



Orange Village

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FAQ:

POLITICAL YARD SIGNS IN ORANGE VILLAGE

Many people have asked the Orange Village's administration questions regarding political yard signs in the Village. This is a complicated area of law because the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution preserves the right of free speech to property owners and political campaigns, but the time, place and manner of such speech is subject to reasonable regulations. The Orange Village Zoning Code does provide regulations to ensure property owners and campaigns are protected in the exercise of their rights.

The following is a list of frequently asked questions about yard signs and answers to those questions.

Q: When can a yard sign be put up?

A: In accordance with U.S. Supreme Court precedent, the Orange Village Zoning Code always permits a yard sign to be put up to express any message at any time. The sign must be maintained so that it is legible.

Q: When can multiple yard signs be put up?

A: In recognition of the popularity of yard signs to be used as political campaign tools, the Orange Village Zoning Code provides any number of yard signs to be placed thirty (30) days prior to the day that absentee ballots are available or the day that early voting is permitted. Such signs must be removed within three (3) days after the election however Orange Village Service Department will collect campaign signs throughout the Village the day after the election for recycling. If you would like to keep your campaign signs, please contact Village Hall at 440-498-4400 prior to Election Day.

Q: How big can yard signs be?

A: Eight (8) square feet and not taller than four (4) feet.

Q: On what property may yard signs be placed?

A: Yard signs can be placed on any property where the owner or resident grants permission to the person placing the sign. Consent must be given for each yard sign.

Q: Can yard signs be placed on property owned by Orange Village or on highway right of way?

A: No.

Q: What happens if a sign is placed in an unlawful location on property without the permission of the owner or resident?

A: If a yard sign is placed on private property without the consent of a property owner or resident, the property owner or resident may remove the yard sign. If the owner or resident complains to Orange Village that the yard sign was not placed with permission, Orange Village may take down the sign at the request of the owner or resident, store the sign and notify the campaign that the sign is available. If signs are improperly on Orange Village property or on highway right of way, Orange Village will take down the sign, store the sign, and notify the campaign that the sign is available. Orange Village will dispose of yard signs that are in its possession and not claimed within thirty (30) days after an election.

Q: Where on private property may yard signs be placed?

A: Under the Orange Village Zoning Code yard signs must be placed at least five (5) feet from the right of way, ten (10) feet from any side lot line and five (5) feet from any driveway. The right of way is usually some distance from the edge of the pavement of the roadway, so placing a sign twenty (20) feet from the edge of the road pavement is a good rule of thumb.