

OHIO – State Specific Signs

Ohio ADA Parking Signs

Overview:

All states must comply with The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It is a federal wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADAAG) stipulates design standards for accessible parking spaces. Section 502.6 of ADAAG and The Department of Transportation Standard for Highway Signs (MUTCD) both address design standards for the required signs.

Resources:

2010 ADAAG Standards: (Free)

http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm

MUTCD Standard for Highway Signs: (Free)

https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs_2004_2012_sup.pdf

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4511.69>

Design of Parking Signs:

- Accessible parking spaces must have a sign that includes the international symbol of accessibility and state “RESERVED PARKING.” Spaces designed for van parking must also have a sign stating “VAN ACCESSIBLE.” (ADAAG 502.6), (MUTCD R7-8)
- The sign should be 12”W x 18”H with green lettering and border on a white background. The symbol of accessibility should be 4”H and be white on a blue background. The symbol is a depiction of a person in a wheel chair. (MUTCD R7-8), (ADAAG 703.7.2.1)
- If required, the van accessible sign should be 12”W x 6”H and have green lettering and border on a white background or white lettering and border on a blue background. (MUTCD R7-8a, R&-8b)
- Signs should be mounted at least 60 inches above the parking surface so as to not be obstructed by any parked vehicles.
- Signs should be constructed to withstand the elements. An aluminum substrate with a reflective surface using UV stable ink is recommended. An anti-graffiti laminate surface might also be considered.
- Of note: Federal accessibility signs avoid the use of the text “handicapped” or “disabled” as a result of the Department of Justice’s efforts to make use of up-to-date accepted terminology and avoid stereotyping of individuals. (28CFR35.104)
- Ohio requires that the reserved parking sign also state the maximum fine for illegal use of the space. (4511.69 (E))

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Ohio No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Ohio prohibits smoking in a public place or place of employment. The only exemptions to the statewide ban are for designated hotel/motel rooms, designated rooms in nursing homes, retail tobacco stores, private clubs, and outdoor patios. The Ohio Smoking Ban Law became effective on 11/7/2006 and requires posting of signs enforcing the law at various locations. (3794.02) (3794.03)

Resources:

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3794>

Ohio Smoke-Free Workplace: (Free)

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/smoke-free-workplace-program/smokefreeworkplaceactandprogram>

Design of No Smoking Signs:

- The state statute requires the posting of “No Smoking” signs or the international no smoking symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it, by the owner or other person in control of any facility where smoking is prohibited. All signs must also contain a telephone number for reporting violations. (3794.06)

Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

The Ohio Department of Health stipulates rules governing the use of public swimming pools and spas. The code became effective on 1/1/2004.

Resources:

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/3701-31>

NSP Foundation: (Free)

http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

Below are the required Ohio swimming pool and spa signs. See the Ohio regulation for more specific posting and design information.

- A sign stating “No Lifeguard on Duty” posted at a pool where lifeguards are not provided. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(a))
- A sign stating “Swimming Alone Is Not Recommended” and “Children Must Be Supervised” when there is no lifeguard on duty. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(b))
- A sign posting emergency contact information. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(c))
- A sign stating “Danger-Pool Closed” or “Warning-Pool Closed” when the pool is not open. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(d))
- A sign at spas stating “Caution” and various rules. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(e))

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(Swimming Pool Signs Continued)

- A sign at water slides stating various rules. (3701-31-04(E)(3)(f))
- A sign at spray grounds stating various rules. (3701-31-5.1 (Y)(9)}

Ohio Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The State of Ohio in 2923.12 of the Ohio Administrative Code, allows residents of the state to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they have been issued a permit granted by the local city or county in which they reside. An applicant for a permit must complete an acceptable firearm training program. There are certain places such as courthouses, law enforcement facilities, airports, schools, government buildings etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. Ohio honors the CCW permits of a number of other states. (2923.12 (B)) (2923.126 (B)) Valid concealed handgun license holders may not be prohibited by a business entity, property owner, or public or private employer from transporting or storing a firearm or ammunition in their vehicle on such property when certain conditions are met. (2923.1210 (A))

Resources:

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/2923.12>

Handgunlaw.com/Ohio: (Free)

<http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/ohio.pdf>

Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

- By state law, the owner of a private business may forbid CCW in their establishment by posting a sign at the entrance stating that weapons are forbidden in the facility. (2923.126(C)(3)).

Cell Phone Signs

Overview:

As of 8/31/2012 Ohio has barred all drivers from texting while driving. Drivers under 18 are barred from using handheld wireless devices while driving a motorized vehicle. Consult your local municipality for any local regulations. (Ohio Revised Code § 4511.204, 4511.205)

Resources:

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4511.204>

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4511.205>

Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free)

[Ohio text messaging legislation - distracted driving laws](#)



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(Cell Phone Signs Continued)

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Ohio.
- An efficient way to remind both commercial and private drivers of cell phone bans is to apply a “No Cell Phone Use While Driving” safety label or window decal to cars, taxi cabs, trucks, and buses.
- Of note: Because cell phones can be distractive by nature, it is common to see signs regulating cell phone use in public buildings such as theaters, airports, courtrooms, hospitals, buses, schools and school traffic zones.

Baby Surrender Signs

Overview:

Since the first baby surrender (safe-haven) law was enacted in Texas in 1999, all U.S. states, as well as the District of Columbia, have passed safe-haven legislation. The laws allow an unharmed infant to be relinquished to the proper authorities.

Resources:

Ohio Regulation: (Free)

http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/Ohio_Safe_Haven_Law.pdf

NSH Alliance: (Free)

<https://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/>

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- The Ohio Revised Statutes establishes the provisions for the relinquishing of a new born infant (30 days old or less) by a parent who no longer wishes to have custody of the child. The infant may be relinquished at any hospital, EMS provider, or law enforcement agency required by the Act. Though not mandated by law, hospitals may post a sign indicating they are a facility accepting baby surrender. (2151.3516)

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