



Cabarrus County Board of Elections
2015 General Information & Sign Ordinances

General Information and Statutes

Complaints about signs

Political signs on DOT right-of-ways are now allowed by GS 136-32. Signs are allowed to be placed on these right of-ways 30 days prior to one-stop voting starting. They are to be removed 10 days after the election. Also there are some restrictions on the placement. The Statute is set out below. Complaints about the timing of placing, removal, and location of placement are not matters for a county board of elections or the State Board. Have the citizen refer those complaints to your local DOT District Office. Information on contacting the DOT District Offices is set out at the end of this document. Citizens can also call the NCDOT toll free at (877)368-4968 during normal business hours. Links to District Offices can be found on the NCDOT website at http://www.ncdot.gov/contact/countycontacts.html?name=*

NC Department of Transportation Contact:

Cabarrus

615 Concord Rd.(NC 73) Albemarle, NC 28001
1.877.368.4968 (DOT-4YOU)

Unlawful removal of signs

GS 14-384 makes it a misdemeanor to remove lawfully placed signs, including political signs. Complaints as to this issue should be directed to law enforcement authorities by the complaining citizen. There is also a provision in GS 136-32 that makes it a misdemeanor to remove lawfully placed signs on right-of- ways. These alleged crimes should also be reported to local law enforcement by the complaining citizen.

§ 14-384. Injuring notices and advertisements.

If any person shall wantonly or maliciously mutilate, deface, pull or tear down, destroy or otherwise damage any notice, sign or advertisement, unless immoral or obscene, whether put up by an officer of the law in performance of the duties of his office or by some other person for a lawful purpose, before the object for which such notice, sign or advertisement was posted shall have been accomplished, he shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Nothing herein contained shall apply to any person mutilating, defacing, pulling or tearing down, destroying or otherwise damaging notices, signs or advertisements put upon his own land or lands of which he may have charge or control, unless consent of such person to put up such notice, sign or advertisement shall have first been obtained, except those put up by an officer of the law in the performance of the duties of his office. (1885, c. 302; Rev., s. 3709; C.S., s. 4503; 1993, c. 539, s. 256; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

Sign Ordinances

Cabarrus County

Taken From Cabarrus County Website (Zoning Ordinances)

POLITICAL SIGNS

1. All political signs must adhere to policies and regulations of Board of Elections. If any of the following provisions are in conflict with regulations set forth by the Board of Elections, the stricter of the regulations shall apply with no effect to the remaining regulations.
2. Sign may not exceed six (6) square feet.
3. Sign shall not exceed four (4) feet in height measured from the top of the natural grade to the uppermost part of the sign.
4. Political Signs may be displayed during a period beginning forty five (45) days prior to an election and removed seven (7) days after the election. In the event of a runoff election, political signs for the candidates involved may remain on display until seven (7) days after the runoff election.
5. Upon conclusion of the election, all components of the sign, including the sign face, stakes, posts, frames or any other supporting element must be removed from the property and the land returned to its previous state.
6. All portable or roof-mounted political signs are prohibited.

Link to Sign Ordinance:

http://www.cabarruscounty.us/government/departments/planning-development/zoning_ordinance/commerce_zoning_ordinance_signage_chapter_11.pdf

Sign Ordinances

City of Concord

Taken from City of Concord Website (Planning Development Ordinance)

12.3.11 Political Signs.

Political signs shall not be illuminated, shall not be located within a public street right-of-way or located closer than 8 feet to the edge of street pavement unless sidewalks are in place. Where sidewalks are in place, political signs may be located closer than 8 feet from the edge of pavement as long as they are on the back side of the sidewalk, away from the street. Political Signs shall not be within a required sight triangle as defined in section 12.4.4, shall not be attached to a tree or utility pole, and shall be no taller than four feet. Political signs may be placed in right-of-ways during a period beginning 45 days prior to an election the candidate is participating in and concluding 48 hours after said election. In the event of a runoff election, political signs for the candidates involved may remain on display until 48 hours after the runoff election. All portable and roof-mounted signs for political advertisement are prohibited. All signs in right-of-ways that violate the above provisions and/or political signs that remain more than 48 hours after the election shall be removed for disposal by the City. **MAXIMUM SIZE IS SIX SQUARE FEET.**

