



SIGNING GUIDELINES



Signing Guidelines

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Introduction

In January 2012, Connecticut Department of Transportation Commissioner James P. Redeker established an internal departmental task force to review standards, regulations, and policies for highway signs along Connecticut roads with a focus on those which publicize various businesses or attractions off the highway. "...we need to update our rules and policies to be more flexible, make Connecticut responsive to business, ensure consistency with Federal guidelines, and streamline our practice." The Task Force reviewed current state practices with regard to the numerous and varied requests for signing and was charged with proposing signing policy changes which provide for motorists needs, promote cultural or recreational attractions, and serve economic and community interests, while also conforming to national standards.

Background

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) is the [standard](#) for all traffic control devices installed on any street, highway, or bicycle trail open to public travel in accordance with [23 U.S.C. 109\(d\)](#) and 402(a). [Section 2A.05](#) of the MUTCD Classification of Signs provides the following standard:

Signs shall be defined by their function as follows:

Regulatory signs give notice of traffic laws or regulations.

Warning signs give notice of a situation that might not be readily apparent.

Guide signs show route designations, destinations, directions, distances, services, points of interest, and other geographical, recreational, or cultural information.

Guide signing and supplemental destination signing produce the greatest challenge for traffic engineers. Supplemental Guide signs can be used to provide information regarding destinations accessible from an interchange that are not displayed on the standard interchange signing. However, such Supplemental Guide signing can reduce the effectiveness of other more important signing because of overloading the road user's capacity to receive visual messages and make appropriate decisions.

Traffic engineers of the Connecticut Department of Transportation use the MUTCD when recommending the type and location of signs along the State's roadways. The Regulations of the Office of the State Traffic Administration are used for further direction in the matter of regulatory signing. Additionally, the Division of Traffic Engineering has developed guidelines to provide more specific direction on how to treat unique types of signing such as American Revolution Bicentennial sites, boat launch areas, memorial and commemorative signs, general motorist services, specific motorist services (logo), tourist information centers, scenic roads, Connecticut Wine Trail, vineyards and wineries not on the Trail, agricultural destinations, special events, college sports championship recognition, supplemental attractions and tourist oriented directional signs on non-limited access state roads.

The basic requirements for all highway signs are that they be legible to those for whom they are intended and that they be understandable in time to permit a proper response. Signing is primarily for the benefit and direction of road users who are not familiar with the route or area. Signing furnishes road users with clear instructions for orderly progress to their destination. The excessive signing found on many of Connecticut's major highways has occurred over the years and has resulted in a multitude of signs that are too small, poorly designed and placed such that they do not accomplish their intended purpose.

Due to the ease of interstate travel, drivers from all over the country can move without difficulty from state to state. Therefore, uniformity of traffic control is important for drivers and enhances safety by meeting motorists' expectations. The [MUTCD](#) approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the standard for all traffic control devices installed on any street, highway, or bicycle trail open to public travel in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 109(d) and 402(a). Each state is required under 23 U.S.C. 402(a) to have a program for the systematic upgrading of substandard traffic control devices and for the installation of needed devices to achieve conformity with the MUTCD. Additionally any roadway project funded with federal money must comply with the MUTCD. Since a substantial portion of funding for roadway projects in Connecticut is from the Federal Highway Administration, it is important that signing in Connecticut is accomplished in accordance with the standards. In addition to the MUTCD, signs on the highway right-of-way are also governed by the Highway Beautification Act whose regulations are contained in 23 CFR §750. In general, it gives even more restrictions to any sign or outdoor advertising within 660 feet of the Interstate System.

Task Force Recommendations

The Commissioner's Taskforce on signing was made up of diverse disciplines including engineering, maintenance, legal, legislative, rights-of-way, FHWA with input from the Connecticut Office of Tourism. The goal of the committee was to identify the most commonly requested types of non-regulatory or warning signs and provide a clear explanation to the public of how informational signs can be requested and what elements are considered when determining the appropriateness of such signs. That information has been compiled in this booklet.

Some of the more significant changes to Connecticut signing practices, as a result of the taskforce recommendations, are in the areas of motorist services and places of interest signing. The Commissioner has adopted two Policy changes which allow more latitude in signing for general motorist services and tourist information facilities. Those changes increase the distances from the ramp termini and relax some of the minimum required hours of operation which will result in more businesses being eligible to qualify for general motorist services. Legislation has been put forward by the taskforce to make similar qualifications adjustments to the Specific Information and Business (Logo) signing program. Once the new regulations are adopted by the State Legislature, more businesses will qualify for specific Gas, Food, Lodging and Camping Logo signs along Connecticut's expressways and freeways.

This booklet is intended for public use to explain the many opportunities for a variety of signs along Connecticut's State roadways. Most topics provide specific direction on how to request a sign or

apply for a signing program. Some of the signs covered in this booklet will require a Highway Encroachment Permit. All applications for encroachment permits are issued from a District Special Services Office located in one of the four District Offices. Please open the link below and find the corresponding District Office for the subject town.

<http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?A=1394&Q=259544>

If there are questions regarding the information provided or you would like to discuss a particular topic with an engineer, please contact the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Engineering (860) 594-2788.

Adopt a Highway Acknowledgment Signs



Administered since 1994 and in accordance with CGS Sec.13a-97b the Connecticut Department of Transportation's ADOPT A HIGHWAY program is a beautification program intended to encourage community and civic organizations, businesses, non-profit organizations and private citizens to participate in a continuing effort to keep the roadsides of Connecticut attractive and clean from litter.

The program provides for public involvement in highway beautification activities. Under ADOPT A HIGHWAY, business groups and non-profit community organizations apply to adopt a section of highway. The group is then responsible for the cost of litter pick up performed by a private company. Other beautification activities, such as the planting of flowers and shrubs appropriate to the surrounding landscape, can be accomplished under the ADOPT A RAMP program. These programs offer a means for others to help their community by cleaning a segment of highway. In exchange for their participation in the program, a sign is erected within the limits of the adopted area recognizing their organization.

Acknowledgment signs are used to recognize a company, business, or volunteer group that provides a highway related service such as adopt-a-highway, litter removal programs, maintenance of a parkway or interchange, or beautification sponsorship programs. Connecticut's programs are administered by the Bureau of Highway Operations, Office of Maintenance. Additional information and applications for participation are available on the Connecticut DOT web site: [Adopt a Highway Program](#)

Agricultural Directional Signage

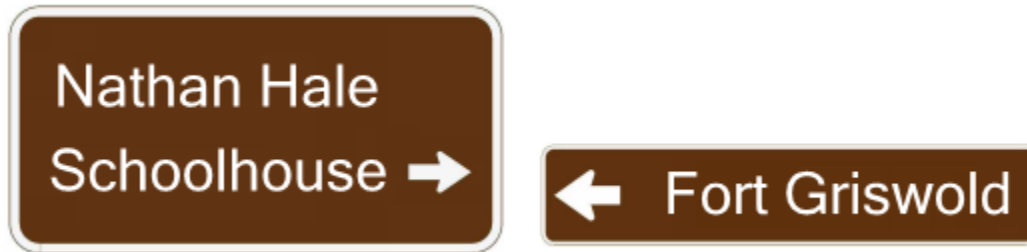


The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, has initiated a program to assist in the development and enhancement of Connecticut agriculture. The Agricultural Directional Signage (ADS) program allows the placement of directional signage along state roadways for farms located off those roadways. The ADS program assists growers in the sale of their products by making the public better aware of the location of their operation.

The ADS program is conducted on a permit basis through the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation. Requirements of the program and signing application are available on CT Grown Program web page in the agricultural directional signage section.

[Link to Department of Agriculture ADS Program](#)

American Revolution Bicentennial Signing



A substantial amount of signing was erected by Connecticut DOT for activities and sites associated with the American Bicentennial Celebration. These were a reminder that this state was an active participant in this country's struggle for independence.

