

Halifax sent out an email update that the amendments approved by Council in September 2023 have now been implemented, and the new application types of Individual Temporary Sign license, and Annual Business License, are available to apply for in the [Customer Portal](#).

Please see below for additional information:

### **What does that mean for you as business owners?**

The **Annual Temporary Sign Business License** allows sign companies to apply for a set number of signs that will be placed on private property within HRM. This License is valid for a full year. The annual license is **not renewable**, and **new signs cannot be added throughout the year**. If all stickers provided once your application has been approved are used prior to the Annual Business license expiring, all additional signs will require individual license applications submitted. Each sign license within the annual business license is \$75 per sign and will have a sticker associated.

The **Individual Temporary Sign License** is used for all signs located on HRM property and signs in the Right of Way that do not meet the bylaw requirements, if you only do a small number of signs annually, or if the total number of signs used within the Annual Temporary Sign license has been exceeded.

### **There are also new sign types that have been added into the Bylaw S-801:**

**New Temporary Sign:** This sign type is listed as 'Other' within the Customer Portal. It is used if there are new signs introduced into industry that do not fall within the current types covered under the Bylaw S-801. These signs cannot be added under the Annual Business license, only applied for as an Individual Temporary Sign license as they need to be reviewed by HRM Staff. They can be placed for a period not to exceed 90 days.

**Free Standing Sign:** Although this isn't a new type of sign, it never required a license before. To limit clutter on properties, we have now added it to the Bylaw S-801, where 5 or less are allowed on a property without a license, or unlimited signs if it is for a special, short-term event for up to 14 days. For 6 or more, an Individual Temporary Sign license is required to be reviewed by HRM staff. These signs cannot be added under the Annual Business license.

Each of these sign types are \$37 per sign.

### **Signs in Parks:**

We are receiving an overabundance of applications for signs in parks, and it is getting to the point we are having to deny others because ones that have been up for the legislated period of time, then reapplied as a renewal, are keeping that space. Renewals were never allowed, although we were approving them.

We have also had issues with too many signs in parks, causing clutter and sometimes a safety issue for the use of the park.

**Effective immediately (started January 1, 2024),** Licensing and Parks are only allowing one temporary sign to be erected at a time within parks, and are returning to the legislated maximum 14 days during the winter months, and 10 days during the summer months, with no option to renew for the same organization/business, to allow for equity and fairness for all community events and organizations.

**Box Sign Reminder:**

Please be reminded that all box signs placed on a property, whether they are sold to the property owner or rented out for a period of time, require a sign license which is good for a one-year period. We have been receiving complaints over the past few months about box signs that are placed incorrectly on the property per the bylaw requirements, and are not licensed. If selling or renting a sign, please ensure the property owner is advised that a license is required.

**Where can you find more information?**

Please see the details of the changes made as of September, 2023, within the [Bylaw S-801](#)

All details of the fee structure can be found under the [Administrative Order 15](#)

All information relative to the new Sign License types, fees and sign types can be found on our website: [Temporary Signs](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Tanya Snair. Please see below for contact information:

**TANYA SNAIR**  
**SHE/HER**

C. 902.490.2550

**REGIONAL LICENSING SUPERVISOR**  
**COMMUNITY STANDARDS | LICENSING**  
**COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**HALIFAX**



The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.