Link to Sign Ordinance:

<https://www.concordnc.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Ac7S0ev-h3Y%3d&tabid=251&mid=692>

Sign Ordinances

Town of Harrisburg

Taken from Town of Harrisburg Website (Unified Development Ordinance)

12.4.8. Political Signs.

Political signs shall not be illuminated, shall not be located within a public street right-of-way or located closer than 10 feet to the edge of street pavement or within a required sight triangle, shall not be attached to trees or utility poles, and shall be no taller than four feet. Political Signs may be displayed during a period beginning 45 days prior to an election and concluding 48 hours after the election. In the event of a runoff election, political signs for the candidates involved may remain on display until 48 hours after the runoff election. All portable and roof-mounted signs for political advertisement are prohibited. All signs that violate the above provisions and/or political signs that remain more than 48 hours after the election shall be removed for disposal by the Town. **MAXIMUM SIZE IS SIX SQUARE FEET.**

Link to Sign Ordinance:

[http://www.harrisburgnc.org/sites/default/files/ Planning_Zoning/article_12.pdf](http://www.harrisburgnc.org/sites/default/files/Planning_Zoning/article_12.pdf)

Sign Ordinances

City of Kannapolis

Taken from City of Kannapolis Website (Unified Development Ordinance)

12.4.11. Political Signs.

Political signs shall not be illuminated, shall not be located within a public street right-of-way or located closer than 10 feet to the edge of street pavement or within a required sight triangle, shall not be attached to trees or utility poles, and shall be no taller than four feet. Political Signs may be displayed during a period beginning 45 days prior to an election and concluding 48 hours after the election. In the event of a runoff election, political signs for the candidates involved may remain on display until 48 hours after the runoff election. All portable and roof-mounted signs for political advertisement are prohibited. All signs that violate the above provisions and/or political signs that remain more than 48 hours after the election shall be removed for disposal by the City. MAXIMUM SIZE IS SIX SQUARE FEET.

Link to Sign Ordinance:

<http://www.kannapolisnc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/UDO-Article-12.pdf>

Sign Ordinances

Town of Midland

Taken from Town of Midland Website (Midland Zoning Ordinance and Maps)

17.6 (P) POLITICAL SIGNS

Political *signs* containing no more than six square feet in copy area in residential districts and no more than 24 square feet in copy area in nonresidential or mixed use districts, provided that no more than one *sign* per candidate or issue is displayed per zone lot frontage and such *signs* are erected no more than 45 days prior to the applicable election and removed no more than seven days after the applicable election.

Link to Sign Ordinance:

<http://www.townofmidland.us/documents/19/26/Midland%20Article%2017%20-%20Sign%20Regulations.PDF>

Sign Ordinances

Town of Mount Pleasant

Taken from Mount Pleasant Website (UDO & Zoning Maps)

12.4.11. POLITICAL SIGNS.

Political signs shall not be illuminated, shall not be located within a public street right-of-way or located closer than 10 feet to the edge of street pavement or within a required sight triangle, shall not be attached to trees or utility poles, and shall be no taller than four feet. Political Signs may be displayed during a period beginning 45 days prior to an election and concluding 48 hours after the election. In the event of a runoff election, political signs for the candidates involved may remain on display until 48 hours after the runoff election. All portable and roof-mounted signs for political advertisement are prohibited. All signs that violate the above provisions and/or political signs that remain more than 48 hours after the election shall be removed for disposal by the Town. **MAXIMUM SIZE IS SIX SQUARE FEET.**

Link to Sign Ordinance:

<http://www.townofmountpleasantnc.org/images/Documents/UDO/article%2012.pdf>