

CODE ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICE

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The City of Hinesville's Code Enforcement Office is tasked with ensuring the Codes and Ordinances of the city are adhered to. The office operates under the leadership of the Director, Department of Inspections. Your feedback on our performance is always welcome as we strive to find the best balance between enforcement and customer service. Questions or comments concerning Code Enforcement can be directed to the Code Enforcement Office at (912) 876-4048 or (912) 876-4164



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## Outdoor Sales Display in Commercial Zones

City of Hinesville  
Department of Inspections



## Important Changes You Should know

A recent change in the City zoning ordinance impacts the manner in which outdoor displays may be permitted within commercial areas. The ordinance which is effective June 21st, 2018 applies to any retail business whose principal activity is the sale of merchandise in an enclosed building and impact all uses permitted in C-1 and C-2 districts subject to the provisions of Sects. 625 and 904. With limited exceptions, the ordinance requires all merchandise and sales displays to be inside an enclosed building.

The ordinance also allows for temporary use permits for certain activities, including outdoor sales displays for up to 72-hours and up to four times a year. The permits are subject to applicable conditions for use provided the activity will cause no traffic congestion or adversely affect surrounding areas.

## ORDINANCE EXCEPTIONS...

Exceptions to the ordinance change include the following:

- 1) Propane tanks (20lbs) are permitted providing the tanks are in a locked storage container. No more than four containers are permitted per property. Storage containers may not exceed 50 cubic feet in volume and 6 feet in height and must comply with all applicable fire and safety codes.
- 2) Coolers for bagged ice not to exceed 60 cubic feet are permitted.
- 3) Vending machines for the purpose of selling or dispensing merchandise including, but not limited to, beverages, candy, food, movies, toys, etc. are permitted. Newspaper racks, pay telephones, air pumps, vacuum machines and automatic teller machines are not considered or regulated as vending machines.
- 4) Self-Contained, all weather kiosks for the display of food, beverage and automotive supplies for sale as an accessory use to approved vehicle fueling centers with canopies are permitted provided all sales display fixtures are located completely underneath the canopy.
- 5) Areas for which a businesses site plan in Zone C-3 identifies approved outdoor sales/rental lots including, but not limited to, vehicles, trailers, equipment, building and farm supplies, nurseries and garden centers, boats, mobile homes and storage buildings are permitted.

## TEMPORARY USE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR...

- 1) Religious meetings in a tent or other temporary structure, in an open area for a period not to exceed 40 days.
- 2) Open lot sale of pumpkins, Christmas trees, or other seasonal items in an approved open area for a period not to exceed 45 days.
- 3) Contractor's office and equipment sheds, and temporary real estate sales offices for a period of 12 months; provided, that such office is placed on the property to which it is appurtenant when construction, development, or sales is underway.
- 4) Transient merchants wishing to locate in a C-2 (general commercial district) zone for a period not to exceed 45-days.
- 5) Temporary outdoors sales displays in C-2 and C-3 zoning districts for up to 72 consecutive hours duration and at a frequency of not more than four temporary use permits per calendar year. This activity shall also be subject to Chapter 9, Article 4, Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Section 9-103(h).
- 6) Upon the recommendation of the Director of Inspections and the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission, the City of Hinesville Mayor and Council may authorize the issuance of a temporary use permit for carnivals or circuses in approved open areas for a period not to exceed three weeks.