

## **INFORMATION SIGNS FOR RESORT & RECREATIONAL CAMPING AREAS SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNS**

### Introduction

Information Signs for Resort & Recreational Camping Areas (Specific Service Signs) are established by State Statute 160.292 through 160.297. More detailed information on this program can be obtained from the Itasca County Highway Engineer's Office.

### Purpose and Application

Specific service signs (D9-X6) provide the business identification and directional information for businesses, (including seasonal agricultural products), services, and activities the major portion of whose income or visitors are derived during the normal business season from motorists not residing in the immediate area of the business or activity. They are intended for use only on rural conventional roads and shall not be used at interchanges on expressways or freeways. They may be used in conjunction with motorist service signs.

(See Page 6)

### Design

Specific service signs shall be rectangular in shape and have a white legend and border on a blue background. No logos of any kind shall be used on a specific service sign. Such prohibited logos include the Standard General Service symbols (Section 2G-6) and the Recreational and Cultural Interest Areas symbols (Section 2H) of the MN MUTCD and corporate or private logos for a specific business, service, or activity.

Each sign shall have no more than two lines of legend, a separate directional arrow, and the distance to the facility shown beneath the arrow. The content of the legend shall be limited to the identification of the business, service, or activity and the directional information. Legends shall not include promotional advertising.

The entire sign shall be retro reflective. This includes the legend, arrows, and border.

### Style and Size of Lettering

The standard lettering for specific service signs shall be upper case letter of the type provided in the "Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs and Pavement Markings" book. \*The legend on all signs used in rural districts shall be in letters and numerals of

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5 inches in height unless the name of the facility is so long as to require the use of 4 inch letters.

Arrangement and Size of Signs

There shall be no more than four specific service signs placed vertically in a single sign assembly. Signs for left turns shall be placed above signs for right turns when they are arranged in one sign assembly. When there are more than four signs to be installed on an approach to an intersection, the left turn signs shall be grouped together and placed on a separate assembly at least 300 feet from the assembly containing the right turn signs.

Signing containing the legend AHEAD or straight ahead arrow is permitted only where trunk highway turns at an intersection and the facility is located straight ahead on a local roadway. Also, depending on certain T-intersections at which concurrent trunk highways intersect, and one sign qualifies, a sign for the other approach may be permitted. In situations other than these, signing for a straight ahead movement shall not be permitted.

Advance Signing

Advance signing may be installed only on 4 lane divided highways in advance of at-grade intersections. This will provide the motorist with advance notification of the service and help reduce vehicle conflicts and improve highway safety.

The arrangement of the specific service signs on the advance sign panel should be identical to the arrangement on the intersection sign panel; however, the directional arrows and distances should be omitted. The appropriate legend RIGHT LANE or LEFT LANE in letters of the same height as the sign legends, should be placed on the panels above the signs. The legend 1/2 MILE OF RIGHT or 1/2 MILE OF LEFT may be used when there are intervening minor roadway intersections.

Sign Locations

The intersection approach sign panels shall be located at least 300 feet from the intersection and shall not obstruct the driver's critical viewing of other traffic control devices. The sign assemblies may be located laterally outside the normal longitudinal alignment of other traffic control signs, but within the right-of-way. The location of other traffic control devices shall at all times take precedence over the location of specific Sign Locations (Continued)

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service signs. Sign Panels should be placed at least 300 feet apart and at least 300 feet from other traffic control devices. See Figure 2-54.

When used, Advanced Sign Panels should be located approximately 1/2 mile from the intersection. It is desirable the LEFT LANE and RIGHT LANE panels be placed across from each other, one in the median and the other on the right side of the roadway. If the median is not wide enough to permit this, the panel for the left facilities should be placed 800 feet before the panel for the right facilities.

Position, height, and lateral clearance of assemblies should be governed by Sections 2A and 2D of the MN MUTCD except as permitted above.

State Policy

According to State Law (Statute 160.293, subd. 1), "Specific service signs are to be used to create and implement a system of signing for the purpose of displaying specific service information to the traveling public on nonfreeway type trunk highways in rural areas."

The State policy on specific service signing as established by State Statutes 160.292 through 160.296 sets the following rules:

1. A Specific service is defined as meaning restaurants, rural agricultural or tourist-oriented businesses, places of worship, and motels, resorts, or recreational camping areas that provide sleeping accommodations for the traveling public.

A tourist-oriented business means a business, service, or activity that receives the major portion of its income or visitors during the normal business season from motorists not residing in the immediate area of the business or activity. This may include but is not limited to: 1) a greenhouse or nursery; 2) a bait and tackle shop; 3) a marina; and 4) a gift or antique shop.

2. Criteria for specific service signing:
  - a. The facility shall be in conformance with all applicable laws and rules concerning the provisions for public accommodation without regard to race, religion, color,

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sex, or national origin.