Connecticut DOT will allow signing to remain and will maintain signs for sixteen (16) historical sites selected in a December 18, 1981 memorandum by former Transportation Commissioner J. William Burns.

The signs will be considered permanent and will be maintained by the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The background on these signs is brown.

SITE	LOCATION
Nathan Hale Schoolhouse	New London
Joseph Webb House	Wethersfield
Silas Deane House	Wethersfield
Jonathan Trumbull House	Lebanon
The War Office	Lebanon
Old Newgate Prison	East Granby
Fort Griswold	Groton
Putnam Memorial State Park	Redding
Shaw Mansion	New London
Leffingwell Inn	Norwich
Nathan Hale Homestead	Coventry
Ellsworth Homestead	Windsor
Putnam's Cottage	Greenwich
Nathan Hale Schoolhouse	East Haddam
Fort Nathan Hale	New Haven
Old State House	Hartford

Animal Crossing Signs

The Department will no longer install animal crossing advance warning signs such as Deer Crossing, Bear Crossing, Turkey Crossing, etc.

In the past, warning signs have been installed to alert the drivers of the potential entries into the road by animals; however these signs have proven to be ineffective in reducing the number of collisions. The Department's crash data indicates that animal collisions are present on all types of State roadways and tend to be randomly distributed. While some locations may have experienced higher historical instances of animal collisions, the locations and number of crashes tend to vary significantly from year to year.

The Department's experience has shown that animal warning signs do not appear to influence driver behavior. Animal roadway entries are not location specific and should be expected by the motorists on all roads.

Existing animal crossing signs will not be reinstalled and will be removed in future construction projects or during routine roadway maintenance.

Antiques Trail Directional Signing



The Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD), in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, has initiated a new program to establish a Connecticut Antiques Trail to identify Connecticut sites where antiques are sold. Facilities that meet the DECD criteria for major antique dealers, communities with a high concentration of antique dealers, or auction houses with annual sales over \$1 million may qualify for The Antiques Trail Signage (ATS) program. The ATS program allows the placement of directional signage along state roadways for businesses located off those roadways or at the gateway to a community with a high concentration of antique dealers. Antiques shops with driveways on State roads are expected to provide their own signing. The ATS program assists dealers in the sale of their products by making the public better aware of the location of their establishment.

DESCRIPTION:

The ATS program is conducted on a permit basis through the Department of Economic and Community Development. Requirements of the program include:

1. Directional signs (Sign No. 387-51-6981) are allowed only on the non-interstate system. No signs will be allowed on limited-access highways, or ramps or ramp termini.
2. Businesses must be listed on CTvisit.com.
3. The applicant must apply for an encroachment permit for the approval and installation of an "Antiques Trail" sign. The requested sign locations will be reviewed by the Department.
4. Costs associated with the making, installation, maintenance and liability of the signs are the responsibility of the antique dealer permit applicant.
5. Signs cannot be placed farther than five (5) miles from the establishment and only one (1) sign is allowed for each direction of travel on the nearest state roadway.

6. If additional signs are needed on city/town roads due to required turns, the applicant must obtain permission from local authorities to place signs on their roads. These signs must be installed prior to installing the sign on the state highway. These signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.
7. Businesses must have regular hours of operation a minimum of five (5) days and 35 hours each week year-round and must be open on non-holiday Saturdays and Sundays.
8. Sufficient space must exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without interfering or conflicting with regulatory, warning and guide signs. Public safety shall take priority over the placement of any sign authorized under this program. The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedence over the location of the Antiques Trail sign.
9. The permit holder shall have the responsibility to maintain the minimum standard requirements for the use of directional signs as established by the DECD in order to maintain the use of these signs. Any deviation from these requirements may result in the revocation of the permit. Permits are subject to annual review by the DECD.

For additional information, applicants may contact:

Department of Economic and Community Development
Connecticut Office of Tourism
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5
Hartford, CT 06103

Program Director, Jean Hebert
Telephone (860) 500-2375
Jean.Hebert@ct.gov

Note: In some instances a group of antique dealers or large warehouse facility may be of size that can be considered an attraction. If the applicant feels they meet this criterion then they may apply for signing through the Department's Tourist Attractions Sign program.

Blind Driveway or Hidden Driveway Signs

The Department will no longer install or allow the installation of Blind Driveway or Hidden Driveway signs due to the following:

- The signs are not included in the MUTCD.
- The signs may give motorists using the driveway a false sense of security.
- Hidden driveways are not uncommon in Connecticut.

Existing Blind Driveway or Hidden Driveway signs will not be reinstalled and will be removed in future construction projects or during routine roadway maintenance.

Boat Launch Areas



In cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) a program was established with the purpose of instituting uniform signing for directing the motoring public to boat launching facilities in accordance with standards in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and recognizes the international trailer launch and hand launch boat signs as the standard to be used.

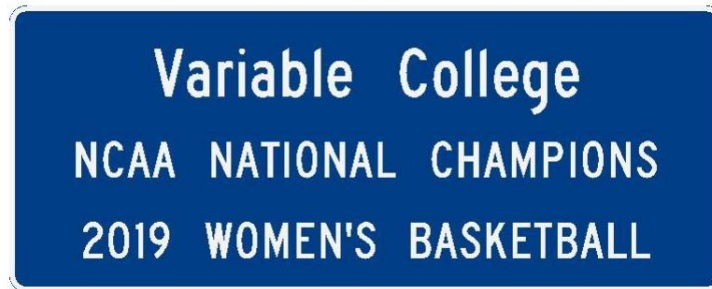
The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will determine the need for signing of a public boat launch facility. Once that determination has been concluded, DEEP will make a written request to the Connecticut DOT's Manager of the Division of Traffic Engineering. The Division of Traffic Engineering will then order signs and issue instructions to the appropriate District Maintenance Office to erect the necessary signs.

Signing Criteria:

1. When the public boat launching facility is directly adjacent to a state-maintained highway (except Interstate highways and intrastate expressways), signs may be erected, for both directions of travel, at the nearest intersecting access road to the public boat launching facility.
2. When the public boat launching facility is located some distance from a state-maintained highway and it is necessary to route traffic over locally maintained roads, agreement with the Local Traffic Authority is required. Verbal agreement is sufficient.
3. When there are two state maintained roads providing access to the same facility but from opposite directions, and of equivalent distances from the site, signs may be erected for each state road; otherwise, only the state road nearest the facility shall be signed.

4. If the distance from the state road to the public boat launch is more than one mile, a confirming symbol sign may be erected. If there is any point of decision where confusion may occur, an additional sign may be erected as determined by the investigating traffic engineer. Any signs off the state highway system are the responsibility of the town or DEEP, when given permission by the town to install the signs.
5. When the public boat launch area is within the boundary of a state park, the boat launch sign shall be used only at the entrance to the state park. Since state parks are the greater traffic generator and the signing is more extensive, the naming of the state park shall be the prevailing legend in advance of the driveway entrance.
6. The public boat launch sign shall be a sign designed in accordance with state standards and in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

College Championship Recognition Signs



College Championship Recognition Signs are intended to notify motorists of the athletic accomplishments of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) teams that win a National Championship.

College Championship Recognition Signs may be allowed through encroachment permit when such signing would not interfere with higher priority Connecticut DOT signs. A requesting school should provide verification that the championship requested is for an NCAA recognized sport and that the school requesting the sign is the champion. The sign details will be provided by the Department at no cost to the applicant. No logos or symbols will be permitted on the signs. The cost of sign fabrication, installation and sign posts will be the responsibility of the applicant. The Division of Traffic Engineering shall be notified by the District Permits when the signs are approved.

Signs may be displayed for one year. If additional teams for the school win championships, the sign may be updated with the new accomplishment and the installation period will be extended for an additional year. Defaced or worn signs that are not replaced will be removed by the state.

