



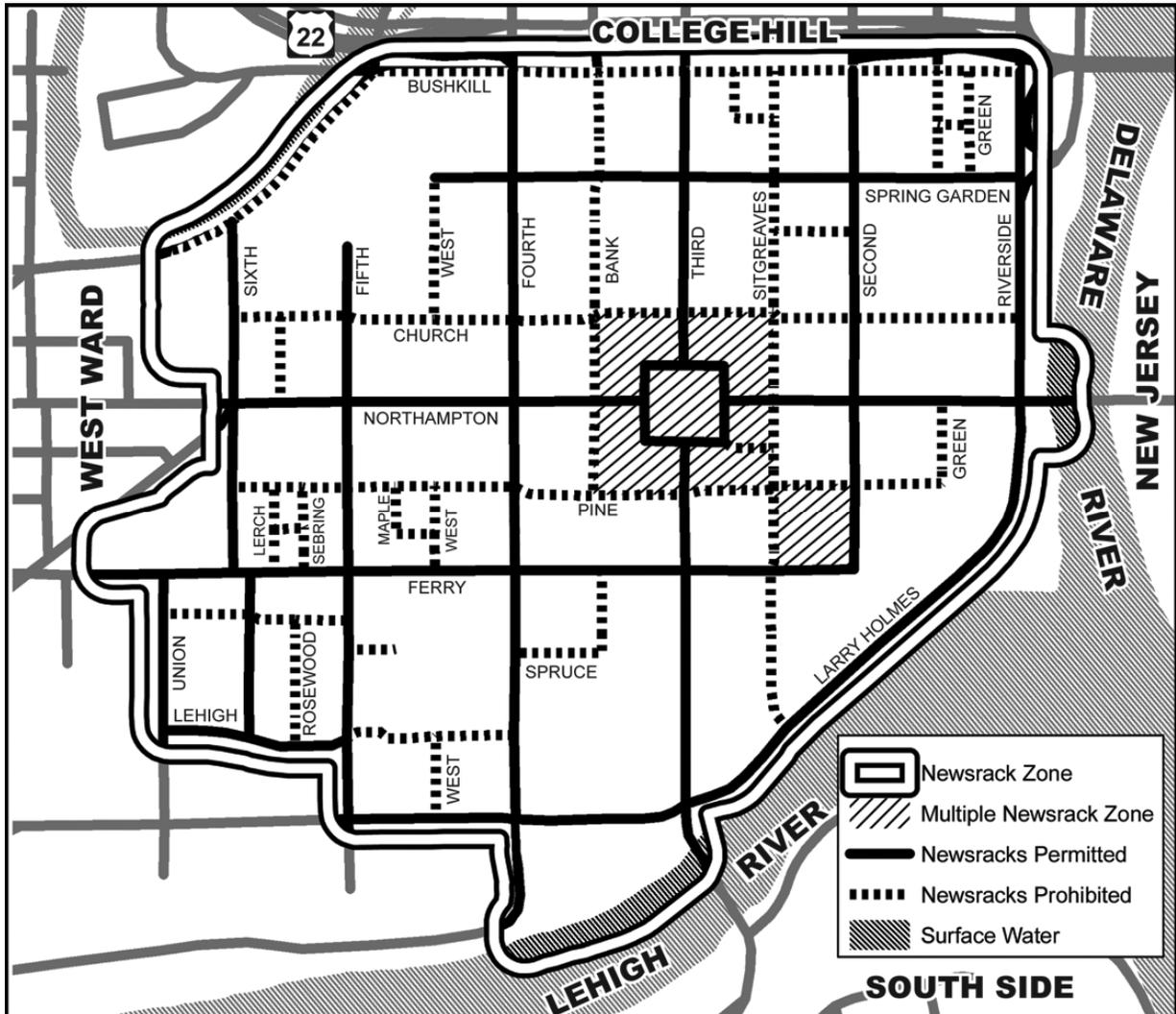
# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

## General Information

### Why have newsrack regulations?

The adopted newsrack regulations are designed to protect the public health, safety, general welfare, and historic character of the City of Easton. The regulations accomplish this by setting standards for newsracks, designating appropriate newsrack locations, requiring proper newsrack maintenance, and safeguarding public rights-of-way. All newsracks in the Downtown District are subject to these regulations, and require permits.

### Where do the newsrack regulations apply?





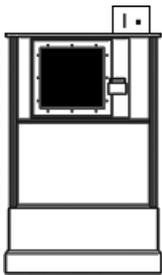
# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

The newsrack regulations apply to Easton's Downtown District and are divided into two zones: the Single Newsrack Zone and the Multiple Newsrack Zone (See Map.). Permitted single newsracks are allowed on the following streets outside of the Multiple Newsrack Zone: 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Union Street, Larry Holmes Drive, Spring Garden Street, Northampton Street, Center Square, Ferry Street, Washington Street, Riverside Drive, and Lehigh Street.

