

Political Sign Information

Did you know there are laws concerning where a political sign can be placed? There are state laws and local ordinances that govern where signs can be placed. Before placing your campaign signs, please familiarize yourself and your volunteers with the laws and ordinances. Illegal signs can pose a threat to public safety, especially when they appear at intersections, medians, ditches, bridges, utility poles, or along sidewalks. You should always have an owner's permission when you are placing a sign (whether the land is public or private)

Below are some laws governing sign placement. Please review all laws before placing your signs.

State Laws:

SECTION 57-25-10. Unlawful to display, place or affix posters within right-of-way.

It is unlawful for a person to display, place, or affix a sign, as defined in Section 57-25-120(3), within a right-of-way and visible from the main-traveled way of the highway. A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days.

SECTION 57-25-140. Signs permitted along interstate or federal-aid primary highways; customary use exception; removal of vegetation from right-of-ways.

(A) An outdoor advertising sign must not be erected or maintained after June 30, 1975, which is visible from the main-traveled way of the interstate or federal-aid primary highways in this State and erected with the purpose of its message being read from the traveled way, except the following:

(9) signs of thirty-two square feet or less advertising agricultural products of a seasonal nature, signs of a political nature, signs erected by or on the behalf of eleemosynary, civic, nonprofit, church, or charitable organizations, or signs advertising special community events which are erected temporarily for ninety days or less.

(D) No sign permitted under this section may obscure or otherwise interfere with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, signal, or device nor obstruct or interfere with the driver's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic. No sign except on premises and FOR SALE or LEASE signs may be located within three hundred feet of any of the following which are adjacent to the highway in areas outside of incorporated municipalities or within one hundred feet on sections inside municipalities:

- (1) public parks of ten acres or more;
- (2) public forests;
- (3) public playgrounds of one-half acre or more;
- (4) scenic areas designated by the commission or other state agency having and exercising that authority.

SECTION 7-25-180. Unlawful distribution of campaign literature.

(A) It is unlawful on an election day within two hundred feet of any entrance used by the voters to enter the polling place for a person to distribute any type of campaign literature or place

Political Sign Information

any political posters. The poll manager shall use every reasonable means to keep the area within two hundred feet of any such entrance clear of political literature and displays, and the county and municipal law enforcement officers, upon request of a poll manager, shall remove or cause to be removed any material within two hundred feet of any such entrance distributed or displayed in violation of this section.

City of Greenwood Ordinance:

6.3.6. Signs for Which a Permit is not Required

L. Campaign signs subject to the following:

1. Such signs shall not be placed within a public right-of-way.
2. Such signs shall not be attached to trees, fences or utility poles.
3. Such signs shall be no larger than 32 square feet in area.
4. All such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election.
5. Locations of signs greater than sixteen (16) square feet in area shall be provided to the zoning administrator prior to erection.
6. Such signs shall not be erected more than two (2) months prior to the election date.
7. A \$150 bond shall be required by the City of Greenwood prior to the installation of a political sign within the city limits. All signs shall meet the requirements of Section 4.4.4.1.

4.4.4.1. Signs

Off-site signs, off-premise signs, and political signs are prohibited within the City of Greenwood Main Street Corridor Overlay District.