CHAPTER 10
ABANDONED OR UNSAFE SIGNS

SECTION:

12-10-1 ABANDONED OR UNSAFE SIGNS

A. Abandoned Signs

1. Any sign, whether existing on or erected after the effective date of this Title, which advertises an event which has already occurred, a business no longer being conducted or a product no longer being sold from the premises to which the sign relates, shall be considered abandoned. Notwithstanding anything in the Title to the contrary, this provision shall apply to both exempt and non-exempt signs.

2. In the event the owner or permittee fails to remove an abandoned sign within five (5) days after written notice from the Department of Community and Economic Development, each additional day the sign remains shall be considered a separate violation and a fine shall be rendered for each additional day in accordance with the fee schedule in Chapter 15 of Title 1 of this Code. This is the joint and several obligation of the property owner and permittee.

3. Any sign for which a permit is required and such permit has expired and is not renewed within sixty (60) days after the expiration thereof shall be considered abandoned.

4. Abandoned signs shall be removed within three (3) business days of the sign being deemed abandoned.

B. Unsafe Signs

When any sign becomes unsafe or insecure by reference to the regulations of Title 5, Chapter 4, or becomes a nuisance, or has been constructed, or is being maintained in violation of the provisions of this Title or other provisions of the Zoning Code, the owner thereof or the person or firm maintaining the sign shall, upon written notice of the Department of Community and Economic Development, within no more than fifteen (15) days, make such sign conform to the provisions of this Title, or the applicable provision of the Village Code, or remove it. The Village Manager or his designee may declare any sign which is an immediate peril to persons or property a nuisance and cause it to be removed with or without prior notice, at the owner's expense. Notice will then be sent to the owner of the sign within three (3) days after its removal describing the owner's rights to redeem the sign and prompt post-deprivation hearing. The Village shall keep and store the removed sign for up to ninety (90) days; provided the owner may redeem the sign by reimbursing the Village the full cost of its removal and storage. Upon written petition of the owner of the sign, filed thirty (30) days and no later than sixty (60) days after the removal of the sign, the Village Board may hold a hearing to determine whether removal of the sign was warranted and, if appropriate, establish conditions for reconstructing the removed sign, however in no case shall a sign permit be granted for such reconstruction unless all provisions of this Ordinance and all other Village ordinances are met.