## What is the Multiple Newsrack Zone?

The Multiple Newsrack Zone is an area in the center of the Downtown District where the City of Easton will maintain modular newsracks. (See Map.) This zone was created to provide a variety of publications in high-traffic areas, in an orderly fashion. Publication space in the Multiple Newsrack Zone will be allotted by the City of Easton. Single newsracks are prohibited in the Multiple Newsrack Zone.

## What is the difference between a Single Newsrack and a Multiple (Modular) Newsrack?



**Single Newsrack**



**Multiple (Modular) Newsrack**

Single Newsracks are private dispensers distributing a single publication. Multiple Newsracks are owned and maintained by the City of Easton, and hold multiple publications.

## How are permits allocated?

Permits are allocated each year. In the event that more than one publication seeks to place a newsrack in the same location, the permit will be chosen by the order in which the applications are received, with priority given to publications with newsracks already present, and to publications that print local news and legal notices. After a permit is issued, individuals may place their newsracks (with applicable license and contact information stickers) in the approved locations. Should a publication fail to place a newsrack within 30 days of a permit being granted, or leave a newsrack location vacant or with expired publications for 30 days, that location will be made available to other publications.

**This is designed to serve only as a guide. Provisions in the ordinance ultimately dictate regulations. In the event of inconsistency, the actual ordinance will take priority.**

Questions or comments? Department of Planning & Codes • One South Third Street • Easton, PA 18042  
(Tel.) 610-250-6608 • (Fax) 610-250-6607 • (E-mail) [jklabunde@easton-pa.gov](mailto:jklabunde@easton-pa.gov) • (Web) [www.easton-pa.gov](http://www.easton-pa.gov)



# City of Easton

## Newsrack Regulations

### Permit Process

Applicants will need to file a Newsrack Permit Application, which can be obtained from the City of Easton Department of Planning & Codes, Bureau of Health, on the third floor, Alpha Building, One South Third Street. Each application must include the following items:

1. A completed permit application form, with signed indemnity agreement.
2. A Street Location Diagram indicating the proposed newsrack placement.
3. A Sketch Plan showing newsrack location and surrounding streetscape details covering 6 feet on either side of the proposed rack location including property lines, sidewalks, curb lines, lighting, trees indicating tree size, tree grates, planters, parking meters, benches, street signs, bus stops, fire hydrants, and any other significant, permanent items in the right-of-way.
4. Photographs and any other supporting materials showing the style, type, material and dimension details of the proposed newsrack, as well as the newsrack's proposed location.
5. Emergency contact information
6. A valid Business License is required.

Permits are valid from March 1<sup>st</sup>, until the last day of February of the following year. Permit holders may file to renew their permits beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Permitted newsracks will be required to display a valid permit sticker, as well as the owner's contact information.

Failure to comply with rules regulating the placement and maintenance of newsracks may result in revocation of permits, fines, or the destruction of a newsrack in violation. It is the owner's duty to know the law, and keep his or her newsrack in compliance.

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# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

Street Location Diagram of proposed newsrack placement. Label all streets and include any alleyways on the block of placement.

**Sample Street Location Diagram:** (Please use labels and symbols shown below.)

	<b>Nearest Address:</b>
	123 Any Street
	<b>Location Description:</b>
	On east side of X Street, between Y Street and Z Alley. In front of ABC's Bakery.

