



Northville Township Fire Department

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Northville, MI 48168
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Northvilletownshipfire.org

Updated June 2024

Fire Lane Standards

Referenced Standards:

- 2021 International Fire Code as adopted by Chapter 79-2
- Charter Township of Northville Code of Ordinance
- MMUTCD (Michigan Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices)
- Michigan Vehicle Code, Act 300 of 1949, 257.674

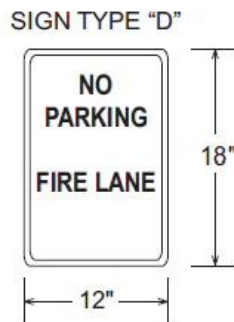
Commentary:

Fire lane standards in the Charter Township of Northville are based on the International Fire Code (IFC), the Code of Ordinances for the Charter Township of Northville, current fire department standards and best practices. The intent of this document is to provide clear guidance to the public, developers or other affected parties with the fire lane and fire lane signage requirements of Northville Township. Road development, maintenance and signage are critical to providing the fire department with the necessary access to operate in an efficient and effective manner. According to the IFC, fire lanes should provide an unobstructed width of 20' and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13'6" in height. **These standards are for reference only and fire lanes are subject to review and approval by the fire department.** Additional apparatus access may be required by the department based on several factors.

Standards:

- Parking is prohibited within 15 feet of a fire hydrant (Michigan Vehicle Code Act 300 of 1949 (d)).
- Road width calculations will be measured from the back of curb to the back of curb when the curb is mountable and installed to Wayne County Standards.
 - Roads less than 27' wide will prohibit parking on either side of the road.
 - Roads 27' wide or greater and less than 36' feet wide will permit parking on one (1) side of the road only.
 - Roads more than 36' wide will allow parking on both sides of the road.
- Cul-de-sac
 - Signage must be installed at the entry to the cul-de-sac
 - Additional signage must be installed approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the cul-de-sac
 - Parking in the cul-de-sac is prohibited
- Fire lane signage must be provided on all roads less than 36' in width. All signage must meet Wayne County Standards.
 - All signage must be approved by the fire department
 - Signs must be 12 inches wide by 18 inches in height
 - Signs shall have red lettering on a white reflective background
 - Signs must be posted every 200-250 feet
 - Signage must be installed with seven (7) feet of clearance from the bottom of the sign to the ground
 - Signs must be installed with the nearest side two (2) feet from the back of the curb
 - Where parking is prohibited on both sides of a road, signage must be provided on both sides of the road

- Where parking is prohibited on one side of the road, it shall be on the same side of the street as the fire hydrants. Other considerations may apply. Each plan and layout will be reviewed independently to verify that adequate access is provided.
- Additional signage may be required near blind corners, street corners and within 15 feet of fire hydrants.
- Additional signage may be required where deemed necessary for emergency vehicle access.
- A fire lane signage plan may be required for review and approval.
- The party responsible for signage and maintenance depends on whether the road is public or private.
 - **Private Roads.** In the case of a private road, the homeowner's association/owners are responsible for maintaining the roads including the fire lane signage.
 - **Public Roads.** In the case of a residential public road, Wayne County is responsible for the maintenance of public roads. If you have questions or issues, please report them directly to the Wayne County Sign Shop at (734) 955-2135 or submit a Wayne County service request at <http://www.waynecounty.com/servicerequest20/>.
- The responsible party must maintain signage in a clear and legible condition at all times. Signage must be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.



If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Division at (248) 348-5807 or via email at firemarshal@twp.northville.mi.us. If the fire department receives a complaint regarding the fire lane signage in your area, you may be required to install or repair fire lane signage at the expense of the party responsible (developer, homeowner, county).

Respectfully,

Office of the Fire Marshal