

## PLACEMENT OF POLITICAL SIGNS

Signage bearing political messages **may not** be placed within **250 feet of the polling place** in public ways; also applies to the Absentee Voting location (**Town Office**).

The Department of Transportation has provided the following information concerning statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to placement of political posters and signs.

**It is suggested that this information be passed on to all campaign workers & supporters.**

The provision of Title 23, M.R.S.A., Sub Section 1913-A and Department Regulation, provide for political posters and signs as follows:

- May be erected within the right-of-way limits of public ways **no sooner than six (6) weeks prior** to the primary or general election and **must be removed no later than one week following the date of the election**, primary or referendum.
- Posting is **limited to 6 weeks during any one calendar year**.
- Sign must contain: owners **name, contact info**, and the **chosen 6-wk period dates**.
- Signage; similar/same message: may be placed **no closer than 30' of one another**.
  
- May be erected on **private** property **outside the right-of-way limits of public ways** (this includes ditches) at any time prior to the primary or general election, limited in size to a maximum of 50 square feet.
  
- Shall **not be erected or maintained on any traffic control signs/posts or devices, public utility poles or fixtures, upon any trees or painted or drawn upon rocks or their natural feature**. They must be affixed to their own stake or post, may be attached to a building or dwelling (with permission), or displayed on vehicles.
  
- May be displayed to view to all public ways except for the Interstate Highway System; Signs **may not** be placed within the limits of any controlled access highway nor erected **within 660 ft.** of the nearest edge of the Interstate Highway System in such a manner **that the message may be read from the Interstate Highway**.
  
- Traffic safety should be of the utmost consideration in placement of political signs. Candidates and campaign workers should take great care **not to place signs or posters where same could create a traffic hazard**.
  
- The **unauthorized** removal or destruction of political signs is a civil violation under Maine law (Title 23 MRSA, Section 1917-A), and may carry a fine of up to \$250. Specifically, the law states that “a person who takes, defaces or disturbs a **lawfully** placed sign bearing political messages relating to a general election, primary election or referendum commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of up to \$250 may be adjudged.