



Town of Salem, New Hampshire

Planning Division
33 Geremonty Drive, Salem, New Hampshire 03079

Dear Political Candidate:

The following summary has been prepared to inform you of state and local laws on the placement of political signs. Please follow these laws to ensure the proper placement of your signs.

- No political advertising shall be placed on or affixed to any public property including highway rights-of-way or private property without the owner's consent.
- All political advertising shall be removed by the candidate no later than the second Friday following the election unless the election is a primary and the advertising concerns a candidate who is a winner in the primary. Signs shall not be placed on or affixed to utility poles or highway signs.
- Political advertising placed on or affixed to any public property may be removed by state, city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel.
- Political advertising removed prior to election day by state, city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel shall be kept until one week after the election at a place designated by the state, city, or town so that the candidate may retrieve the items.
- Per RSA 664:2, VI, political advertising means any communication which expressly or implicitly advocates the success or defeat of any party, measure or person at any election.
- No person shall affix, attach, or display any sign upon any object of nature, utility pole, or highway sign.
- Right-of-way means all land adjacent to the traveled portion of a public way or street that lies between the land owned by adjacent property owners. Typically, the right-of-way includes 10-12 feet of land beyond the edge of the roadway. Telephone poles, fire hydrants, and sidewalks, which are typically in the right-of-way, so political signs should always be located further from the roadway.

Please see RSA 664:17 and Town of Salem Municipal Code Chapter 420 for more details. Please contact me if you have any questions about these laws.

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