Additional information on obtaining an Encroachment Permit is available on the Connecticut DOT web site: [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)

Community Way-finding Signs



Community way-finding guide signs are part of a coordinated and continuous system of signs that direct tourists and other road users to key civic, cultural, visitor, and recreational attractions and other destinations within a city or a local urbanized or downtown area. Community way-finding signs are a type of destination guide sign for conventional urban roads with a common color and/or identification enhancement marker for destinations within an overall way-finding guide sign plan for an area. Way-finding guide signs are not allowed on freeway or expressway mainlines or ramps. Community way-finding guide signs may not be mounted overhead.

If used, a community way-finding guide sign system should be established by the requesting city or town for the urbanized area, to develop a cohesive and continuous system of signs for that community.

Community way-finding signs will be allowed on the state highway system by way of an encroachment permit.

Considerations for Signing:

- The sign supports within the clear zone must be breakaway.
- The sign shall not be in the shape of a circle or octagon.
- The background of the sign shall not be red, purple, orange or yellow, or fluorescent versions thereof, fluorescent yellow-green or fluorescent pink.
- The height from the bottom of the sign panel to the ground should be no less than 7 feet and no less than 8.5 feet over a sidewalk.
- The size of the legend for the destinations on the sign should be no less than 3 inches high.
- The maximum number of destinations noted on the sign should be three, but could be up to 5 depending upon the speed limit and roadway configuration.
- The city or town will be responsible for all sign installation and maintenance costs.
- The sign(s) will be located in such a way that it will not interfere with intersectional and stopping sight distances.

- No sign panels should be used for advertising purposes or contain a specific business name.
- Any site named on the sign panel should be open to the general public and have reasonable hours of operation.
- Facilities named on the sign panels will be at the discretion of the city/town who will be responsible for inquiries regarding the sign, additions and/or modifications to the sign. The appropriate Connecticut DOT District Maintenance Office will need to approve the installations or modifications under an encroachment permit.
- The city/town must indicate a contact person and phone number for any inquiries that the state receives regarding the sign.
- The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedent over the location of way-finding signs, either existing or proposed.

Process for Signing:

- The City/Town should apply for an encroachment permit through the appropriate Connecticut DOT district maintenance office. [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)
- The submittal should include: a map indicating the proposed sign location; a sketch of the proposed sign detail, including overall dimensions and legend height.
- District permit personnel will review the submittal and ask the advice of the Division Traffic Engineering if needed.

See also [Village Area Gateway Signing](#).

Connecticut Brewery Trail Signs



Connecticut Brewery Trail signs may be allowed on state roadways (non-limited access highways only). All proposed signs will be installed in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations and will be permitted where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will allow the installation of signs for those facilities that meet the following criteria:

- ✓ have a manufacturer's license from the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection
- ✓ brew beer on site
- ✓ are open to the general public during regular and reasonable hours
- ✓ offer tours on a regularly scheduled or on-demand basis
- ✓ provide business address and directions to their facility on their web site

REQUIREMENTS:

1. No signs will be allowed on limited-access highways, or ramps or ramp termini.
2. Sufficient space must exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without interfering or conflicting with regulatory, warning and guide signs. The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedence over the location of the Connecticut Brewery Trail sign, either existing or proposed.
3. One sign in each direction will be allowed on the nearest state route. For those breweries located on state highways, the above-described signs may be allowed in both directions of travel at the site drive. The requested sign locations will be reviewed by the Department.

4. If additional signs are needed on city/town roads due to required turns, the applicant must obtain permission from local authorities to place signs on their roads. These signs must be installed prior to installing the sign on the state highway. These signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.
- 5.
6. The cost of sign fabrication, installation, sign posts, maintenance and liability of the signs will be the responsibility of the applicant. The Connecticut Department of Transportation will provide the design for the sign at no cost to the applicant.
7. The applicant must apply for an encroachment permit for the approval and installation of a “Connecticut Brewery Trail” sign. [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)
8. The sign will display “Connecticut Brewery Trail” with appropriate directional arrow.

Connecticut Wine Trail



Connecticut Wine Trail signs may be allowed on state roadways (non-limited access highways only). All proposed signs will be installed in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations and will be permitted where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will allow the installation of signs for those facilities that meet the following criteria:

- ✓ appear on the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association's "Connecticut Wine Trail"
- ✓ are open to the general public during regular and reasonable hours
- ✓ offer tours on a regularly scheduled or on-demand basis

REQUIREMENTS:

1. No signs will be allowed on limited-access highways, or ramps or ramp termini.
2. Sufficient space must exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without interfering or conflicting with regulatory, warning and guide signs. The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedence over the location of the Connecticut Wine Trail sign, either existing or proposed.
3. One sign in each direction will be allowed on the nearest state route. For those wineries located on state highways, the above-described signs may be allowed in both directions of travel at the site drive. The requested sign locations will be reviewed by the Department.
4. If additional signs are needed on city/town roads due to required turns, the applicant must obtain permission from local authorities to place signs on their roads. These signs must be installed prior to installing the sign on the state highway. These signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.

5. The cost of sign fabrication, installation, sign posts, maintenance and liability of the signs will be the responsibility of the applicant. The Connecticut Department of Transportation will provide the design for the sign at no cost to the applicant.
6. The applicant must apply for an encroachment permit for the approval and installation of a "Connecticut Wine Trail" sign. [Link to Encroachment Permit.](#) The sign will display "Connecticut Wine Trail" with appropriate directional arrow.

See also [Vineyard and Winery Signing.](#)

Control Cities & Major Destination



New Haven	21
Bridgeport	35
N. Y. City	91

The intent of control cities and major destinations is to provide consistent guidance for motorists on expressways and freeways by using major population centers along the route. The selection of control cities is made by the states. In the case of the interstate system, the naming of control cities must be approved by AASHTO. The placement of these signs should be done in accordance with the MUTCD.

Connecticut Control Cities:

Route 2	Hartford, Norwich
Route 7	Danbury, Norwalk
Route 8	Winsted, Torrington, Waterbury, Bridgeport
Route 9	Old Saybrook, Middletown, New Britain
Route 15	New York City, New Haven, Hartford
Route 72	New Britain, Bristol
I-84	Newburgh, Danbury, Waterbury, Hartford, Boston
I-91	New Haven, Hartford, Springfield
I-95	New York City, New Haven, New London, Providence
I-291	Manchester, Windsor
I-384	East Hartford, Providence
I-395	Worcester, Norwich, New Haven
I-691	Meriden, Waterbury

Do Not Block Driveway Signs

The Department will no longer install or allow installation of Do Not Block Driveway signs. Connecticut General Statute [14-252](#) prohibits parking as to obstruct a driveway but does not prohibit blocking driveways by a stopped vehicle, while the Statute [14-247a](#) requires drivers entering a highway from a private roadway or a driveway to yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on a highway. The Federal signing guidelines provided in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) do not include signs prohibiting blocking driveways. Installation of regulatory signs prohibiting vehicles from stopping in front of the driveways is not consistent with Federal guidelines and State statutes and is therefore not advisable.

In addition, the Department's experience has shown that this type of signing does not appear to influence driver behavior. There is also potential concern that the signs, especially when installed on multilane highways, may provide a false sense of security to drivers entering roadways and expecting to be granted right-of-way by approaching vehicles. Heavy traffic has potential to limit sight distances and may result in crashes caused by vehicles entering roadway in a gap left in a traffic without noticing vehicles approaching in either a left lane or from an opposing direction.

Existing Do Not Block Driveway signs will be removed in future construction projects or during routine roadway maintenance.

Freedom Trail Directional Signs



Freedom Trail Directional Signs may be allowed on the non-limited access portion of the state highway system. Such signs are intended to provide directional information for facilities not located on or readily visible from the state highway system. All signing will be accomplished in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations and will be permitted where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices. [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)

DEFINITIONS:

Except as defined in this paragraph, the terms used shall be defined in accordance with definitions and usage of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

1. Freedom Trail Point of Interest – points of interest include buildings reported to have been used on the Underground Railroad; sites associated with the Amistad Case of 1839-1842; gravesites, monuments, homes and other structures that embody the struggle toward freedom and human dignity that are listed in the Connecticut Freedom Trail pamphlet and are open to the public during regular hours.
2. Freedom Trail Directional Sign – A rectangular brown sign panel with the legend “FREEDOM TRAIL”, the freedom trail logo, and a directional arrow.

