

VILLAGE OF RINGWOOD  
ORDINANCE NO. 98- 2 - 3

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CHAPTER 9 OF THE  
RINGWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE  
RELATING TO OUTDOOR LIGHTING

ADOPTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF RINGWOOD THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1998

Published in pamphlet form by  
authority of the President and  
Board of Trustees of the Village  
of Ringwood, McHenry County, Illinois  
this 16th day of February, 1998.

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RINGWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE  
RELATING TO OUTDOOR LIGHTING

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF RINGWOOD, ILLINOIS, as follows:

SECTION 1. The following provisions are hereby adopted as and for Chapter 9 of the Village  
of Ringwood Municipal Code:

Section 9-101. PURPOSE AND INTENT.

The purpose of this Outdoor Lighting Code (hereinafter referred to as "this Code"), is to create standards for outdoor lighting so that its use does not unreasonably interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment of property within the jurisdiction. It is the intent of this Code to encourage, through regulation of types, kinds, construction, installation and uses of outdoor electrically powered illuminating devices, lighting practices and systems which will reduce light pollution and conserve energy while increasing nighttime safety, utility, security and productivity.

Section 9-102. CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODES.

All outdoor electrically powered illuminating devices shall be installed in conformance with the provisions of this Code, the building code, the electrical code and the sign code of the Village as applicable and under appropriate permit and

inspection.

Section 9-103. APPROVED MATERIALS AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION OR INSTALLATION/OPERATION.

The provisions of this Code are not intended to prevent the use of any design, material or method of installation or operation not specifically prescribed by this Code, provided any such alternate has been approved. The Building Official may approve any such proposed alternate provided he finds that it:

- A. Provides at least approximate equivalence to the applicable specific requirements of this Code; and
- B. Is otherwise satisfactory and complies with the intent of this Code; or
- C. Has been designed or approved by a registered professional engineer and content and function promotes the intent of this Code.

Section 9-104. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Code, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

A. "Person" means any individual, tenant, lessee, owner, or any commercial entity including but not limited to a firm, business, sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture or corporation.

B. "Installed" means the attachment, or assembly fixed in place, whether or not connected to a power source, of any outdoor light fixture.

C. "Outdoor light fixtures" means outdoor electrically powered illuminating devices, outdoor lighting or reflective surfaces, lamps and similar devices, permanently installed or portable, used for illumination or advertisement. Such devices shall include, but are not limited, to search, spot and flood lights for:

- 1. Buildings and structures;
- 2. Recreational areas;
- 3. Parking lot lighting;
- 4. Landscape lighting;
- 5. Billboards and other signs (advertising or other);
- 6. Street lighting;
- 7. Product display area lighting;
- 8. Building overhangs and open canopies.

Section 9-105. SHIELDING.

All nonexempt outdoor lighting fixtures shall have shielding as required by the table set forth in Section 6. "Fully shielded" means outdoor light fixtures shielded or constructed so that no light rays are emitted by the installed fixture at angles above the horizontal plane as certified by photometric test report. "Partially shielded" means outdoor light fixtures shielding or constructed so that no more than ten percent of the light rays are emitted by the installed fixture at angles above the horizontal plane as certified by photometric test report.

Section 9-106. CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIELDING.

Code requirements for shielding are set out in the following table:

CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIELDING AND FILTERING

<u>Fixture Lamp Type</u>	<u>Shielded</u>
Low pressure sodium	Partially
High pressure sodium	Prohibited except fully shielded on arterial streets and collector streets of 100' or more in right-of-way width.
Metal halide	Prohibited
Fluorescent	Fully
Quartz	Prohibited
Incandescent greater than 160W	Fully
Incandescent 160W or less	None
Any light source of 50 W or less	None
Glass tubes filled with neon, argon, krypton	None

Section 9-107. FILTRATION.

Metal halide fixture lamp types shall be filtered. "Filtered" means any outdoor light fixture which has a glass, acrylic or translucent enclosure of the light source.

Section 9-108. OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS.

A. Top Mounted Fixtures Required. Lighting fixtures used to illuminate an outdoor advertising sign shall be mounted on the top of the sign structure. All such fixtures shall comply with the shielding requirements of Section 9-105 and the time controls of Section 9-110F.

B. Prohibitions. See Section 9-110F for prohibitions.

Section 9-109. SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CODE - SUBDIVISION PLATS.

A. Submission Contents. The applicant for any permit required by any provision of the laws of this Village in connection with proposed work involving outdoor light fixtures shall submit (as part of the application for permit) evidence that the proposed work will comply with this Code. The submission shall contain but shall not necessarily be limited to the following, all or part of which may be part of or in addition to the information required elsewhere in the laws of this Village upon application for the required permit:

1. Plans indicating the location on the premises, and the type of illuminating devices, fixtures, lamps, supports, reflectors and other devices.

2. Description of the illuminating devices, fixtures, lamps, supports, reflectors and other devices and the description may include, but is not limited to,

catalog cuts by manufacturers and drawings (including sections if needed to make the application clear);

3. Photometric data, such as that furnished by manufacturers, or similar material showing the angle of cut off or light emissions.

