*

Free standing signs shall not exceed a height of 20 feet above ground level or the street to which it is oriented, whichever is higher, without a special use permit.

12-5. *Prohibited Signs.*

No sign shall be erected, maintained or operated:

12-5-1. (Except for authorized traffic signs) which is located at the intersection of any street in such a manner as to create a traffic hazard by obstructing vision between heights of 2 ½ and eight feet; or at any location where it may interfere with, obstruct the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign.

12-5-2. Which imitates or resembles any official traffic sign, signal, or device or uses the words "Stop" or "Danger" prominently displayed or presents or implies the need or requirement of changing speed or direction or the existence of danger on any highway.

12-5-3. Which is not effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed as any portion of the traveled ways of a street or highway and which is of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any vehicle.

12-5-4. Which advertises any activities which are illegal under State or Federal law or regulations in effect at the location of such sign or at the location of such activities.

12-5-5. Which is obsolete or inconsistent with State law or the provisions of this ordinance.

12-5-6. Which is located anywhere other than on the property or structure to which it directs attention or to which it is appurtenant except (1) any sign erected or maintained by or under the supervision of County or other governmental authority or the Virginia Department of Highways and (2) any other sign which is specifically provided for or permitted in this article.

12-5-7. Which is fastened, placed, painted, pasted or attached in any way to, in or upon any tree, fence, public utility pole, rock, curbstone, sidewalk, lamppost, hydrant, bridge, highway marker or another sign except such as may be:

- (1) Required by law;
- (2) So placed by a duly authorized governmental agency;
- (3) So placed not as an advertisement but as a warning against hunting, fishing or trespassing; or
- (4) Not visible from any highway.

12-5-8. Which violates any provisions of the laws of Virginia relating to outdoor advertising including Code of Virginia, §§ 13.1-351 to 33.1-381, inclusive, and 46.1-174, as amended.

12-6. *Permitted Signs.*

- 12-6-1. Only signs as listed and described in this subsection or otherwise provided for in the sub-sections of this section shall be permitted and these shall be subject to such regulations as are specifically set forth in each case and to all other regulations in this ordinance. No other signs shall be permitted. The permitted signs in Madison County are:
- 12-6-2. Government Signs: Signs erected and maintained by the Virginia Department of Highways or other governmental authorities in accordance with law.
- 12-6-3. Historical markers erected by duly authorized public authorities.
- 12-6-4. Danger, aviation, railroad, bridge, ferry, transportation, Red Cross, public utilities, and other signs as set forth in section 33.1-355.
- 12-6-5. Hunting, fishing, or trespassing signs erected on the appurtenant property solely as a warning or notice. Such signs shall not exceed an area of 1.5 square feet and shall not be illuminated.
- 12-6-6. Directional signs of a public or quasi-public nature identifying or locating a town, hospital, community center, public building, or historical place situated in Madison County, Virginia, and also signs identifying or locating a school, college, YMCA, church, or similar place of workshop, board of trade, service club, soil conservation activity, 4-H Club, Isaac Walton League, Chamber of Commerce, or similar public or quasi-public activity for religious, civic, educational, or cultural purposes and signs drawing attention to public conveniences relating to such places or activities.
- 12-6-7. Name signs upon property displaying the name or address of the premises and the nature of the home occupation.
- 12-6-8. Home occupational signs upon property displaying the name and/or address of the occupant of the premises and the nature of the home occupation.
- 12-6-9. Tourist home signs, announcing accommodations only when located on the premises.
- 12-6-10. Farm signs and wayside stand signs erected or maintained on any farm by the owner or tenant of such farm and relating solely to farm or horticultural produce, livestock, or services sold, produced, manufactured, or furnished on such farm.
- 12-6-11. Store window signs or displays on or within store windows.
- 12-6-12. Construction signs erected and maintained on the site of a structure during the period of construction to announce only the nature of the structure and/or the name or names of the owner, contractor, architect, or engineer.
- 12-6-13. Business signs, exclusive of billboards, of a character which have not been listed or described, provided they advertise only businesses located in Madison County, Virginia. Subject to design, height, bulk, and lighting in Madison County, Virginia. Subject to design, height, bulk, and lighting approval by the Planning Commission.
- 12-6-14. Temporary signs may be permitted in reasonable number as determined by the Zoning Administrator, provided these are not illuminated and a permit is obtained from the Zoning Administrator, if required, provided that in all zones such signs shall not exceed ~~ten~~ **six** square feet in area **per side and not have more than two sides for display**.
- 12-6-15. Unlighted, temporary signs, as defined by this article, erected within 36 hours of polls opening on election day (**meaning the final day of the election**), to include special elections, or a nominating caucus for a political party registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, at any polling location property that is owned by the County are permitted. Any such signs at polling places must conform to this article as

well as to the requirements of the Virginia Code, including § 24.2-310 and § 24.2-604, and shall not be placed in the "Prohibited Area" within 40 feet from the entrance of polling places. Any signs either not complying with this article and this section, or any signs not removed within 36 hours after the polls close on election day, shall constitute grounds for the Zoning Administrator to have the sign removed and/or destroyed. The Zoning Administrator **or his designee** shall have the authority to have any non-complying signs on County-owned property removed and/or destroyed.

**12-6-16. No temporary signs shall be erected on County-owned property except as permitted in Article 12.**

All other provisions of Article 12 not amended in accordance with the foregoing shall remain in full force and effect.

**ENACTED** and adopted by the Madison County Board of Supervisors on July 1, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carty Yowell, Chairman  
Madison County Board of Supervisors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathon Weakley  
County Administrator

	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
C. Yowell						
J. Jewett						
J. Buchanan						
M. Snider						
N. Sharman						