DESCRIPTION:

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will consider allowing the installation of Freedom Trail directional signs on conventional roads for Freedom Trail Points of Interest, subject to the requirements noted below.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. The facility shall be open to the general public during regular and reasonable hours and not by appointment only.
2. The facility shall have adequate parking accommodations.

3. The facility shall not be located on or easily identified from the state highway.
4. The facility will be signed along the best route from one state highway, normally the nearest highway, as determined by the Connecticut Department of Transportation.
5. Where one facility is situated within the confines of another sign-able establishment, signing for the larger facility will be considered adequate.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

1. If needed, adequate trailblazing signs shall be provided on local roads, with local approval, by the municipality or other organization (not the state), to guide motorists from the state highway to the site. The trailblazing signs shall be erected before the sign on the state highway is in place. The trailblazing signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.
2. The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedence over the location of a Freedom Trail Directional Sign, either existing or proposed.
3. Other facilities may be signed for in the future should they become part of the Freedom Trail if it is determined by the Department to be in the best interest of the State.
4. The Connecticut Department of Transportation will provide the design for the sign at no cost to the applicant.
5. Once approved, the applicant will need to contact the appropriate District in order to obtain an encroachment permit to install the sign(s). The cost of sign fabrication, installation, sign posts, maintenance and liability of the signs will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Golf Course Signing



Requests for signing of golf courses open to the public, located off of a state road, will be evaluated by the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Engineering. Such signing is intended to provide directional information to the entrance of the golf course for facilities whose entrance is not visible from the state highway system. If signing for such a facility is appropriate, the Department's Office of Maintenance will be requested to install the signs. The following will be used in the evaluation for golf course signing:

1. Signing may be installed if the golf course entrance is not clearly visible from the state highway. The sign shall identify the facility as "PUBLIC GOLF COURSE" with an appropriate directional arrow.
2. The sign will not be used for advertising purposes. The name of the golf course will not appear on the sign.
3. The sign will be installed along the best route from the nearest state highway as determined by the Department of Transportation.
4. Trailblazing signs shall be provided on local roads, with local approval, by someone other than the Department of Transportation, to guide motorists from the state highway to the entrance of the site. The trailblazing signs shall be installed before the signing on the state highway is installed. The trailblazing signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the signing on the state highway will be removed.
5. Golf course signs may not be posted on expressways.
6. The following will **not** be signed: Driving ranges; Miniature Golf facilities; Private membership facilities.
7. Restaurants, putting greens, or clubs within the public golf course will not be signed on the state highway.
8. The location of an existing traffic control device or the need for a new device shall take precedence over the location of a public golf course sign, either existing or proposed.

In - Street Portable Pedestrian Signs



Municipalities may request permission to install and maintain in-road informational signs on non-limited access state roads with the legend “State Law Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk”, through the encroachment permit process. The intended use of these signs is for low speed roadways approaching a built up section of a town to remind road users of the law regarding right-of-way at unsignalized pedestrian crossing. The in-street pedestrian signs shall not be used at signalized intersections. [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)

The requesting municipality will be responsible for all installation and maintenance costs associated with the “State Law Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk” educational sign. The signs may be used seasonably or may be removed at night if pedestrian activity is minimal. The “State Law Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk” sign shall conform to the latest edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The signs may not display the message *Stop for Pedestrians* as this is in violation of the State Law.

The sign support shall comply with the breakaway requirements of the latest edition of AASHTO’s “Specifications for Structural supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires and Traffic Signals”. Unless the In- Street Pedestrian Crossing sign is on a physical island, the sign support shall be designed to bend over and then bounce back to its normal vertical position when struck by a vehicle. The top of the sign is to be a maximum of 4 feet above the roadway or island surface.

Two “State Law Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk” signs should be installed back to back on the centerline or median island.

The corresponding crosswalk should be in accordance with the MUTCD. Any needed upgrade to the existing crosswalk warning signs will be done by the Department.

Specific Pedestrian Warning Signs

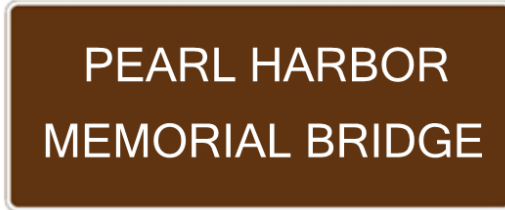
The Department does not install or allow the installation of specific pedestrian warning signs such as Children at Play, Blind Pedestrian, Autistic Child.

The Federal signing guidelines provided in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) do not include specific pedestrian warning signs, such as for children at play, or autistic or blind pedestrians. In addition, the Department's experience has shown that this type of signing does not appear to influence driver behavior. There is also potential concern that the sign may provide a false sense of security to those specific individuals. Specific signs such as autistic or blind pedestrian may also no longer be applicable to a specific location, such as when the person moves away, but the signs tend to remain in place because the municipalities responsible for notifying the Department rarely follow up with sign removal requests.

Please refer to the 2016 UCONN publication providing additional explanation on why Children at Play signs are not recommended:

<http://www.t2center.uconn.edu/pdfs/Why%20Children%20at%20Play%20Signs%20Tech%20Brief%202016-1.pdf>

Memorial and Commemorative Signs



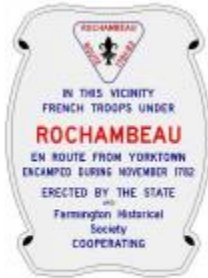
A request for signs denoting highways or bridges for commemorative purposes deserves responsible consideration and disposition. There are certain elements to be considered during the deliberation process. Requests for posting of commemorative designations will be vetted by the Legislative Liaison Unit of the Connecticut Department of Transportation by comparing the requested designation to the list of approved designations maintained by the Department's Bureau of Policy and Planning. If such a designation does not exist, the requestor should pursue the necessary legislation for designation by the General Assembly. When commemorative legislation is passed, the Department's Division of Traffic Engineering will coordinate the installation in an expeditious manner.

1. The Division of Traffic Engineering will select the locations for the signs and prepare a Service Memorandum work order for the installation of commemorative signs. A ceremonial sign may be fabricated if requested.
2. The Service Memorandum will be forwarded to the Office of Maintenance. Staff Maintenance will hold the Service Memorandum until they are notified by the Legislative Liaison Office to proceed. At that time it will be sent to the appropriate District for installation.

Although observers may notice green background memorial signs along Connecticut roadways, the standards have been revised to conform to the current MUTCD [Section 2M.10 Memorial or Dedication Signing](#). All new legislated signs that meet the definition of a MEMORIAL SIGN should have a brown background.

Roadway Type	Sign Size	Legend Size	Catalog No.
Freeway	3'-6" x 6'	3 Lines	51-2075
Freeway	2'-6" x 6'	2 Lines	51-2073
Non-Freeway	2'-6" x 4'	3 Lines	51-2078
Non-Freeway	2' x 4'	2 Lines	51-2071
Ceremonial Signs	1' x 2'	As Needed	No Number

Rochambeau deLauzun Signing



Campsite Sign



Trailblazing Sign



National Historic Trail Sign

Under Connecticut House Bill No. 2005 (1957) the General Assembly required the installation of signs to designate the sites of camps occupied by the French troops under Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur comte de **Rochambeau** or Armand Louis de Gontaut Duc **de Lauzun**. The troops marched across the State of Connecticut from 1781 to 1782 en route to and from the victory at Yorktown. Signs are installed in cooperation with local historical societies or fraternal community groups.

The above-noted legislation calls for installing signs at specific identified campsite locations. Trailblazing signs to mark the trail are different from the actual campsite locations. The Towns can install the trailblazer signs along the National Historic Trail outside of the State highway-right-of-way (R.O.W.). The Department is not involved with these trailblazer signs. Please refer to [National Historic Trail website](#) for additional information.

