



# **Compliance – Resource Bulletin**

# **NORTH CAROLINA-State Specific Signs**

# North Carolina ADA Parking Signs

#### Overview:

All states must comply with The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It is a federal wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADAAG) stipulates design standards for accessible parking spaces. Section 502.6 of ADAAG and The Department of Transportation Standard for Highway Signs (MUTCD) both address design standards for the required signs.

### Resources:

2010 ADAAG Standards: (Free)

**MUTCD Standard for Highway Signs:** (Free)

North Carolina Regulation: (Free)

http://www.ada.gov/2010ADAstandards\_index.htm https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs\_2004\_2012\_sup.pdf http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?sta tute=20-37.6

### Design of Parking Signs:

- Accessible parking spaces must have a sign that includes the international symbol of accessibility and state "RESERVED PARKING." Spaces designed for van parking must also have a sign stating "VAN ACCESSIBLE." (ADAAG 502.6), (MUTCD R7-8)
- The sign should be 12"W x 18"H with green lettering and border on a white background. The symbol of accessibility should be 4"H and be white on a blue background. The symbol is a depiction of a person in a wheel chair. (MUTCD R7-8), (ADAAG 703.7.2.1)
- If required, the van accessible sign should be 12"W x 6"H and have green lettering and border on a white background or white lettering and border on a blue background. (MUTCD R7-8a, R&-8b)
- Signs should be mounted at least 60 inches above the parking surface so as to not be obstructed by any parked vehicles.
- Signs should be constructed to withstand the elements. An aluminum substrate with a reflective surface using UV stable ink is recommended. An anti-graffiti laminate surface might also be considered.
- Of note: Federal accessibility signs avoid the use of the text "handicapped" or "disabled" as a result of the Department of Justice's efforts to make use of up-to-date accepted terminology and avoid stereotyping of individuals. (28CFR35.104)
- North Carolina also requires posting a sign at accessible parking spaces stating the maximum penalty for parking in the space in violation of the law. (G.S. 20-37.6{d})





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# **North Carolina No Smoking Signs**

### Overview:

The State of North Carolina prohibits smoking in restaurants, bars, and government buildings and vehicles. Exemptions to the statewide ban are granted to cigar bars, designated smoking rooms in public lodging establishments, and private clubs. The North Carolina's Smoke-Free Restaurants and Bars Law went into effect on 1/2/2010 and requires posting of signs enforcing the law at various locations. The law is administered by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. (130A-493 & 496)

### Resources:

North Carolina Regulation: (Free) <a href="http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H2v10.pdf">http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H2v10.pdf</a>
Smoke Free NC Website: (Free) <a href="http://tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/smokefreenc/">http://tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/smokefreenc/</a>

## Design of No Smoking Signs:

- The person having control of any facility where smoking is prohibited must post a sign stating "Smoking is Prohibited" and that may also contain the international no smoking symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it. (130A-493-497)
- Though not required by the law, it is common to post a sign stating "Smoking Permitted" in facilities exempted from the smoking ban.
- Department of Health recommended sign formats are viewable at the Smoke Free NC website.

# **Swimming Pool Signs**

#### Overview:

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources stipulates rules governing the use of public swimming pools and spas. The code became effective on 4/4/1990 and requires the posting of signs at public swimming pools and spas. (15A NCAC 18A.2500)

#### Resources:

North Carolina Regulation: (Free) <a href="http://ehs.ncpublichealth.com/docs/rules/294306-9-2500.pdf">http://ehs.ncpublichealth.com/docs/rules/294306-9-2500.pdf</a>
NSP Foundation: (Free) <a href="http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News">http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News</a> StateCodes.aspx

#### Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

Below are the required North Carolina swimming pool and spa signs. See the North Carolina regulation for more specific posting and design information.





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### (Swimming Pool Signs Continued)

- A sign posted where no lifeguards are provided stating "No Lifeguard on Duty," "Children Should Not Use The Swimming Pool Without Adult Supervision," and "Adults Should Not Swim Alone." (15A NCAC 18A.2530c)
- A "Pool Closed" sign should be posted at bather entrances when pool operation is suspended for water quality issues. (15A NCAC 18A.2530e)
- A sign stating the rules and regulations for bathers. (15A NCAC 18A.2526a)
- A "Caution" sign at spa pools stating the rules and regulations of bathers. (15A NCAC 18A.2532{15})
- A sign providing emergency contact information posted next to the telephone used for emergency calls. (15A NCAC 18A.2530f)

# **Concealed Weapon Signs**

#### Overview:

The State of North Carolina allows residents of the state to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they have been issued a permit granted by the sheriff in the county in which they reside. An applicant for a permit must at least 21 years old, has not been convicted of a felony, does not have a serious mental illness, is not addicted to a controlled substance, and has completed an approved handgun safety course. There are certain places such as schools, taverns, state government buildings, law enforcement facilities, etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. North Carolina honors the CCW permits of all other states. (14-415.12.a-b)

### Resources:

North Carolina Regulation: (Free) <a href="http://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/byarticl">http://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/byarticl</a>

e/chapter 14/article 54b.html

Handgunlaw.com/North Carolina: (Free) <a href="http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/northcarolina.pdf">http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/northcarolina.pdf</a>

### Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

• The owner of a private business may forbid CCW in their establishment by posting a conspicuous sign stating that weapons are forbidden in the facility. (14-415.11(c)(8))

# **Cell Phone Signs**

### Overview:

The State of North Carolina bans the use of hand-held cell phones for texting communications by all drivers of motorized vehicles. Drivers under the age of 18 and school bus drivers may not use wireless devices for any type of communication while driving. The law, HB 9/S.L. 2009-135, became effective on 6/19/2009.





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(Cell Phone Signs Continued)

#### Resources:

North Carolina Regulation: (Free) <a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf</a>
<a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf</a>
<a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf</a>
<a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H9v5.pdf</a>

### Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any mandatory "no cell phone" sign postings required in North Carolina.
- An efficient way to remind both commercial and private drivers of cell phone bans is to apply a "No Cell Phone Use While Driving" safety label or window decal to cars, taxi cabs, trucks, and buses.
- Of note: Because cell phones can be distractive by nature, it is common to see signs regulating cell
  phone use in public buildings such as theaters, airports, courtrooms, hospitals, buses, schools and school
  traffic zones.

# **Baby Surrender Signs**

#### Overview:

Since the first baby surrender (safe-haven) law was enacted in Texas in 1999, all U.S. states, as well as the District of Columbia, have passed safe-haven legislation. The laws allow an unharmed infant to be relinquished to the proper authorities.

### Resources:

North Carolina Regulation: (Free) <a href="http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/NorthCarolina\_Safe\_Hav">http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/NorthCarolina\_Safe\_Hav</a>

en Law.pdf

NSH Alliance: (Free) https://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/

#### Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

North Carolina allows for the relinquishing of a new born infant (7 days old or less) by a parent who no
longer wishes to have custody of the child. The infant may be relinquished at any hospital, police station,
fire station, social service agency, or with a responsible adult, as defined by the Act. As of 9/1/2019 we
are unaware of any requirement in the law for the posting of signs. (7B-500)

Visit ComplianceSigns.com to shop for related signs: http://www.compliancesigns.com