

761—119.5(321) Installation, maintenance, replacement and removal.

119.5(1) *Installation and maintenance of tourist-oriented directional signs.* Except as provided in subrule 119.5(4), the department will fabricate and perform the installation, maintenance, removal and replacement of tourist-oriented directional signs that are located within the right-of-way.

a. Upon approval of an application, the department will design the tourist-oriented directional sign and provide a scaled drawing of the tourist-oriented directional sign to the applicant, allowing the applicant to reconfirm interest before proceeding with fabrication.

b. Upon payment of the initial fee specified in subrule 119.5(3), the department will fabricate and install the tourist-oriented directional sign.

119.5(2) *Installation and maintenance of trailblazing signs.* Trailblazing signs are necessary when the destination is not located adjacent to the intersecting roadway.

a. The department may fabricate trailblazing signs and provide them to cities and counties for installation on secondary roads and city streets, if such placement does not violate any local ordinance, policy, or traffic manual.

b. The department will consult with the local authority to confirm that placement of a trailblazing sign is possible to guide the motorist to the destination.

c. Tourist-oriented directional signs may be installed only when all trailblazing signs may also be installed.

119.5(3) *Initial and renewal fees.* The initial fee, payable once an application is approved, is \$350 for each 72" × 18" sign placed along the primary highway and \$26 for each trailblazing sign placed along a nonprimary highway. These fees include the cost of sign fabrication and installation but do not include any additional requested fees by local jurisdictions for the placement of trailblazing signs along local road systems. The annual renewal fee, payable on or before June 30 of each year, is \$50 per sign, excluding trailblazing signs. This fee covers the administrative costs and normal maintenance.

119.5(4) *Seasonal destination.*

a. Seasonal destinations may be approved for the program if “closed” panels are installed over the directional information when the destinations are not open for the season or when the hours of operation are not meeting the minimum listed in subrule 119.3(1).

b. Destinations such as golf courses and Christmas tree farms where the expected seasonal period is generally known by motorists may forego the use of “closed” panels.

c. Destinations using “closed” panels may arrange to remove or reinstall the panels on their own through an agreement with the department or pay a fee to the department to perform the service. The fee is \$40 per trip and includes all signs associated with the destination that are located along the primary highway system.

119.5(5) *Replacement.* Tourist-oriented directional signs are constructed with high-quality materials designed to last many years. The department may, however, determine that a tourist-oriented directional sign needs to be replaced due to damage from vehicles, deterioration from age, or loss due to theft. In these cases, the cost for replacing the sign is the responsibility of the destination.

119.5(6) *Not-for-profit organizations.* A not-for-profit destination is exempted from all fees and costs associated with the installation and maintenance of a single set of signs at a location determined by the department to be the most reasonable approach to the destination. Additional locations may be requested by the not-for-profit organization, and, if approved, such locations are subject to the associated fees and costs described in this chapter.

119.5(7) *Removal.* The department may remove a tourist-oriented directional sign if the destination no longer qualifies for tourist-oriented directional signing. As official signs, all removed tourist-oriented directional signs are retained as property of the department unless released to the destination for purposes other than display along any public roadway.

[ARC 8786C, IAB 1/8/25, effective 2/12/25]