

Signs for Traffic Control

The Traffic Division installs and maintains all traffic control signs on public streets except those on the **interstate and the state route signs**. The signs are installed in accordance with the MUTCD standards. Signs are standardized in shape, color, size and message to provide consistency across the United States. The standardization assists drivers in readily recognizing and responding appropriately, regardless of the jurisdiction. Thousands of signs are maintained each year through installation, replacement, straightening, or removal. Signs are used sparingly in order to increase their effectiveness where they are used; over-signing detracts from important signs.

To request a sign or report a damaged, faded or missing sign, e-mail or call the Traffic Division. **If a stop sign is missing or down call 911.**

Traffic control signs are constructed on aluminum sign blanks with a retroreflective sign face (see **Interesting Sign Facts**). See the meaning of each sign color and shape used in Johnson City:

Shape

- Octagon – Stop
- Equilateral Triangle (1 Point Down) – Yield
- Circle and an “X” Configuration– Railroad Crossing
- Pentagon – School Crossing
- Diamond – Warning
- Rectangle – Regulatory, Guide and Warning

Background Color

- White – Regulatory, State Route
- Red – Regulatory (Restrictive)
- Yellow and Fluorescent Yellow– Warning
- Fluorescent Yellow-Green – School and Pedestrian Warning
- Orange and Fluorescent Orange – Temporary Traffic Control
- Green – Guide and Street Name

Every detail of the sign is defined for standard signs including the letter height, position and font. The great attention to the details of sign construction, make the time necessary to recognize and understand the meaning of the signs much better; this is critical where response to a sign is necessary.

We are always looking for new ways to improve signing to better serve the citizens. An overhead street name program was implemented in 1996 and will continue to expand where possible. This program locates street name signs overhead where there are signal poles with mast arms supporting the signal heads. This allows the driver to quickly and easily identify streets without looking away from the signals to the side of the street at smaller signs. The mast arms allow for attachment of larger signs that stay fixed and visible under almost all weather conditions, and they remove the signs from

the street side where they are vulnerable to damage. These signs use a highly reflective sign material to increase their visibility.