

**STANLY COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL SIGN ORDINANCES  
AND STATE LITTER LAWS**

**STANLY COUNTY SIGN ORDINANCE**

- H. Campaign and election signs provided that:
1. Each sign shall not exceed (32) square feet in area.
  2. All such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election for which they were made.
  3. Property owner shall be held responsible for violations.

**CITY OF ALBEMARLE SIGN ORDINANCE**

- A. Campaign and election signs, provided that:
- 1) Each sign shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.
  - 2) All such signs shall be removed within three days after the election for which they were made.

**TOWN OF BADIN SIGN ORDINANCE**

- A. Campaign and election signs provided that:
- 1) Each sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
  - 2) All such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election for which they were made.
  - 3) Property owner shall be held responsible for violations.

**CITY OF LOCUST SIGN ORDINANCE**

9. Campaign or Election signs provided that:
- a) Individual signs shall not exceed 16 square feet in area or 6 feet in height.
  - b) All signs shall be removed within 7 days after the election for which they were made.
  - c) No signs shall be permitted in the public right-of-way.

**VILLAGE OF MISENHEIMER SIGN ORDINANCE**

- H. Campaign and election signs provided that:
- (1) Each sign shall not exceed (32) square feet in area.
  - (2) All such signs shall be removed within seven (2) days after the election for which they were made.
  - (3) Property owner shall be held responsible for violations.

## **TOWN OF NEW LONDON SIGN ORDINANCE**

- 9.5.15.1. Temporary signs involved in campaigns of religious, charitable, civic, fraternal, political and similar organizations located on private property. Said signs shall be removed by the property owner or the party(ies) who originally placed the signs within seven (7) days of the termination of the event advertised.

## **TOWN OF NORWOOD SIGN ORDINANCE**

- h. Campaign and election signs provided that:
1. Each sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
  2. *Signs shall be put up no more than thirty (30) days before the election.*
  3. All such signs shall be removed within three (3) days after the election for which they were made.

## **TOWN OF OAKBORO SIGN ORDINANCE**

- C. Political Signs
- a. A political sign shall not be erected more than sixty (60) days prior to the election to which the sign pertains and shall be removed within ten (10) days following that election.

## **TOWN OF RED CROSS SIGN ORDINANCE**

- 8) Campaign and election signs provided that:
- a) Each sign shall not exceed thirty-two square feet in area.
  - b) All such signs shall be removed within seven days after the election for which they were made.
  - c) Property owner shall be held responsible for violations.

## **TOWN OF RICHFIELD SIGN ORDINANCE**

- E. Political Signs. Signs erected in connection with elections or political campaigns providing that they do not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in surface area, shall be erected no sooner than forty-five (45) days prior to the election, and shall be removed within three (3) days following the election or conclusion of said campaign.

## **TOWN OF STANFIELD SIGN ORDINANCE**

- I. Campaign and election signs provided that:
  1. Each sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
  2. All such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election for which they were made.
  3. Property owner shall be held responsible for violations.
  4. Any sign placed on any curb, sidewalk, post, pole, hydrant, bridge, tree or other surface located on, over or across any public street or right-of-way shall be prohibited.

2012 Version

### **Littering Statutes for Political Candidates in North Carolina**

#### **§ 14-156. Injuring fixtures and other property of electric-power companies.**

It shall be unlawful for any person willfully and wantonly, and without the consent of the owner, to take down, remove, injure, obstruct, displace or destroy any line erected or constructed for the transmission of electrical current, or any poles, towers, wires, conduits, cables, insulators or any support upon which wires or cables may be suspended, or any part of any such line or appurtenances or apparatus connected therewith, or to sever any wire or cable thereof, or in any manner to interrupt the transmission of electrical current over and along any such line, or to take down, remove, injure or destroy any house, shop, building or other structure or machinery connected with or necessary to the use of any line erected or constructed for the transmission of electrical current, or to wantonly or willfully cause injury to any of the property mentioned in this section by means of fire. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. (1907, c. 919; C.S., s. 4328; 1993, c. 539, s. 94; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

#### **§ 136-32. Regulation of signs.**

(a) Commercial Signs. – No unauthorized person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any warning or direction sign, marker, signal or light or imitation of any official sign, marker, signal or light erected under the provisions of G.S. 136-30, except in cases of emergency. No person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any traffic or highway sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial or political advertising, except as provided in subsections (b) through (e) of this section: Provided, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the erection or maintenance of signs, markers, or signals bearing thereon the name of an organization authorized to erect the same by the Department of Transportation or by any local authority referred to in G.S. 136-31. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The Department of Transportation may remove any signs erected without authority or allowed to remain beyond the deadline established in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Compliant Political Signs Permitted. – During the period beginning on the 30<sup>th</sup> day before the beginning date of "one-stop" early voting under G.S. 163-227.2 and ending on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after the primary or election day, persons may place political signs in the right-of-way of the State highway system as provided in this section. Signs must be placed in compliance with subsection (d) of this section and must be removed by the end of the period prescribed in this subsection.

(c) Definition. – For purposes of this section, "political sign" means any sign that advocates for political action. The term does not include a commercial sign.

(d) Sign Placement. – The permittee must obtain the permission of any property owner of a residence, business, or religious institution fronting the right-of-way where a sign would be erected. Signs must be placed in accordance with the following:

- (1) No sign shall be permitted in the right-of-way of a fully controlled access highway.
- (2) No sign shall be closer than three feet from the edge of the pavement of the road.
- (3) No sign shall obscure motorist visibility at an intersection.
- (4) No sign shall be higher than 42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the road.
- (5) No sign shall be larger than 864 square inches.
- (6) No sign shall obscure or replace another sign.

(e) Penalties for Unlawful Removal of Signs. – It is a Class 3 misdemeanor for a person to steal, deface, vandalize, or unlawfully remove a political sign that is lawfully placed under this section.

(f) Application Within Municipalities. – Pursuant to Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, a city may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the placement of political signs on rights-of-way of streets located within the corporate limits of a municipality and maintained by the municipality. In the absence of an ordinance prohibiting or regulating the placement of political signs on the rights-of-way of streets located within a municipality and maintained by the municipality, the provisions of subsections (b) through (e) of this section shall apply. (1921, c. 2, s. 9(b); C.S., s. 3846(r); 1927, c. 148, ss. 56, 58; 1933, c. 172, s. 17; 1957, c. 65, s. 11; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; 1977, c. 464, s. 7.1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1030, s. 39; 1993, c. 539, s. 981; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2011-408, s. 1.)

**19A NCAC 02E .0415 Advertising signs within right of way**

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect or place any advertising or other sign, except regulation traffic and warning signs approved by the Department of Transportation, on any highway or the right of way thereof, or so as to overhang the right of way, or to permit the erection or placing of any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, on a n y highway right of way which is situated over any land owned, rented, leased or claimed by such person, firm or corporation . It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or other corporation that has erected, or placed, or permitted to be erected or placed, any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, or for any person, firm or corporation owning, renting, leasing or claiming any land over which a highway or highway right of way is situated, and on which highway or highway right of way any advertising or other sign has been erected or placed, to allow such advertising or other signs to remain o n state highway or right of way thereof.

History Note: Authority G.S. 136-18(10); 136-30;  
Eff. July 1, 1978.