



CITY OF BLAINE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS

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Congratulations on filing for office. Please take some time to review Blaine’s political campaign sign enforcement policy and procedure.

If a political sign is placed in violation of city code, the following procedure will apply:

1. The City Clerk’s Office will contact the candidate to notify of the violation.
2. The candidate will have 48 hours to remove the sign or correct the violation except for during the following:
 - All signs found in violation 48 hours before the primary or general election will be removed by city staff as there will not be enough time to notify the candidate prior to Election Day.
 - Any sign placed on public property is subject to immediate removal by city staff.
 - Any sign deemed a safety hazard is subject to immediate removal by city staff.

If a sign has to be removed by city staff, it is subject to being disposed of and will not be held by the city.

Action is generally taken on a complaint or drive-by basis. The city does not actively seek violations but if a sign is clearly noncompliant follow-up will occur.

Key Dates for 2019/2020	
Date signs can be placed	September 20, 2019
Date signs must be removed	February 21, 2020*

*Unsuccessful candidates are asked to remove their signs by November 15, 2019, 10 days after the Primary election.

Please refer to City ordinance on political campaign signs and State statute regarding noncommercial sign exemptions on the following page for more information.



Blaine City Code Sec. 26-3. - Political campaign signs.

Political campaign signs designating candidates seeking public political office and other data pertinent thereto shall be subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) Signs shall be permitted only on private property provided that the property owner's permission has been obtained by the candidate. Signs are prohibited on public property.
- (2) At a corner of an intersection, signs are prohibited within a triangle formed by measuring 30 feet along the curbs from the point where the curbs intersect and drawing an imaginary line from curb to curb to define the triangle.
- (3) Along the street edge, away from an intersection, signs shall be placed not less than ten feet from the nearest edge of the pavement.
- (4) Where a sidewalk is installed parallel to a public street, 12 inches from the sidewalk edge farthest from the street shall be the minimum setback from the street for sign placement.
- (5) All signs are presumed to be the property and responsibility of the candidate. Each candidate shall provide to the city clerk the names and means of contacting two persons that may receive notices of violation on the candidate's behalf.
- (6) Any candidate who fails to remove a sign placed in violation of this subsection within 48 hours after receiving notice from the city shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor and shall be subject to the penalty contained in section 1-7 of this Code.
- (7) Nothing in this section shall preclude the immediate removal of signs deemed by the city manager to be a safety hazard.

Signs placed in violation of this section are also subject to immediate removal by the city.

(Code 1980, § 2-10; Ord. No. 97-1657, 5-1-1997; Ord. No. 01-1906, 6-21-2001)

State Law reference— Display of noncommercial signs in a state general election year, Minn. Stat. § 211B.045.

MN Statute 211B.045 Noncommercial Signs Exemption.

All noncommercial signs of any size may be posted in any number beginning 46 days before the state primary in a state general election year until ten days following the state general election. Municipal ordinances may regulate the size and number of noncommercial signs at other times.



City of Blaine Campaign Sign Rules