The Department will install or replace existing campsite location signs on State highways and furnish signs to local authorities for installation or replacement on local roads.

Sign No. 51-6588 will be installed at sites en route to Yorktown during June 1781.
Sign No. 51-6599 will be installed at sites en route from Yorktown during October 1782.
Sign No. 51-6595 will be installed at sites en route from Yorktown during November 1782.
Sign No. 51-6593 (DELAUZUN) will be installed at the site en route to Yorktown during winter 1781.

The identified camp site locations, information on the signs showing the Commanding General and cooperating groups are as follows:

District 1:

Middletown: Route 9 at Washington Street, median, approx. 75 ft. north of median nose.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Middlesex Co. Historical Society cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Southington: Route 322 at Marion Ave, southwest corner, approx. 50 ft. from Marion Avenue westerly curb line.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Marion Community Club cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588)

Southington: Route 10, west side, approx. 200 ft. north of Route 322 Bridge No. 518.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during October 1782 Erected by the State and Southington Grange, P. of H. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6599)

East Hartford: SR 502, north side, approx. 60 ft. east of Route 15 Bridge No. 5796.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during November 1782 Erected by the State and Rev. J. C. Martin Council No. 3901 cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6595).

East Hartford: I-84 EB, south side, approx. 50 ft. east of Bulkeley Bridge.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Bolton: Local road installation – Bolton Center Road at Hebron Road intersection.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Orford Parish Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Coventry: US Route 6, north side, at South Street intersection.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during October 1782 Erected by the State and Bolton Grange No. 47 P. of H. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6599).

DISTRICT 2:

Colchester: Local road installation – River Road at Bull Hill Road intersection.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Col. Henry Champion Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Lebanon: Route 207, north side, approx. 1,200 ft. west of Route 87.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during winter 1781 Erected by the State and San Jose Council No. 14 K. of C. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6593).

Windham: Local road installation – Plains Road at Lover’s Lane intersection.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Anne Wood Elderkin, Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Windham: Route 14, north side, approx. 200 ft. east of Mullen Hill Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during November 1782 Erected by the State and Windham Library Association cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6595).

Canterbury: Route 14, north side, approx. 10 ft. west of Westminster Congregational Church driveway.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during November 1782 Erected by the State and Deborah Avery Putnam Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6595).

Plainfield: Route 14A, north side, approx. 130 ft. west of Pleasant Street.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Deborah Avery Putnam Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Sterling: Route 14A, north side, approx. 420 ft. east of Sterling Hill Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during November 1782 Erected by the State and Deborah Avery Putnam Chapter, D.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6595).

DISTRICT 3:

Wallingford: Local road installation – East Center Street at Northford Rd. intersection.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Wallingford Historical Society cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

New Haven: Local road installation – Chapel Street, north side, approx. 75 ft. west of Wooster Place.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Gen. David Humphreys Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Derby: Route 34, north side, vicinity of Sentinel Hill Road, approx. 50 ft. east of Sentinel Hill Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Gen. David Humphreys Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588)

Monroe: Route 111, east side, approx. 100 ft. south of Moose Hill Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to York encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Gen. Gold Selleck Silliman Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

District 4:

Farmington: US Route 6 at SR 531, within the triangular grass median.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Farmington Historical Society cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Farmington: Route 10, east side, approx. 50 ft. north of Hatters Lane.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during October 1782 Erected by the State and Farmington Historical Society cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6599).

Middlebury: Route 64, south side, approx. 100 ft. west of Chase Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Mattatuck Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Ridgefield: Local road installation. – Ridgebury Road, west side, just north of George Washington Road.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Chaplain Eben. Baldwin Branch, S.A.R. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Ridgefield: Routes 33/35, east side, approx. 500 ft. south of Route 102.

“In this vicinity French Troops under DELAUZUN en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Everett Ray Seymour Post American Legion No. 78 cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Newtown: Route 25, west side, approx. 500 ft. south of Route 6.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during October 1782 Erected by the State and Cyrenius H. Booth Library cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6599).

Newtown: I-84, median, vicinity of US Route 6 & SR 816 Exit approx. 50 ft. west of bridge structure.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route to Yorktown encamped during June 1781 Erected by the State and Pootatuck Grange No. 129 P. of H. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6588).

Danbury: Route 53 (South St), east side, approx. 100 ft. south of Triangle Street.

“In this vicinity French Troops under ROCHAMBEAU en route from Yorktown encamped during October 1782 Erected by the State and Rev. John D. Kennedy Assembly K. of C. cooperating.” (Sign No. 51-6599).

Scenic Road Signing



"Scenic Road" signs are used to designate any state highway or portion thereof, as defined in Section 13b-31b of the Connecticut General Statutes, as revised. The roadway or portion thereof is to have been designated as a "Scenic Road" by the Commissioner of Transportation, as described in Section 13b-31c of the Connecticut General Statutes, as revised. Requests for such designation may be made in writing to the Commissioner.

Once a section of roadway has been designated "scenic", the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Engineering will issue a Service Memorandum work order to the Office of Maintenance and coordinate the installation of such sign as follows:

1. One sign will be placed in each direction at the beginning of the roadway section to be designated "Scenic."
2. Each sign will have a sub-plate indicating the length (miles), to the nearest tenth of a mile, of the route that has been designated "Scenic."
3. The sign will be placed so that it is visible; however, it will be located so as to blend into the surrounding environment and not detract from the aesthetics of the scenic road.

General Service Signing



General Motorist Service signing for limited access roads (Gas, Diesel, Food, Lodging, Phone, Hospital, Emergency Medical Treatment, and Camping) in Connecticut is regulated by Department of Transportation POLICY NO. E. & C. - 10. General Service signing requests can be made to the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Engineering. The following excerpt from Policy E. & C. - 10 outlines the minimum criteria for services.

GAS - DIESEL

1. Shall be located not more than 1 mile from the ramp terminus.
2. Shall provide a public rest room including a sink, running water, and a flush toilet.
3. Shall be in continuous operation at least 16 consecutive hours, 7 days a week year-round.
4. Shall provide a phone for public use.

FOOD

1. Shall be located not more than 2 miles from the ramp terminus.
2. Shall display a valid permit from the appropriate public agency, as required by law.
3. Shall be in operation at least 8 hours daily to serve two meals per day at least 6 days per week, year round.
4. Shall provide a phone for public use.
5. Shall provide a public rest room including a sink, running water, and a flush toilet.

LODGING

1. Shall be located not more than 3 miles from the ramp.
2. Shall possess a valid permit from the appropriate public agency, as required by law.
3. Shall have adequate sleeping accommodations for rent consisting of a minimum of 10 units, each including bathroom and sleeping room.
4. Shall provide free off-street passenger vehicle parking space for each lodging unit for rent.
5. Shall be in continuous 24-hour operation, 7 days per week, year-round.
6. Shall provide a phone for public use.

CAMPING

1. Shall be located not more than 10 miles from the ramp terminus via a paved road.
2. Shall possess a valid license from the appropriate public agency, as required by law.
3. Shall have adequate parking and camping accommodations for at least 30 vehicles.
4. Shall have modern sanitary facilities and drinking water.
5. Shall be in continuous 24-hour operation, 7 days per week, except that seasonal overnight camping facilities may be closed to the public for not more than 180 consecutive days between November 1 and the following May 1.

