

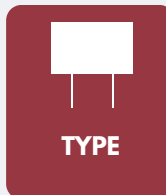
Sign Guidelines

Sign Permits Required in Zebulon

As election season and community conversations increase, the Town of Zebulon would like to remind all residents, businesses, and organizations that all signage must comply with local permitting and design standards.

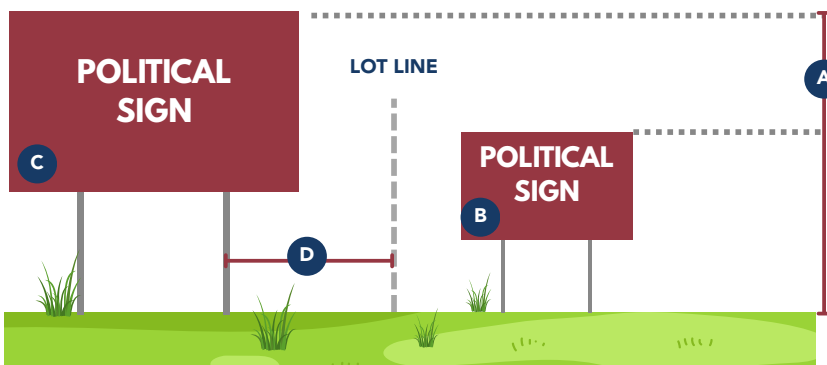
Some important items of note:

1. Conformance with Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), Section 5.11, which outlines all signage rules, including permitted types, sizes, materials, and placement. (See Section 5.11.9 for sign type standards.) Many types of signs require a permit and an application fee, which can be applied for on our GeoCivix Portal.
2. To ensure our residents' First Amendment right to free speech, the Town generally does not regulate signage based on content. However, all signs must adhere to local design, location, and safety regulations.
3. As we approach election season, we would like to note that two sign types often used for political campaign purposes typically do not require permits. To place these sign types without a permit, they must meet relevant criteria:



Political Signs:

- A. Maximum Height = 60" above adjacent grade when on an individual lot; 42" above pavement of adjacent roadway when in a street right-of-way
- B. Maximum Sign Face Area within right of way = 6 sq. ft.
- C. Maximum Sign Face Area on a Lot = 32 sq. ft.
- D. No minimum setback from Lot Line

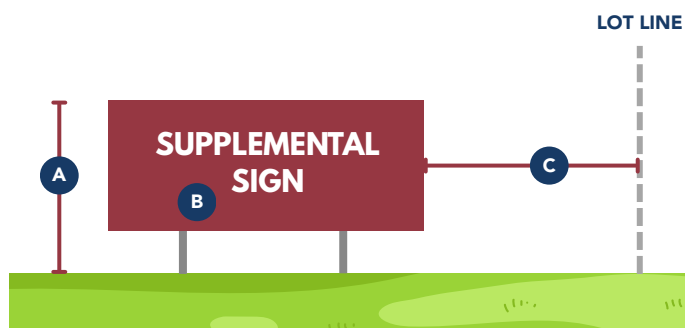


This sign type is allowed in public rights-of-way only during election seasons as outlined in North Carolina General Statute §136-32. However, these signs must still follow Town rules related to size, placement, and duration, and some types may still require a permit depending on location or design.

During the period beginning on the 30th day before the beginning date of "one-stop" early voting and ending on the 10th day after the primary or election day, persons may place political signs in the right-of-way of the State highway system, provided that the property owner has given permission.

Any political sign remaining in the right-of-way of the State highway system more than 30 days after election day shall be deemed unlawfully placed and abandoned property.

Supplemental Signs:



In Residential Districts:

- A. Maximum Height = 6'
- B. Maximum Sign Face Area = 6 sq. ft.
- C. Minimum Setback from Lot Line = 10'



In Non-Residential Districts

- A. Maximum Height = 12'
- B. Maximum Sign Face Area = 20 sq. ft.
- C. Minimum Setback from Lot Line = 10'

Signs placed without a valid permit or those that do not meet local standards may be subject to code enforcement action.


We appreciate your help in keeping Zebulon safe, visually appealing, and compliant with local and state laws. Let's work together to support free expression while respecting community standards.

Helpful Links:

- [Sign Permit Application \(PDF\)](#)
- [GeoCivix Review Portal](#)
- [Unified Development Ordinance \(UDO\)](#)

Questions?

Contact the Zebulon Planning Department

 (919) 823-1810

 planning@townofzebulon.org