B. Additional Submission. The plans, descriptions and data required in this section shall be sufficiently complete to enable the plans examiner to readily determine whether compliance with the requirements of this Code will be secured. If such plans, descriptions and data cannot enable this ready determination, by reason of the nature or configuration of the devices, fixtures or lamps proposed, the applicant shall additionally submit as evidence of compliance to enable such determination such certified reports of tests as will do so provided that these tests shall have been performed and certified by a recognized testing laboratory.

C. Subdivision Plat Certification. If any subdivision proposes to have installed street or other common or public area outdoor lighting, the applicable provisions of this Lighting Code will be adhered to.

D. Lamp or Fixture Substitution. Should any outdoor light fixture or the type of light source therein be changed after the permit has been issued, a change request must be submitted to the building official for his approval, together with adequate information to assure compliance with this Code, which must be received prior to substitution.

#### Section 9-110. PROHIBITIONS.

A. Mercury Vapor Fixtures and Lamps. The installation of any mercury vapor fixture or lamp for use as outdoor lighting is prohibited, except that provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any replacement lamp.

B. Certain Other Fixtures and Lamps. The installation of any low pressure sodium, high pressure sodium, metal halide, fluorescent quartz or incandescent outdoor lighting fixture or lamp the use of which is not allowed by the table shown in 9-106 is prohibited.

C. Laser Source Light. Except as provided in subsection D of this section, the use of laser source light or any similar high-intensity light for outdoor advertising or entertainment, when projected above the horizontal, is prohibited.

D. Searchlights. The operation of searchlights for advertising purposes is prohibited.

E. Recreational Facilities. No outdoor recreational facility, public or private, shall be illuminated after ten p.m. except to conclude a specific recreational or sporting event or any other similar activity conducted at or in the facility which was in progress under such illumination prior to ten p.m.

F. Outdoor Advertising Site Signs. Electrical illumination of outdoor advertising off-site signs is prohibited between hours of ten p.m. and sunrise.

#### Section 9-111. SPECIAL USES - OUTDOOR DISPLAY LOTS.

Any light source permitted by this Code may be used for lighting of outdoor display lots such as, but not limited to, automobile sales or rental, recreational vehicle

sales or building material sales, provided all of the following conditions are met: -

A. Lighting for parking lots and other areas surrounding the display lot shall comply with this Code for lighting in the specific area as defined in Section 9-104 of this Code.

B. All fixtures used for display lighting shall be fully shielded as defined in Section 9-105 of this Code, or be designed or provided with sharp cut-off capability;

C. Under no circumstances shall any illumination of the display lot be permitted after ten p.m.

Section 9-112. TEMPORARY EXEMPTION.

A. Request - Renewal - Information Required. Any person may submit a written request to the Village Board of Trustees for a temporary exemption from the requirements of this Code. The request for temporary exemption shall contain the following information;

1. Specific exemption or exemptions requested;
2. Type and use of outdoor light fixture involved;
3. Duration of time for requested exemption;
4. Type of lamp and calculated lumens;
5. Total wattage of lamp or lamps;
6. Proposed location on premises of the outdoor light fixtures;
7. Previous temporary exemptions if any and addresses of premises thereunder;
8. Physical size of the outdoor light fixtures and type of shielding provided;
9. Such other data and information as may be required by the Village Board of Trustees.

B. Approval - Duration. If approved, the exemption shall be valid for not more than thirty days from the date of issuance of the approval. The approval may be renewable at the discretion of the Village Board of Trustees upon a consideration of all the circumstances. Each such renewed exemption shall be valid for not more than thirty days.

C. Denial - A request for temporary exemption may be denied by the Village Board of Trustees in its absolute discretion.

Section 9-113. OTHER EXEMPTIONS.

A. Nonconformance.

1. Mercury vapor lamps in use for outdoor lighting on the effective date the ordinance codified in this chapter shall be considered legal nonconforming lighting.

2. Bottom-mounted outdoor advertising sign lighting shall be considered legal nonconforming lighting.

3. All other outdoor light fixtures lawfully installed prior to and operable on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter are exempt from all

requirements of this Code except those regulated in subsections C, D and E of Section 9-110. There shall be no change in use or lamp type, or any replacement or structural alteration made, without conforming to all applicable requirements of this Code.

B. **Fossil Fuel Light.** All outdoor light fixtures producing light directly by the combustion of natural gas or other fossil fuels are exempt from all requirements of this Code.

C. **State and Federal Facilities.** Outdoor light fixtures installed on, in and in connection with those facilities and land owned or operated by the Federal government or the State of Illinois, or any department, division, agency or instrumentality thereof, are exempt from all requirements of this Code. Voluntary compliance with the intent of this Code at those facilities is encouraged.

Section 9-114. APPEALS.

Any person aggrieved by any decision of the Building Official made in administration of the Code has the right of appeal to the Village Board of Trustees.

Section 9-115. LAW GOVERNING CONFLICTS.

Where any provision of Federal, State or County or City statutes, codes or laws conflicts with any provision of this Code, the most restrictive shall govern unless otherwise required by law.

Section 9-116. PENALTY. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this ordinance shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, and a separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during on or which a violation occurs or continues.

SECTION 2. All ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with the terms and provisions hereof, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be published in pamphlet form by and under the authority of the Corporate Authorities of the Village.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form, as provided by law.

PASSED THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1998.

AYES: BRUCE, KEPES, SWANSON, BAUER

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: HOGAN, EVERETT

NOT VOTING: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1998.



Richard E. Mack  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Patricia Amato  
VILLAGE CLERK