

TOWN OF CANTERBURY

Town Center Sign Policy

1. Authority – The Selectmen, under the Prudential Affairs statute RSA 41:8, derive the authority to develop and adopt policies and procedures of the Town. This policy is in addition to the rules specified in the Canterbury Zoning Ordinance Sections 2.6 and 5.4.D.2.
2. Effective Date – This policy shall become **effective immediately** upon its adoption by the Board of Selectmen.
3. Purpose – The primary purpose of this policy is to regulate the placement of advertising signs and other informative signage on the Town-owned land at the Town Center.
4. Sign Policy – The following criteria are established to protect and preserve the appearance and nature of the historic center of the Town of Canterbury while allowing reasonable accommodation to businesses and citizens wishing to post temporary signs to promote certain activities and events.
 - a. All signs placed on Town-owned land in the Town Center require prior approval by the Board of Selectmen.
 - b. Temporary signs erected by Town Staff for conducting Town business are excepted from this policy.
 - c. Signage for events that have already been approved via the Facilities Use Agreement, do not need additional approval through this policy. However, those events must still follow material and duration requirements as described in this policy.
 - d. Town-owned land includes the green around the Gazebo, the Cemetery, the Elkins Memorial Building, the Town Offices, Town Hall, and Library. (Town-owned land includes Map 106 Lots 1, 2-1, 3 and Map 107 Lots 29, 14)
 - e. All signs must be temporary and erected no more than two weeks prior to an event or only for the specific duration of a harvest. Permanent signs may not be erected.
 - f. All signs must support a land use, business, or event that is consistent with the character of the Town as recognized in the Master Plan for Development. The space at the center shall be reserved for those events, businesses, or land-uses that due to their location do not have other reasonable opportunities for effective signage. No political or candidate signs may be permitted.
 - g. Signs must be well constructed and aesthetically pleasing. Paper signs, lighted signs, plastic message boards, moving signs, colored banners, etc. are not permitted.

- h. Signs are approved on a first come first serve basis. A maximum of 4? signs are allowed at a time.
- i. Approval for a sign application expires after a year by default. Signs for recurring events and harvests where the timing and design of the sign doesn't change, may be approved for several years at a time.
- j. If deemed necessary, the Selectboard may make exceptions to the material and duration requirements.
- k. Signs that are placed in violation of this policy will be removed by Town staff and kept at the Town office for retrieval by the owner.