TELEPHONE

1. Public outdoor pay station.
2. Distances up to one-half (1/2) mile from ramp termini.

HOSPITAL

1. A general public hospital licensed by the State of Connecticut
2. Shall have continuous emergency care capability with a physician on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
3. Trailblazer signs required on other than State roadways directing motorists to an emergency care facility shall be the responsibility of the Municipal Traffic Authority and must be installed prior to signing installed by the Department of Transportation.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

1. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center must be directly related to, and an integral part of, a hospital licensed by the State of Connecticut.
2. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center must be supervised by a qualified member of the staff of said hospital, and nursing functions at the Emergency Medical Treatment Center must be the responsibility of a registered professional nurse.
3. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center must provide 24-hour, 7 days per week service.
4. In the event that a facility does not provide 24-hour, 7 days per week services, said Emergency Medical Treatment Center must provide at least 16 hours of service, 7 days per week, and there must be available a direct communications link, either radio or telephone, to the main emergency facility of the hospital 24-hours per day, 7 days per week. The communications link must be readily accessible and easy to operate.
5. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center must be within 3 miles from the signed expressway.
6. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center must be certified and must meet all of the criteria and standards for emergency facilities of this type as established by the State of Connecticut.
7. The Emergency Medical Treatment Center's proper name shall not be allowed.

Special Event Signs

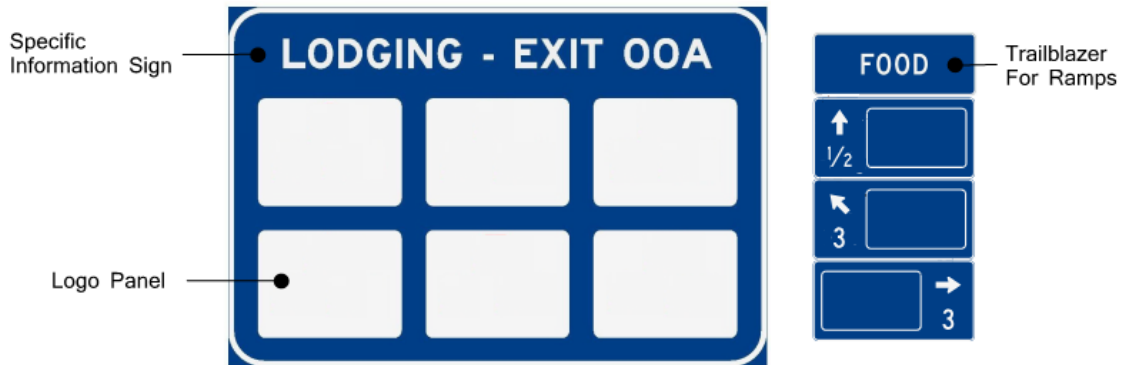


Special Event signs may be observed in the field and are related to short term events that may attract significant amounts of unfamiliar drivers to an area. Installation of these signs requires an encroachment permit. All applications for encroachment permits are issued from a District Special Services Office located in one of the four District Offices. Please open the link below and find the corresponding District office for the subject Town.

- Fantasy of Lights (New Haven)
- Tennis Tournament (New Haven)
- PGA Event (Cromwell)
- Festival of Lights (Hartford)
- Big “E” Parking Shuttle – Eastern States Exposition
- Fairs and festivals

<http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?A=1394&Q=259544>

Specific Information Signs and Business Signs on Limited Access Highways (Logo)

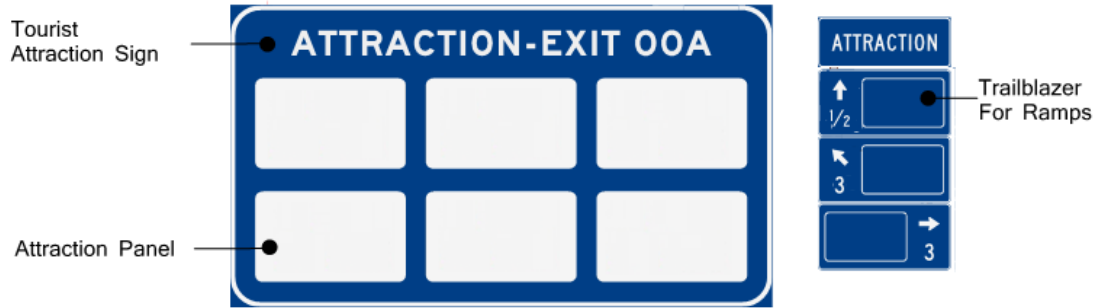


The LOGO program is intended to provide the motoring public with information on essential travel services (gas, food, lodging, camping) that are available at qualified interchanges on limited access highways in Connecticut. The program allows qualified businesses to apply and erect their Business Sign (Logo panel) onto a Specific Information Sign. Businesses must meet minimum qualification criteria specified in the State Regulations governing the program. There are no exceptions or waivers. A \$2,000.00 application fee per business, per interchange must accompany the application. The application fee is **Non-Refundable**.

All costs associated with the signing installation (fabrication, installation, reimbursement, permit fees, etc.) will be the responsibility of the business. The Department will inform the applicant of all costs and maintenance requirements as required by the State Regulations during the approval process. Installation of a Logo panel is permitted only after the approval process is completed and an encroachment permit is granted to the business. Businesses must continue to meet minimum qualification criteria as long as their Logo panel is displayed or the signing will be removed.

For more information about the program, please visit the [LOGO webpage](#).

Tourist Attractions Sign Program for Limited Access Highways



Connecticut offers various facilities and activities providing the public with amusement, historical, cultural, and leisure experiences. While Connecticut has many sign programs to guide both visitors and residents along its highways, they sometimes need additional assistance locating specific attractions. The Attraction Sign program is intended to provide a predictable and recognizable system to help direct motorists to nearby attractions.

The Attraction Sign program is administered by the Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Engineering. The program and the signs included in it are subject to all Federal, State, and Municipal regulations.

Attraction Signs will not be approved on any parkway.

For more information about the program, please visit the [Attraction Sign webpage](#).

Tourist Information Centers



The procedure for evaluating a request for and the installation of signing for Tourist Information Centers is outlined in Connecticut Department of Transportation Policy Statement No. E. & C. - 9.

Signing for Tourist Information Centers may be provided by the Department on or adjacent to expressway or freeway systems under the following conditions:

1. The name of the operating agency, group, or enterprise shall not appear as part of the legend on the sign.
2. All literature, maps, etc., shall be made available at no charge to the public and shall be neatly placed in tiered display racks.
3. Signing for Tourist Information Centers shall have blue background with white copy and border. If the Center is operated seasonally, the expressway or freeway signing shall so indicate.
4. If seasonally operated, the Tourist Information Center shall be opened in the spring no later than Memorial Day and closed no earlier than Labor Day.

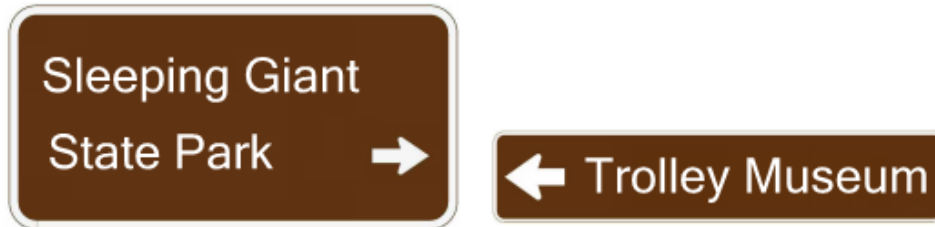
For Tourist Information located within a Rest Area or Service Plaza, signing is to be in conformance with MUTCD's latest edition.

For Tourist Information located off the expressway or freeway, the location of signing shall be in accordance with requirements pertaining to Service Signing.

1. The Tourist Information Center must be within 1/2 mile of the ramp terminal and the interchange must provide full access.
2. The Tourist Information Center identifying sign at the site must be similar in color and legend to the main line signs providing direction to the facility.

3. Signing along the crossroad shall be installed to guide the motorist from the interchange to the Tourist Information Center.
4. The Tourist Information Center shall be located in a permanent structure. Tents, lean-tos, trailers, or mobile facilities are not considered permanent structures.
5. Free parking space shall be provided for no less than 10 cars, off the highway, immediately adjacent to the Tourist Information Center with easy and safe access and egress.
6. Clean, well-maintained rest rooms shall be provided in close proximity to the Tourist Information Center.
7. Waste receptacles must be provided.
8. The official Connecticut State Map, latest issue, shall be prominently displayed. It shall be marked to indicate the location of the Tourist Information Center in which it is displayed.
9. The Tourist Information Center must be open at least from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., seven (7) days per week.

