

# **Fire Lane Sign Requirements Information Packet**

## *Private Streets*



## **Montgomery County Fire and Rescue**



**May 2008**

**If you have any questions or comments regarding the information contained within, or if you need assistance interpreting these requirements, please contact:**

**Montgomery County Fire and Rescue  
Office of the Fire Marshal  
100 Edison Park Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Tel: (240)777-2457  
Fax: (240)777-2465**

## AUTHORITY

Fire lanes are established by authority of the Montgomery County Fire Safety Code Section 22-33 and are enforced through Executive Order 4-78. This executive order allows fire rescue personnel approved by the County Fire Chief to have concurrent jurisdiction with county police officers for the purpose of enforcement of the parking and standing regulations of the Montgomery County Code Chapter 31 Sections 10 and 20.

## SUBMITTAL

### Fire Lane Order

Fill out Date and Location on page 1. Use the street address(es). Leave Signature of Order Writer/ID# blank. The Office of the Fire Marshal official requiring the order will sign.

Fill out the top section on page 2. On the Address line provide an address where a hard copy of the processed order can be mailed. The Office of the Fire Marshal official requiring the order will fill out the second section and a field inspector will fill out the bottom section after installation. Provide one original copy of the Fire Lane Order.

### Signage Plan

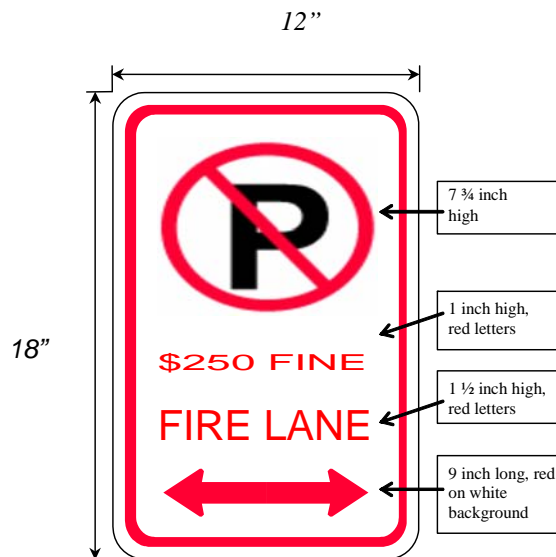
Provide twelve color copies of an 8.5"x11" fire lane signage plan. Provide a legend and show locations in red of all proposed signs. The plan can be more than one page, but each page must be 8.5"x11". If approved and submitted for a Chief's Order, one hard copy will be returned to the applicant via post to the address provided on page 2 of the Fire Lane Order.

## FIRE LANE SIGNS

### Dimensions

Fire lane signs shall be 12 inches wide and 18 inches high.

### Sample



## Characteristics

The signs are to be all-season durable with red reflective lettering on a white background.

## Where Required

Fire lane signs *may* be required in areas that meet the following criteria:

- Fire department access roadways with clear and unobstructed pavement width **less than 28 feet wide** - Signs shall be posted on ***both sides*** and/or ***per direction from the Fire Marshal***.
- Fire department access roadways with clear and unobstructed pavement width **between 28 feet wide and 36 feet wide** - Signs shall be posted on ***one side only*** and/or ***per direction from the Fire Marshal***.
- Fire department access roadways with clear and unobstructed pavement width **exceeding 36 feet wide** - Fire lane restrictions ***per direction from the Fire Marshal***.
- Fire department access roadways with limiting factors such as traffic calming devices, heavy volume, access to high risk occupancies, etc - Fire lane restrictions ***per direction from the Fire Marshal***.

## Installation

Installation of the NO PARKING signs shall meet all of the following requirements:

- One at the beginning of the restriction (one arrow pointing towards the restriction zone).
- One at the end of the restriction (one arrow pointing back into restricted zone).
- One *at least* every 100 ft within the restricted area (double arrow pointing in each direction, to indicate the continuing restriction).
- Spaced evenly within the restriction (for straight curbs/zones). For example, if the parking restriction zone is 200 ft long, only one *double arrow* sign is required at a distance of 100 ft from the beginning of the restriction. If the restriction zone is 250 ft long, two *double arrow* signs are required; spaced evenly from each other and from the beginning/ending signs.
- Spaced so that at least one readable sign is visible in front of a parked vehicle from any point along the restriction (for curved curbs/zones and areas that may present visual obstacles).
- Set at an angle of no fewer than 30 degrees and no more than 45 degrees with the lane of traffic flow visible to approaching traffic.

Some areas may need additional fire lane signs. Review by the Fire Marshal's office will identify additional requirements.

## Other Fire Lane Designations

MCFRS Office of the Fire Marshal *may* require other designations such as curb painting in addition to signs. Per *NFPA 1 Section 18.2.3.5* where required by the AHJ, approved signs or other approved notices shall be maintained to identify fire department access roads.

The diagrams below indicate the types of signs that may be used and the placement of these signs with the appropriate arrows.



Either type may be used provided the same type is used consistently.

