

Guidance Document

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-901.03

This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

Directional/Service Club & Religious Notices

These signs relate to the meetings of nonprofit service clubs, charitable associations, or religious services.

They must not exceed 8 sq.ft. in area.

The message must be limited to the identification of the activity and directional information to assist in locating it.

Descriptive words or phrases or pictorial representations shall not be permitted; however, nationally or regionally recognized symbols of these types of activities will be allowed.

Farm & Ranch

These signs are allowed for the purpose of locating or giving direction to farms or ranches from all controlled routes except the Interstate.

They must display only the name of the farm, ranch, or the owner of such farm or ranch and the direction and distance to the farm or ranch.

They must not exceed 8 sq.ft. in area.

When they are used in combination with other such class of signs, the combined signs shall not exceed 150 sq. ft in area, provided no individual sign shall exceed eight sq.ft.

What is Not Allowed?

Of the five classes of signs allowed in Nebraska, only one class, class III is not allowed to be erected adjacent to a Scenic Byway.

Basically, class III signs are commercial billboards that advertise off premise activities, goods, or services. If the route was not a scenic byway, class III signs would be required to be located in zoned or unzoned commercial or industrial areas.

Therefore, no new class III signs shall be erected so they are visible from the maintraveled way of any scenic byway. All previously permitted class III signs will be allowed to remain adjacent to a scenic byway.

Additional Details

Additional details can be obtained by contacting the Nebraska Department of Roads District Permit Officer at the following locations.

District 1

302 Superior St.
Lincoln, NE 68521
(402)471-0850

District 2

4425 S. 108th St.
Omaha, NE 68137
(402)595-2534

District 3

408 N. 13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68702
(402)370-3470

District 4

211 N. Tilden
Grand Island, NE 68803
(308)385-6265

District 5

140375 Rundell Rd.
Gering, NE 69341
(308)436-6587

District 6

1321 N. Jeffers
North Platte, NE 69101
(308)535-8031

District 7

619 Auditorium Dr.
McCook, NE 69001
(308)345-8490

District 8

736 E. 4th St.
Ainsworth, NE 69210
(402)387-2471

Nebraska Byways

A Guide to Highway Signs



Nebraska Department of Roads

Nebraska Byways Program

The Nebraska Byways Program identifies significant two-lane highways throughout the state that highlight Nebraska's diverse topography, history, culture, recreational opportunities and landscapes.

Highway Beautification Control System

Scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, and archeological byways are subject to the laws and rules and regulations relating to the control of advertising adjacent to certain highways in the state.

Authority to Control Signs

Neb. Rev. Stat. 39-218 states: "No sign shall be erected which is visible from the main-traveled way of any scenic byway except (1) directional and official signs to include, but not be limited to signs and notices pertaining to natural wonders, scenic attractions, and historical attractions; (2) signs, displays, and devices advertising the sale or lease of property upon which such media are located; and (3) signs, displays, and devices advertising activities conducted on the property on which such media are located. Signs which are allowed shall comply with the standards and criteria established by rules and regulations of the Department of Roads."



Rules and Regulations for Advertising Signs

Rules and regulations relating to the control of advertising signs are cited as Title 410 – Nebraska Department of Roads – Right of Way Division, Chapter 3 – Sign Permits.

No new sign shall be erected which is visible from the main-traveled way of any byway except:

- **Class I**
Official signs as allowed in 002.03.
- **Class II**
On-Premise signs as allowed in 002.04.
- **Class IV**
Directional signs as allowed in 002.06.
- **Class V**
Farm and ranch directional signs as allowed in 002.07.

Overview of Allowed Signs

Official

Must be owned by a public agency within their territorial jurisdiction.

Must carry out an official duty.

Official/Public Utility

These are warning or informational signs that are essential to the operation of publicly or privately owned utilities.

On-Premise/Goods & Services

On-premise signs advertise goods or services offered on the premises where the sign is located.

On-Premise/For Sale or Lease

There are no controls when located on the property which is for sale or lease.

Directional

Must contain directional information about:

- Places owned or operated by the government, or
- Natural phenomena, historic, cultural, scientific, educational and religious sites, or
- Areas of natural scenic beauty, or
- Areas naturally suited for outdoor recreation.

These signs cannot exceed 150 sq.ft. in area and must comply with stringent spacing and lighting requirements.

These signs may contain only identification of the activity and directional information.

Advertising and the use of logos is prohibited.