Tourist Oriented, Recreational & Cultural Interest Signs on Non-freeway Roads



Tourist Oriented, Recreational or Cultural Interest Directional Signs may be allowed on the non-freeway portion of the state highway system. This signing program is intended for rural areas and for facilities that do not meet the requirements of the Tourist Attractions Sign Program for Limited Access Highways. Tourist Oriented, Recreational or Cultural Interest Directional Signs will not be approved on any parkway.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation receives many requests for signs along State highways each year. The Department will consider signing for tourist-oriented cultural, historical and recreational attractions not located on the state highway system. Such signs are intended to provide directional information for facilities not readily visible from the state highway system. For eligible attractions the Department will install a sign in each direction at the turn off the nearest state highway.

For approved facilities located on a state highway, the Department does not object to sign installation by others (owner or town) along a facility's frontage, where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices. The Department will provide a sign detail for fabrication, to the applicant. If the signs will be partially or wholly within the State's right-of-way, an encroachment permit is required for the installation and will be accomplished in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations: [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)

The location of other traffic control devices shall take precedence over the location of tourist oriented recreational and cultural signs.

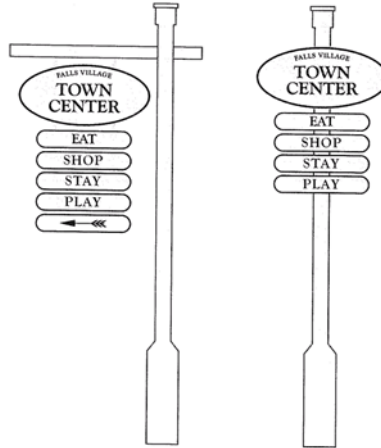
Except as defined in this paragraph, the terms used shall be defined in accordance with definitions and usage of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

1. Tourist Oriented Directional Sign - A rectangular sign panel with the name of the activity considered as a point of interest and a destination arrow installed by the Department of Transportation.
2. Traveler's Point of Interest - Traveler's points of interest include tourist-oriented cultural, historic, or recreational sites, as well as permanent public buildings and natural phenomena which may be of interest to the traveling public.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Neither the activity, the site, nor any sign identifying the activity or site shall be located adjacent to or be recognizable from the state highway.
2. The activity or site must be located within 5 miles of the point of turn from the state highway.
3. The activity or site must comply with laws concerning the provisions of public accommodations without regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, or national origin, and laws concerning the licensing and approval of service facilities.
4. The activity or site shall be open to the general public during regular and reasonable hours and not by appointment or reservation only. Reasonable operation is considered to be at least six hours per day and operate a minimum of 60 days per year for seasonal attractions. Minimum operating hours are considered to be at least five days a week including a Saturday or a Sunday, open no later than 11 am and close no earlier than 3 pm. Public activities must be available during hours of operation.
5. Adequate legal parking within walking distance of the attraction, public access to restrooms, drinking water and a telephone for emergency use must be provided.
6. If there is an admission charge, it must be readily visible to prospective visitors at the point of entry.
7. The sign shall identify the type of facility and not be used for advertising. Commercial names shall not normally appear on the sign.
8. Facilities will be signed along the best route from one state highway, normally the nearest highway, as determined by the Department of Transportation.
9. Where one facility is situated within the confines of another sign-able establishment, only signing for the larger facility will be considered.
10. If needed, adequate trailblazing signs shall be provided on local roads, with local approval, by other than the state, to guide motorists from the state highway to the site. The trailblazing signs shall be erected before the sign on the state highway is in place. The trailblazing signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.
11. There will be a maximum of three (3) directional signs allowed at any one location. If more than three (3) signs are requested, signs will be erected for the three greatest traffic generators.

Village Area Gateway Signing



Village area gateway signs are intended to notify motorists where the village area is and what is within the village area. It is anticipated that these signs will be used in suburban/rural areas with lower population. This type of signing may be allowed even when the facility is visible from the state highway system. A regional approach to signing is encouraged / preferred. The following criteria have been established for uniformity in allowing Towns to install Village Area Signing Kiosks on the state highway system by way of an encroachment permit.

Considerations for Signing:

- The sign supports within the clear zone must be breakaway.
- The sign shall not be in the shape of a circle or octagon.
- The background of the sign shall not be red, purple, orange or yellow, or fluorescent versions thereof, fluorescent yellow-green or fluorescent pink.
- The height from the bottom of the sign panel to the ground should be no less than 7 feet and no less than 8.5 feet over a sidewalk.
- The size of the legend for the destinations on the sign should be no less than 3 inches high.
- The maximum number of destinations noted on the sign should be three, but could be up to 5 depending upon the speed limit and roadway configuration.
- The location of the sign(s) should be at the nearest state highway to the village area.
- The town will be responsible for any necessary trailblazing on the municipal roadways from the point where the sign is installed to the village area.
- The town will be responsible for all sign installation and maintenance costs.
- The sign will be located in such a way that it will not interfere with intersectional and stopping sight distances.

- No sign panels should be used for advertising purposes or contain a specific business name.
- Any site named on the sign panel should be open to the general public and have reasonable hours of operation.
- Facilities named on the sign panels will be at the discretion of the Town. The Town will be responsible for inquiries regarding the sign, additions and/or modifications to the sign. The Connecticut Department of Transportation's District Maintenance Office will need to approve the modifications under an encroachment permit.
- The Town must indicate a contact person and phone number for any inquiries that the state receives regarding the sign.
- The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedent over the location of a village area sign, either existing or proposed.
- The sign should not be illuminated.

Process for Signing:

- The town should apply for an encroachment permit through the appropriate CT DOT District Office. [Link to Encroachment Permit](#)
- The town's submittal should include:
 - A location map indicating the village area.
 - A sketch of the proposed sign including overall dimensions and legend height.
 - A suggested location for the proposed sign and any necessary trailblazing that the Town is providing.
- The District permit personnel will review the town's submittal and ask the advice of the Division Traffic Engineering if needed.
- Once the District is satisfied with the submission, the encroachment permit may be issued to the Town.

See also [Community Way-finding Signs](#).

Vineyard and Winery Signing



Connecticut Grown Vineyard & Winery Tour signs may be allowed on state roadways (non-limited access highways only). All proposed signs will be installed in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations and will be permitted where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will allow the installation of signs for those facilities not on the "Connecticut Wine Trail" that meet the following criteria:

- ✓ are open to the general public during regular and reasonable hours
- ✓ offer tours on a regularly scheduled or on-demand basis

REQUIREMENTS:

1. No signs will be allowed on limited-access highways, or ramps or ramp termini.
2. Sufficient space must exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without interfering or conflicting with regulatory, warning and guide signs. The location of an existing traffic control device, or the need for a new device, shall take precedence over the location of the Connecticut Grown Vineyard & Winery Tour sign, either existing or proposed.
3. One sign in each direction will be allowed on the nearest state route. For those wineries located on state highways, the above-described signs may be allowed in both directions of travel at the site drive. The requested sign locations will be reviewed by the Department.
4. If additional signs are needed on city/town roads due to required turns, the applicant must obtain permission from local authorities to place signs on their roads. These signs must be installed prior to installing the sign on the state highway. These signs shall be maintained and kept in good repair or the sign on the state highway will be removed.

5. The cost of sign fabrication, installation, sign posts, maintenance and liability of the signs will be the responsibility of the applicant. The Connecticut Department of Transportation will provide the design for the sign at no cost to the applicant.
6. The applicant must apply for an encroachment permit for the approval and installation of a "Connecticut Grown Vineyard & Winery Tour" sign. [Link to Encroachment Permit.](#) The sign will display "Connecticut Grown Vineyard & Winery Tour" with appropriate directional arrow.