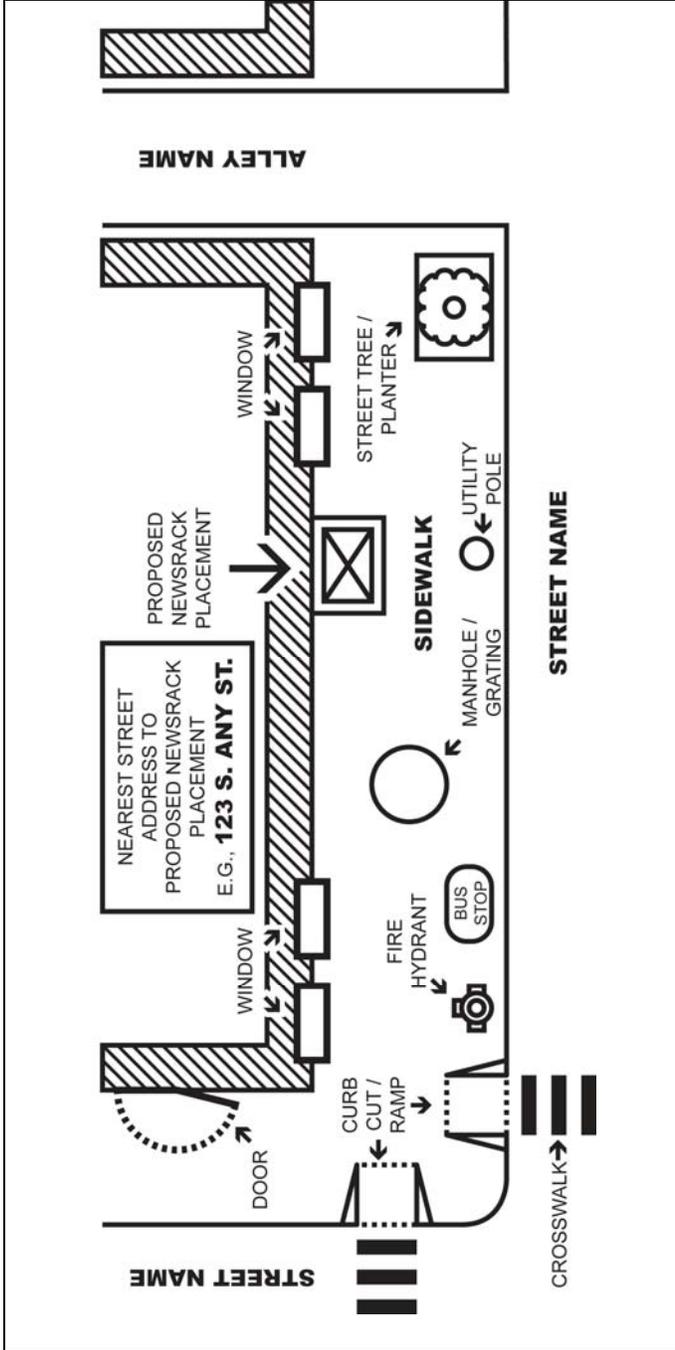
**Street Location Diagram:**

	<b>Nearest Address:</b>
	<b>Location Description:</b>



# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

Sample Sketch Plan: (Please use labels and symbols shown below.)



Sample Proximity Checklist: (Please list all measurements in feet.)

8'	Distance to nearest first floor window
25'	Distance to nearest bus stop <input type="checkbox"/> Rack ahead of bus stop <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rack behind bus stop
35'	Distance to nearest intersection / crosswalk
35'	Distance to nearest curb cut / ramp
30'	Distance to nearest fire hydrant
16'	Distance to nearest alley, driveway, or loading zone
NA	Distance to nearest fire lane



# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

Sketch Plan:

**Proximity Checklist:**

- Distance to nearest first floor window \_\_\_\_\_
- Distance to nearest bus stop \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rack ahead of bus stop
  - Rack behind bus stop
- Distance to nearest intersection / crosswalk \_\_\_\_\_
- Distance to nearest curb cut / ramp \_\_\_\_\_
- Distance to nearest fire hydrant \_\_\_\_\_
- Distance to nearest alley, driveway, or loading zone \_\_\_\_\_
- Distance to nearest fire lane \_\_\_\_\_



