



## TCEQ REGULATORY GUIDANCE

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Water Supply Division  
RG-552 • August 2021

# Water-District Signs

A water district at times is required to post a sign at the two entrances to the district. This guidance identifies and describes TCEQ's and Texas Department of Transportation's rules and guidelines regarding these signs.

## Texas Sign Rules

### Posting Signs in the District

#### [Texas Water Code, Section 49.451](#)<sup>1</sup>

**49.451(a)** A district subject to the notice requirements of Section 49.452 shall, within 30 days after the effective date of this section or the creation of the district, post signs indicating the existence of the district at two principal entrances to the district.

**49.451(b)** The size and exact location of the information contained on the signs shall be determined by the executive director.

*Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 715, s. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.*

### Road District Signs

#### [Texas Transportation Code, Section 257.004](#)<sup>2</sup>

**257.004(a)** A road district to which this chapter applies shall post signs indicating the existence of the district at two or more principal entrances to the district so that they are readable by traffic entering the district. The signs must be posted not later than the 60th day after the date the district is established and must be maintained as long as the district exists.

**257.004(b)** Consistent with state and local rules governing signs, the signs must be permanent and contain the name of the district in at least three-inch letters. The signs may contain other information as determined by the commissioners court.

*Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, s. 1, eff. Sept 1, 1995.*

### Adoption of Sign Manual for State Highways

#### [Texas Transportation Code, Section 544.001](#)<sup>3</sup>

**544.001** The Texas Transportation Commission shall adopt a manual and specifications for a uniform system of traffic-control devices consistent with this chapter that correlates with and to the extent possible conforms to the system approved by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

*Act 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, s. 1, eff. Sept 1, 1995.*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/WA/htm/WA.49.htm#49.451>

<sup>2</sup> <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/TN/htm/TN.257.htm#257.004>

<sup>3</sup> <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/TN/htm/TN.544.htm#544.001>

## TxDOT Sign Guidelines

According to [Section 6: Municipal and Road Utility District Signs](#)<sup>4</sup> of the TxDOT's *Sign Guidelines and Applications Manual*, the guidelines are:

- Signs should be installed off the right-of-way (ROW), if possible. Signs may be installed on the ROW but located near the fence line, mounted parallel to the direction of traffic on the highway.
- If the sign is mounted on the ROW, the sign mounts must conform to current TxDOT specifications, and the sign must conform to the typical details shown in *Standard Highway Sign Designs for Texas*. (See [p. 3-187](#).<sup>5</sup>)
- Sign locations must be approved by the TxDOT district office so as not to interfere with routine maintenance operations.

**Color/Language/Size:** Background is white reflective; border and legend are black. The three upper lines are for the district name. Variations in the number of letters per line will depend on the length of the district name. (See Figure 1, below [from *Standard Highway Sign Designs for Texas*, p. 3-187].)

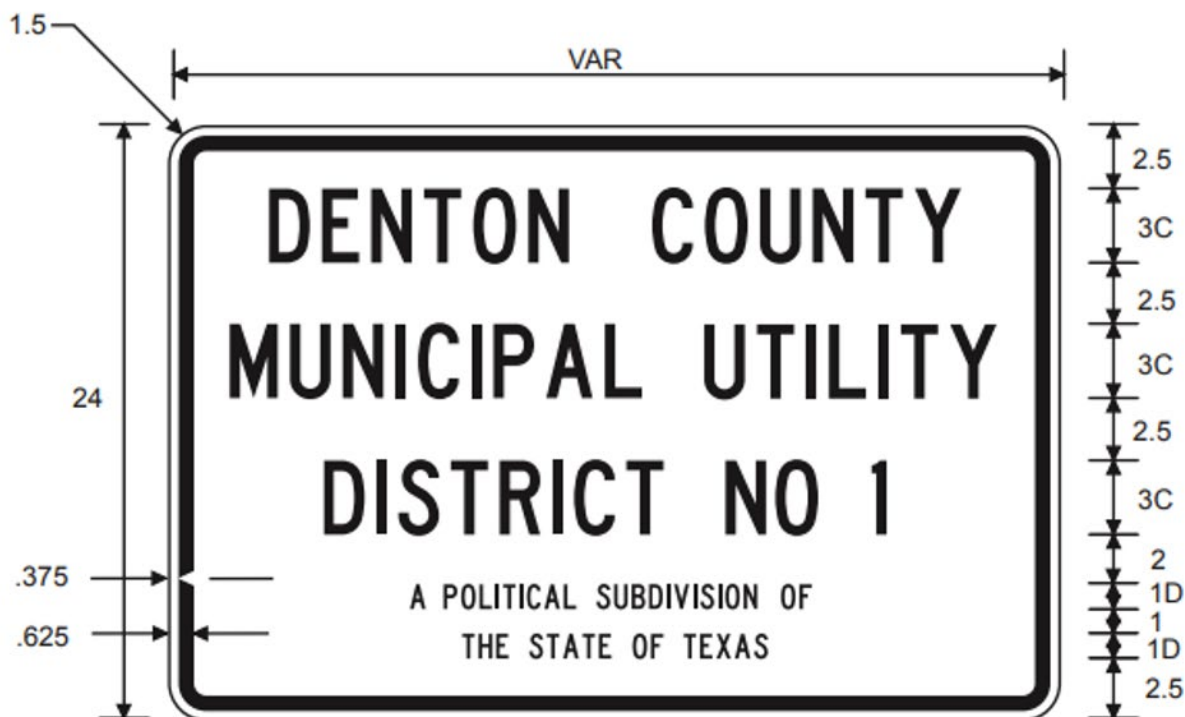


Figure 1. Typical Texas Utility-District Sign, with Specifications

<sup>4</sup> [http://onlinemanuals.txdot.gov/txdotmanuals/smk/road\\_utility\\_district.htm](http://onlinemanuals.txdot.gov/txdotmanuals/smk/road_utility_district.htm)

<sup>5</sup> <https://ftp.txdot.gov/pub/txdot-info/trf/shsd/2012/section3.pdf>