See also [Connecticut Wine Trail](#)

Your Speed Signing



A municipality may install “Your Speed” changeable message signs on state roadways (non-limited access highways only) on an experimental basis subject to the following conditions. All proposed signs will be installed in accordance with the Highway Encroachment Permit Regulations and will be permitted where it will not have a detrimental effect on traffic or other traffic control devices.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. The signs must be in conformance with the latest edition of the MUTCD.
2. The municipality will be responsible for all installation and maintenance costs associated with the sign.
3. The municipality will be responsible for any electrical costs associated with the sign operation.
4. A Speed Limit sign is to be installed in conjunction with the “Your Speed” sign.
5. If the legend “Your Speed” is static, the color of the legend shall be black and the color of the static portion of the sign shall be yellow in background.
6. The illuminated display on the signs must only show the driver’s speed up to 20 mph above the posted speed limit for that roadway. No additional features such as violator warnings or symbol displays will be allowed.
7. An encroachment permit for the sign installation must be obtained from the Department of Transportation. [Link to Encroachment Permit.](#)
8. A location plan and sign installation detail must be submitted to the appropriate District Maintenance Office for review and approval prior to the issuance of an encroachment permit.

9. Catalog cuts for the sign installation equipment must be submitted to the appropriate District Maintenance Office for review and approval prior to the issuance of an encroachment permit.
10. The municipality must ensure that all sign supports/assembly conform to the latest national breakaway criteria or that the sign be located behind guiderail beyond the deflection distance.

APPENDIX – Contact Information, Definitions

Contacts:

Most requests or applications for signing or questions about a specific signing program may be directed to:

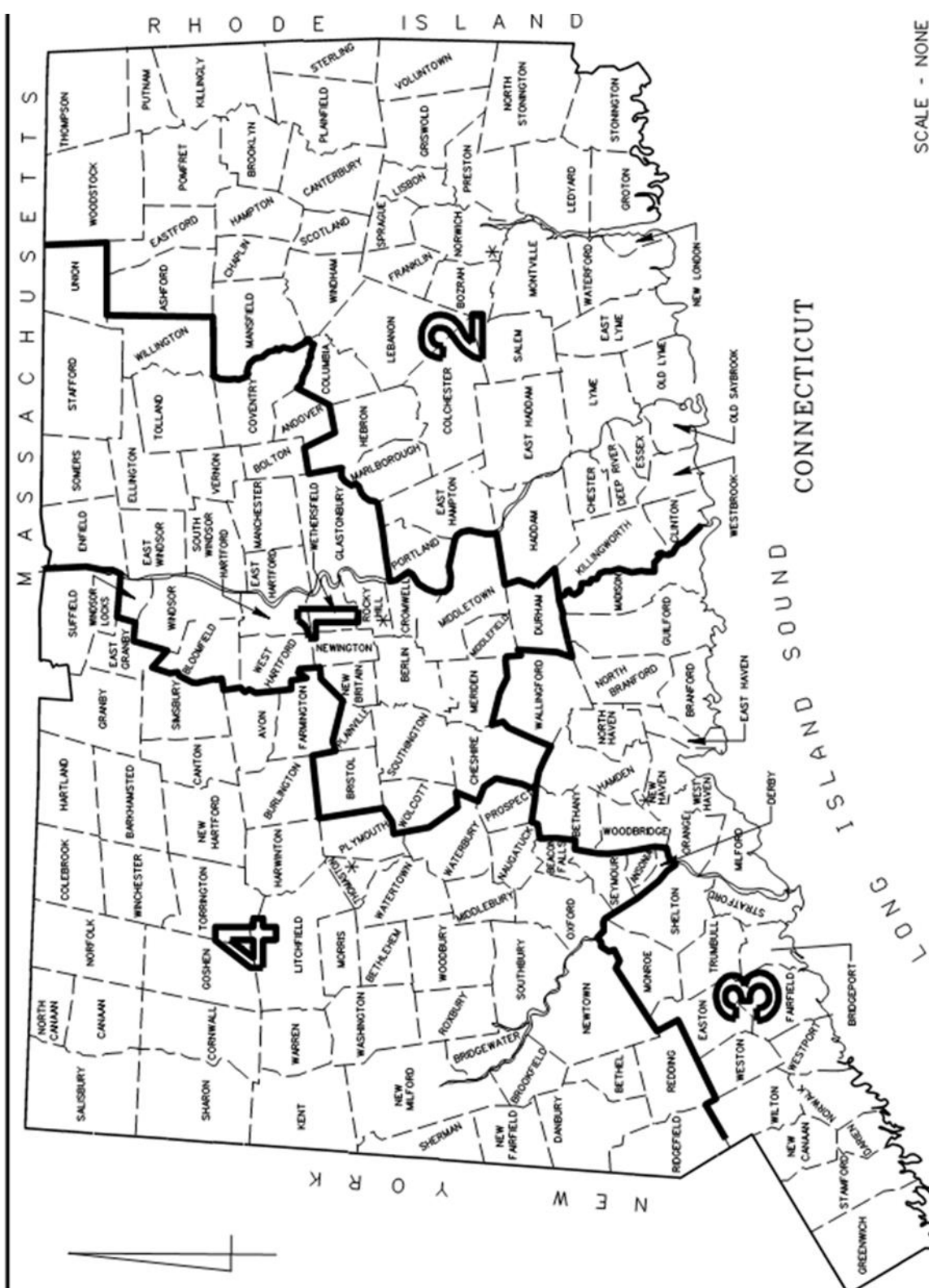
Division Chief of Traffic Engineering
2800 Berlin Turnpike
PO Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546

DOT.TrafficEngineering@ct.gov

or to the specific District Encroachment Permits office:

[Link to Encroachment Permit](#)

Refer to the map on the next page for district permit locations.



SCALE - NONE
 REV 2-11
 FILENAME: STMAP.DG

DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATIONS

LOC. ZIP-ELEC

Definitions:

AASHTO	the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) is a standards setting body which publishes specifications, test protocols and guidelines which are used in highway design and construction throughout the United States. Despite its name, the association represents not only highways but air, rail, water, and public transportation as well.
Conventional Road	a street or highway other than an expressway, freeway or parkway.
Department	Connecticut Department of Transportation
Encroachment Permit	a standard form issued by the District Maintenance Director allowing the use of highway right of way, to perform a specified activity within the highway right of way. Information on obtaining an Encroachment Permit is available on the Connecticut DOT web site.
Expressway	a divided highway with partial control of access.
Freeway	a divided highway with full control of access, also known as limited access.
Guide Sign	a sign that shows route designations, destinations, directions, distances, services, points of interest, or other geographical, recreational, or cultural information.
Highway	a general term for denoting a public way for purposes of vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.
Logo	a distinctive emblem or trademark that identifies a commercial business and/or the product or service offered by the business.
MUTCD	the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices – standards for all traffic control devices and approved by the Federal Highway administrator as the National Standard in accordance with Title 23 U.S. Code Sections 109(d), 114(a), 217, 315, and 402(a), 23CFR 655, and 49 CFR 1.48(b)(33), and 1.48(c)(2).

Overhead Sign	a sign that is placed such that a portion or the entirety of the sign or its support is directly above the roadway or shoulder such that vehicles travel below it.
Post-Mounted Sign	a sign that is placed to the side of the roadway such that no portion of the sign or its support is directly above the roadway or shoulder.
Regulatory Sign	a sign that gives notice to road users of traffic laws or regulations.
Sign	any traffic control device that is intended to communicate specific information to road users through a word, symbol, and/or arrow legend.
Sign Assembly	a group of signs, located on the same support(s), that supplement one another in conveying information to road users.
Sign Legend	all word messages, logos, pictographs, and symbol and arrow designs that are intended to convey specific meanings. The border, if any, on a sign is not considered to be a part of the legend.
Sign Panel	a separate panel or piece of material containing a word, symbol, and/or arrow legend that is affixed to the face of a sign.
Signing	individual signs or a group of signs, not necessarily on the same support(s), that supplement one another in conveying information to road users.
Warning Sign	a sign that gives notice to road users of a situation that might not be readily apparent.