

Posting Temporary Signs in Falmouth

Fact Sheet for Placing Yard Signs



SCAN ME

Scan the QR code with your smart phone for Falmouth's Code of Ordinances governing temporary signs.

Falmouth's Code of Ordinances governs the placement of temporary signs throughout town in compliance with state legislation which allows temporary signs in the public right-of-way. The purpose of these regulations is to permit temporary signs while preventing the proliferation of signs and hazards to traffic. While you don't need a permit to place temporary signs around town, there are rules that must be followed to be in compliance. Signs that do not conform are subject to removal. The Ordinance distinguishes between signs placed in the public right-of-way and those placed on private property or lots.

1 What are Temporary Signs?

Temporary signs may be used to promote events, advertise services, or demonstrate support for a cause or political candidate. Temporary signs cannot be lighted or include moving parts or attachments (such as balloons) that draw attention and might cause a distraction. Temporary signs placed in the public right-of-way cannot require any digging or excavation.

2 Where Can I Place Signs?

Signs may be placed in the public right-of-way or on a private lot. They cannot block roads, sidewalks, or paths. Signs cannot be attached to any vegetation. They also cannot be placed within 30 feet of another temporary sign with the same or nearly the same message. If you plan to place repeat signage for impact, make sure your signs are placed at least 30 feet apart.

3 What Information Must Be Included on Signs Placed in the Public Right-of Way?

In addition to your message, signs placed in the public right-of-way must include identifying information including name of the person or organization placing the sign, phone, address, and the time period the sign will be maintained.

ABC Events
207-123-4567
123 Maine Street
Falmouth, ME 04105
January 1-31, 2024



4 Are There Size Restrictions for Temporary Signs?

Temporary signs placed in the public right-of-way cannot exceed 4 feet in height and cannot be larger than 7 square feet. Signs placed on private lots or attached to walls on private lots have size restrictions based upon where in town they are placed. The maximum square feet for free standing signs is 16 in residential districts and 32 in all other districts. Only one sign may be attached to the wall of a business or residence. Wall signs cannot exceed 32 square feet in residential districts and 64 square feet in all other districts.

5 How Long Can I Leave a Sign in Place?

Signs cannot be placed in the public right-of-way for more than 42 days per calendar year and no more than 120 days per calendar year on a private lot.

Why was my sign removed?

Traffic Hazard: The Town will remove any signs that create a traffic hazard, are too distracting, or hinder vehicular, pedestrian, or cycling traffic. See #1

Too Many Too Close Together: Similar signs must be placed at least 30 feet apart. See #2

No Identifying Info: Signs in the right-of-way must include contact info for the person or organization placing the sign. See #3

Too Big: There are size restrictions for temporary signs. See #4

Left Out Too Long
There are time limits on how long signs can be displayed. See #5

Can I get my sign back?

Signs found to be in violation of Falmouth's Code of Ordinances are subject to removal and can be claimed at the Public Works Office (101 Woods Road). No fees, fines, or tickets will be assessed. Unclaimed signs will periodically be recycled.