

761—119.6(321) Installation, maintenance, replacement and removal.

119.6(1) *Installation and maintenance of tourist-oriented directional signs.* Except as provided in subrule 119.6(5), the department shall fabricate and perform all required installation, maintenance, removal and replacement of tourist-oriented directional signs that are located within the right-of-way.

a. The department shall design the tourist-oriented directional sign and provide a scaled drawing of it to the applicant prior to sign fabrication.

b. A tourist-oriented directional sign for a for-profit activity or site shall not be installed until the applicant has paid the department the initial fee specified in subrule 119.6(3). If the activity or site is not for profit, the department shall fabricate and install the sign and provide normal maintenance at no cost to the applicant.

119.6(2) *Installation and maintenance of trailblazing signs.* If the activity or site is not located adjacent to the secondary road or city street intersecting the primary route, trailblazing signs are required. Trailblazing signs shall conform to requirements in the MUTCD.

a. The department shall fabricate trailblazing signs and provide them to cities and counties for installation on secondary roads and city streets. Cities and counties are responsible for the installation and maintenance of trailblazing signs on routes under their jurisdiction.

b. Trailblazing signs for a for-profit activity or site shall not be installed until the applicant has paid the department a fee for the cost of sign fabrication.

c. Tourist-oriented directional signs shall not be installed until necessary trailblazing signs are in place.

119.6(3) *Fees.* The initial fee, payable once an application is approved, is \$100 per sign plus the cost of sign fabrication and installation. The annual renewal fee, payable on or before June 30 of each year, is \$50 per sign, which covers administrative costs and normal maintenance. These fees apply to for-profit activities or sites only.

119.6(4) *Additional services.* The department may perform additional services requested for an activity or site in connection with the modification of a tourist-oriented directional sign. If the sign is for a for-profit activity or site, the activity or site shall prepay a \$50 service charge plus the cost of any required new or renovated sign.

119.6(5) *Seasonal activity or site.* A tourist-oriented directional sign for a seasonal activity or site must either be masked or have a “closed” panel installed over the sign’s directional information when the activity or site is closed or when the hours of operation decrease below the minimum requirements during the off-season period. Either the department or the activity or site with the department’s permission shall perform the work. If the department performs the work, the approved applicant must pay the actual cost to install and remove the “closed” panel or to mask the sign.

119.6(6) *Required replacement.*

a. The department shall determine when a tourist-oriented directional sign is no longer serviceable and needs to be replaced. A for-profit activity or site must pay for the cost of a new sign and its installation prior to installation. If the activity or site is not for profit, the department shall replace the sign at no cost to the activity or site.

b. The department is not responsible for theft of tourist-oriented directional signs or damage to them caused by vandalism, vehicle accidents, or natural causes. If a sign for a for-profit activity or site requires repair or replacement due to theft or damage, the activity or site must pay the cost of a new sign and its installation. At the activity’s or site’s request, this cost may be spread over a 12-month period. If the activity or site is not for profit, the department shall repair or replace the sign at no cost to the activity or site.

119.6(7) *Removal.* The department shall remove a tourist-oriented directional sign if the activity or site no longer qualifies for tourist-oriented directional signing. As official signs, all tourist-oriented directional signs are the property of the department and shall not be given to applicants upon the signs’ removal.