

**CHAPTER 20**  
**SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS**

**Sec. 20-1. Certain Signs Prohibited.**

Except as hereinafter specifically provided, no sign, billboard, placard, or other display advertising medium shall be placed, installed or permitted to remain upon any property within the limits of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, as may hereafter be expanded, which has a total square foot display or advertising area in excess of 80 square feet. For purposes hereof, any combination of more than one such sign, billboard, placard or other display advertising located upon a single tract or parcel of land or upon a single standard or support structure shall be deemed to be a single sign, billboard, placard or other advertising medium.

**Sec. 20-2. Penalties for Violation.**

Any person, firm or corporation who shall place, install or maintain any such sign in violation of the prohibitions of Sec. 20-1 shall be subject to a fine of up to \$100.00 for each violation of the provisions hereof. For purposes hereof, each day that any such sign is placed, installed or permitted to remain in violation of the provisions hereof shall constitute a separate offense.

**Sec. 20-3. Exceptions.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 20-1 and 20-2 above, any sign which would otherwise be in violation hereof which is in use as of the date of adoption hereof shall be permitted to remain in use, provided that, at any time hereafter that any such sign shall no longer be in active use, the prohibitions of Sec. 20-1 shall thereafter apply to such sign. For purposes hereof, a sign will be considered to be in active use if the advertising placed thereon is placed pursuant to a current advertising contract with the owner of the sign. At any time, and from time to time, the City may notify the then owner of any such sign of its belief that any such sign is not in active use, and such owner shall, within thirty days after the date of such notice provide to the City evidence of the existence of a current advertising contract for the use of such sign. Failing the provision of any such current advertising contract, the said sign will be deemed not to be in active use and may not, thereafter, be utilized as a sign and the owner thereof shall forthwith cause the removal of the said sign, its standard and all supports therefor. *(Ord. No. 96-16 § 2, 6-10-96)*

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