- b. The facility must be located within 15 miles of the State Policy qualifying intersection.
- c. Motels, restaurants, and resorts shall have a current and valid license from the State Department of Health.
- d. Recreational camping areas shall have:
  - 1) A current and valid license from the State Department of Health;
  - 2) A minimum of 15 camping spaces;
  - 3) Modern sanitary facilities (flush, chemical or incinerator toilets) and drinking water;
  - 4) Open for business 24 hours a day.
- e. Rural agricultural or tourist-oriented businesses must be open a minimum of 8 hours a day, 6 days a week, and 12 months a year. If the business is seasonal, it must be open 8 hours a day and 6 days a week during the normal seasonal period.

3. Restrictions

- a. Specific service signs may be erected at 1) the intersection of a trunk highway with a local road, 2) on highway bypasses of outstate municipalities, and 3) the intersection of two trunk highways.
- b. Specific Service signs may not be erected is 1) the place of business is readily visible, 2) if effective directional advertising is visible, or 3) an advertising sign can be legally and effectively located near the intersection.
- c. A facility shall be limited to specific service signs at only one intersection on the trunk highway system.
- d. Any trailblazing from the trunk highway intersection to the specific service shall be the responsibility of the specific service and the local road authority.
- e. Signing for straight ahead movements along the trunk highway system shall be construed as trailblazing on the trunk highway system and shall not be permitted, except as noted in the paragraph on Arrangement and Size of Signs.

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4. Administration

- a. Requests for specific service signing shall be submitted to the Itasca County Highway Engineer.
- b. Signing may be granted if the facility meets the definitions, criteria and restrictions as stated above and if space is available for the sign.
- c. All signs shall be installed, maintained, replaced, and removed by the Itasca County Highway Department.
- d. The applicant shall pay for all previously mentioned costs.
- e. Seasonal services shall have their specific service signs covered, removed or a CLOSED plaque applied over the mileage or arrow portion of the sign when the service is not available.
- f. A new or participating specific service shall respond to any communication from Itasca County within 30 days or an in place sign panel will be removed.
- g. If any of the requirements as found in State Statutes 160.292 to 160.296 or paraphrased above are not continually met, Itasca County shall remove the appropriate specific sign panels.
- h. Additional details on Itasca County policy may be found in the Minnesota Traffic Engineering Manual and State Statutes 160.292 through 160.296.

Adopted by the County Board on May 25, 1993

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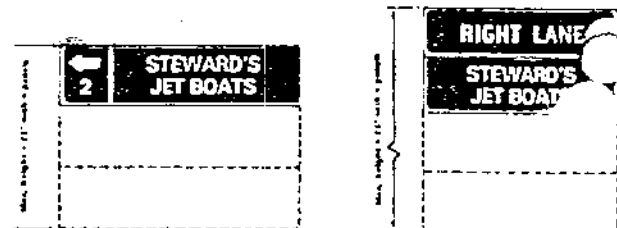
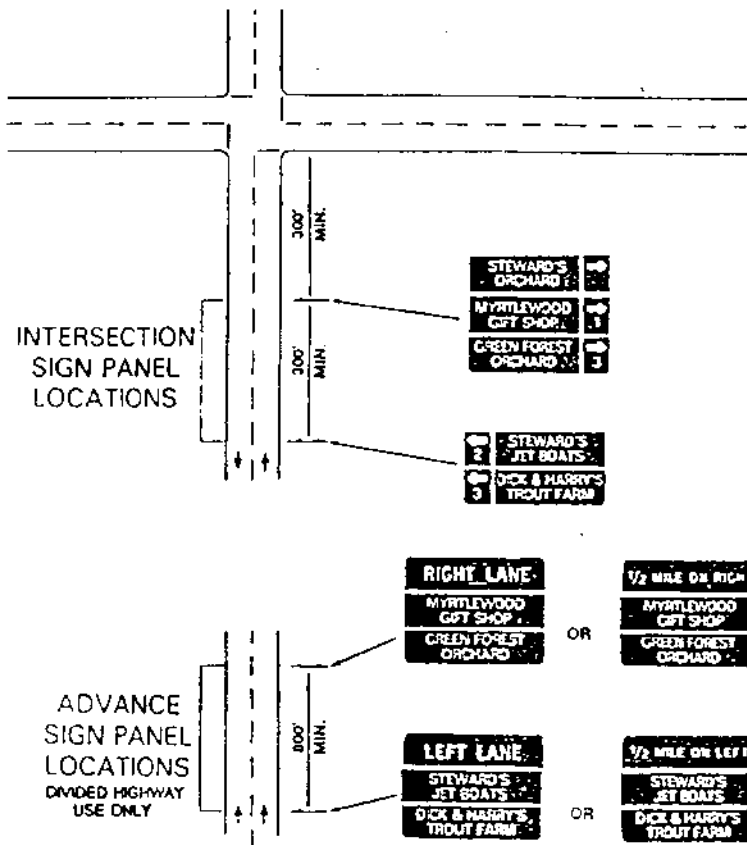
ISLAND RESORT

GREAT BEAR  
CAMPGROUND



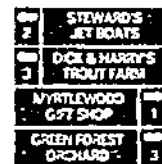
D9-X6

72" x 18"



INTERSECTION SIGN

ADVANCE SIGN



COMBINED SIGN

(1) USE IF THERE IS AN INTERVENING ROAD

Figure 2-54. Typical signing for tourist oriented services.

Figure 2-53. Typical tourist oriented directional signs.