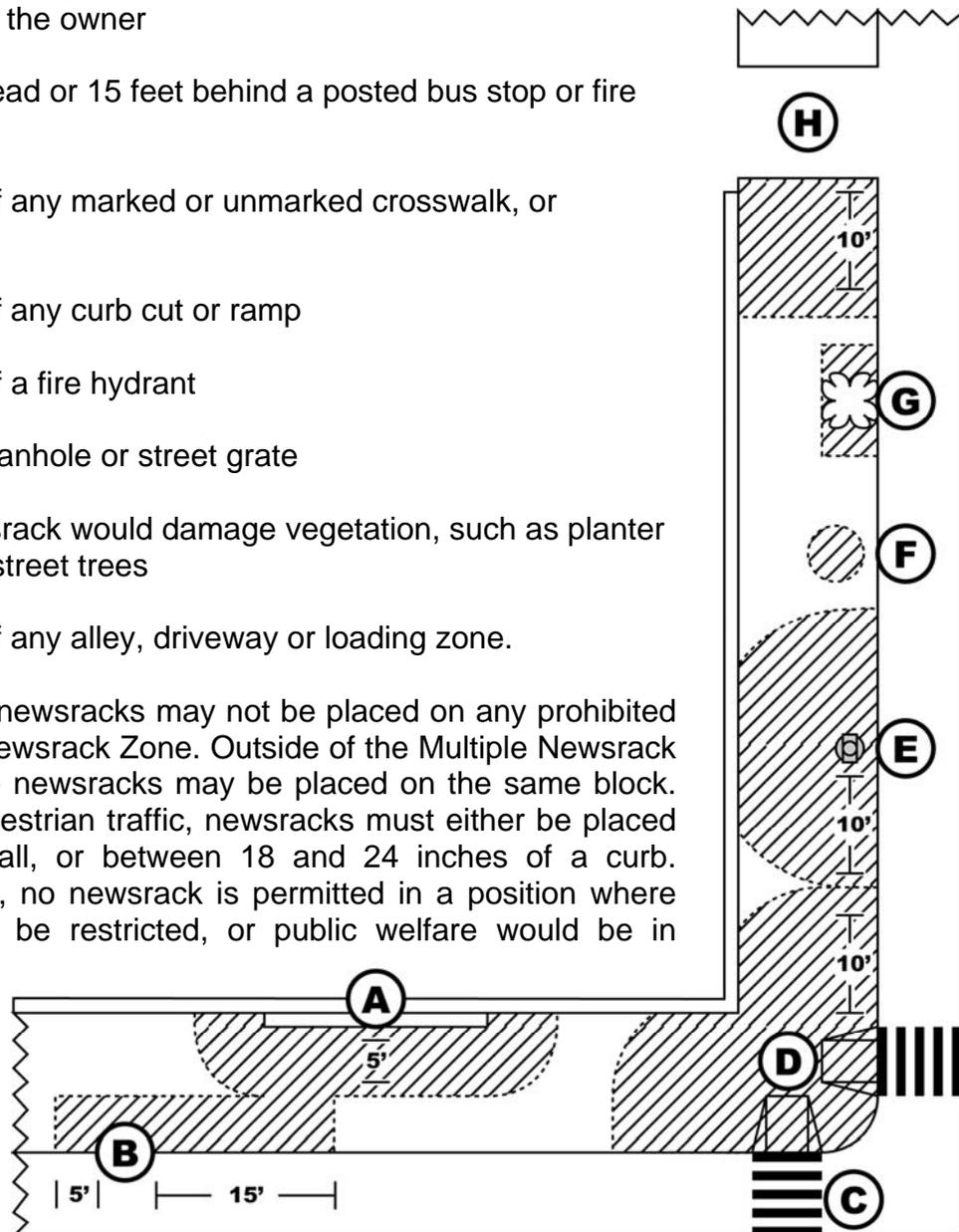
# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

## Placement Restrictions

Where are newsracks prohibited?

- A. Within 5 feet from any first floor window without written permission from the owner
- B. Either 5 feet ahead or 15 feet behind a posted bus stop or fire lane.
- C. Within 10 feet of any marked or unmarked crosswalk, or intersection
- D. Within 10 feet of any curb cut or ramp
- E. Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant
- F. Obstructing a manhole or street grate
- G. Where the newsrack would damage vegetation, such as planter boxes or along street trees
- H. Within 10 feet of any alley, driveway or loading zone.

In addition, private single newsracks may not be placed on any prohibited street, or in the Multiple Newsrack Zone. Outside of the Multiple Newsrack Zone, no more than three newsracks may be placed on the same block. To ensure the flow of pedestrian traffic, newsracks must either be placed within six inches of a wall, or between 18 and 24 inches of a curb. Regardless of its location, no newsrack is permitted in a position where pedestrian access would be restricted, or public welfare would be in jeopardy.





# City of Easton Newsrack Regulations

## Other Restrictions

### **Size & Advertisements**

Newsracks may not be larger than 30 inches wide, by 24 inches deep, by 48 inches tall. This height requirement does not include coin mechanisms located at the top of the newsrack.

Newsracks may not display advertisements for anything other than the publication inside of the newsrack.

### **Floodplain**

Newsracks proposed to be placed in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) defined 100-Year Floodplain must meet specific conditions:

1. The newsrack must be non-buoyant. (Weight may be added to the newsrack to meet this requirement.) Details indicating how the newsrack will be maintained, stabilized, and the materials from which the newsrack is made, must be provided at the time of application.
2. In the event of a flood, within 2 hours of notification, the owner of the newsrack must remove the newsrack from the floodplain.

Floodplain boundaries can be obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at <http://www.msc.fema.gov>. Maps are also available for viewing at the Department of Planning & Codes.

### **Maintenance**

Newsracks must be kept in safe, clean, working order at all times. In addition, it is the responsibility of newsrack owners to make sure their publications are current, and that the newsrack is stocked. The newsrack must be stable, and must have a self-closing door, to prevent publications from littering the streets.

### **Other Regulations**

Newsracks may not be affixed to the sidewalk, street signs, utility poles or other permanent objects in the right-of-way.

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