



## St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Growth Management | Code Enforcement Division

January 21, 2020

To all candidates qualified as per the Supervisor of Elections St Johns County Florida:

Congratulations on your qualification to run for an office within St Johns County. The attached document explains the proper procedures for the placement of Campaign signs on property situated within our County. It is the goal of the Code Enforcement program to educate candidates and ensure voluntary compliance with the St. Johns County sign regulations.

Our practice, prior to punitive action, is to call the candidate to advise that a sign code violation has been observed before we pick up any signs. If the sign is not removed promptly, we will remove it and deposit it at the St Johns County Transfer Station on Allen B. Nease Road. Signs will be held there where the candidates can retrieve them. If repeated sign violations occur a written warning may be issued to the candidate. Further violations could result in fines. If any sign has been placed in the public right of way, please remove them as we may collect those signs without warning and they will be taken to the transfer station as noted above.

Please be aware that the county code provides for fines for violations. We typically do not issue fines unless verbal or written warnings have been unsuccessful. The first violation fine is charged at \$118.00 per day, with repeat violations cited at \$268 per day. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Roderick Potter*

Roderick Potter  
Manager  
Code Enforcement Division

**For the Ponte Vedra Zone the following applies:**

**Signs Permitted:**

- A. Official County or State information signs designed and installed by the County or state.
- B. Official traffic Signs and Sign Structures, provisional warning Signs and Sign Structures, when erected or required to be erected by a legally constituted governing body.
- C. Campaign Signs for candidates of public office or any other Temporary Sign regardless of message:
  - a. Posting of such Signs shall be authorized by the owner of the property on which the Sign is posted.
  - b. Such Signs shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area or four (4) feet in height above ground level. No fill shall be added to property to increase height of a Sign.
  - c. To the extent, if any, that any portion of Article X conflicts with Chapter 102.031 F. S. then the Statute shall prevail as to such conflict during the time of conflict.
  - d. No more than one (1) 12 square foot Sign, regardless of message, on any Lot.
  - e. No allowed on utility poles, trees, or in the right-of-way, median, right-of-way or other public property

**For the Rest of the County**, except the City of St Augustine, and The City of St Augustine Beach, the following applies:

<b>ZONING DISTRICTS</b>	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Commercial</b>
Number of Signs per lot or parcel	2	4
Size of Sign	6 sq. ft.	32 sq. ft.
Max Height of free standing sign	6 ft.	6 ft.
Maximum Sign height for a Window Sign	15 ft.	15 ft.
Setback from side property lines	15 ft.	5 ft.
Setback from Right-of-Way	5 ft.	5 ft.
Setback from other signs	15 ft.	15 ft.
Allowed on public property or public right-of-way	No	No
Allowed within sight visibility triangle	No	No
Illumination allowed	No	No
Duration allowed after event ends	7 calendar days	7 calendar days

Our practice, prior to punitive action, is to call the candidate to advise that violations exist before we pick up any signs. After that, signs will be picked up and taken to the St Johns County Transfer Station on Allen B. Nease Road and placed into a corral where the candidates can pick up their signs and a written warning may be issued to the candidate. Further violations will result in punitive actions explained in the letter.

**Section 7.00.06.G of the St. Johns County Land Development Code (LDC) states:**

**Signs on Public Property**

Any Sign installed or placed on public property, except in conformance with the requirements of this Article or otherwise permitted, shall be deemed illegal and shall be forfeited to the public and subject to confiscation. In addition to other remedies hereunder, the County shall have the right to recover the cost of removal and disposal of such Sign from the owner or person placing such Sign.