



Regulations Regarding Political Signs

Disclaimer: (May 20, 2020) This information was compiled by the Washington County Board of Elections and is provided for informational purposes only. Campaign/candidate are responsible for determining the applicable laws of each jurisdiction.

Electioneering:

Electioneering is prohibited in the polling place and within 100 feet of the entrance and exit to the polling place (“No Electioneering Zone”). No electioneering, political activity, posting or placing of signs, or distributing of campaign materials may take place within the “No Electioneering Zone.” The “No Electioneering Zone” will be designated by signs placed prior to the start of Early Voting and Election Day.

The Washington County Board of Elections, Early Voting Center and Vote Center:

The Washington County Board of Elections Facility, Early Voting Center and Vote Center located at 17718 Virginia Avenue, is a County facility and the posting of signs on County property is generally not permitted. The specific regulations set forth here regarding our facility are narrowly tailored to serve the public interest in the health, safety and security of voters, election workers, administrative staff, and the public.

At the Washington County Board of Elections Facility, Early Voting Center, Vote Center and Ballot Drop Boxes, temporary campaign signs are allowed on the premises, from:

- Drop Box Locations: 5 p.m. on May 20, 2020 until 8 a.m. on the day immediately following election day;
- Early Voting: 5 p.m. the day before an early voting period begins until 8 a.m. the day after the early voting period ends. Md. Code Ann., Election Law Section 10-101.
- However, signs may not be affixed or fastened to the building, sidewalks or pavement, light poles, fences or trees.
- Electioneering is permitted only outside of the 100’ No Electioneering Zone, which is marked with a painted line (at 17718 Virginia Avenue).
- To ensure the safety of pedestrians, drivers, and passengers, all vehicles must obey all traffic signs and signals, including persons directing traffic, marked travel lanes, directional signals, and parking lines, signals and signs.
- To ensure the safety and security of the Facility, no overnight parking of vehicles is permitted.
- Signs must not interfere with traffic visibility.

Additional Information: Washington County Board of Elections 240.313.2050

Polling Places:

- 5 p.m. the day immediately preceding election day until 8 a.m. on the day immediately following election day. Md. Code Ann., Election Law Section 10-101.
- If a private facility: signs are permitted at any time but must have owners' permission.
- It is the responsibility of whoever placed the signs to remove the signs by the designated deadline.
- Any signs improperly placed, placed too early, or improperly left after the deadline will be removed and disposed of by the property owners.

Additional Information: Washington County Board of Elections 240.313.2050

Board of Education:

- 5 p.m. the day immediately preceding election day until 8 a.m. on the day immediately following election day.
- It is the responsibility of whoever placed the signs to remove the signs by the designated deadline.
- Any signs improperly placed, placed too early, or improperly left will be removed and disposed of by the school system.

Additional Information: Washington County Public Schools at 301.766.2800

City of Hagerstown:

- Permission must be obtained from property owner.
- Signs are not permitted on public property or public right-of-way (including utility poles, traffic sign posts, median strips, traffic islands or triangles).
- On residential streets, signs are not permitted in the grass area between the sidewalk and the street.
- Signs must not interfere with traffic visibility.

Additional Information: City of Hagerstown, City Clerk at 301.739.8577 Ext. 113

County:

- Permission must be obtained from property owner.
- Signs are not permitted on public property or public right-of-way (including utility poles, traffic sign posts, median strips, traffic islands or triangles).
- Signs must not interfere with traffic visibility.

Additional Information: Division of Planning Review & Permitting at 240.313.2469

State Highways Administration:

- Signs are not permitted in State Right-of-Ways along interstate highways or designated scenic byways.
- State Highway Maintenance crews will remove illegally placed signs and hold them at the local maintenance shops for a short time to enable owners to retrieve them.
- The State Highway Administration is dedicated to keeping Maryland highways safe and beautiful.

Additional Information: State Highway Administration, 301-729-8400 or 1-800-760-7138