



# SANTA ROSA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

6051 Old Bagdad Highway, Suite 202 | Milton, Florida 32583

SHAWN WARD  
Planning and Zoning Director  
shawnw@santarosa.fl.gov

RHONDA C. ROYALS  
Building Official  
rhondar@santarosa.fl.gov

May 1, 2018

Dear Political Candidate,

Congratulations on your decision to enter the political arena by running for an elective office in Santa Rosa County.

Realizing that it takes a tremendous amount of time and money to get your name out before the public, our office has attached information relative to Santa Rosa County's rules regulating political signs.

By having a better understanding of these requirements we hope that you'll be able to make informed decisions about their size and placement, and be better prepared to provide that information along to your workers and supporters.

Political signs placed on County and State right of way will be removed by County staff and placed into the County Sign Bin located at 6051 Old Bagdad Hwy, Suite 202, Milton, FL 32583. County personnel will make reasonable attempts to preserve campaign signs that are taken down and to provide campaign offices an opportunity to claim the signs.

If there are any questions please contact our office at 981-7090.

Santa Rosa County Compliance Department

Enclosures

Santa Rosa County Land Development Code states the following:

**8.02.00. Sign placement and removal.**

- A. No signs other than those authorized by the Board of County Commissioners are allowed on or over public right-of-way; except as provided herein.
- B. No signs shall project over public property except those signs authorized by the appropriate public agency.
- C. No sign shall be located so as to restrict the view of drivers at an intersection, or while entering and leaving a public right-of-way.

**8.08.00. Temporary signs.**

The following temporary signs are allowed without a permit, unless otherwise required below:

- C. Political sign which meet the following requirements:
  - 1. The maximum size of any temporary political sign erected in the County shall be 32 square feet, and maximum height is twenty-five (25) feet.
  - 2. All temporary political signs [shall be] installed on private property.
  - 3. All temporary political signs installed in the County shall be removed within twenty-one (21) days of the time a candidate is elected or eliminated from the race.



For Immediate Release:  
June 13, 2016

Ian Satter, (850) 330-1205;  
Ian.Satter@dot.state.fl.us

## **FDOT Reminder on Campaign Sign Regulations**

**Chipley-** As election season gears up across Northwest Florida, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is reminding all citizens that state law prohibits political signs on state right of way.

In Section 479.11(8), Florida Statutes provide that no signs shall be erected, used, operated, or maintained on the right of way of any highway on the State Highway System.

Political signs placed on state right of way will be removed by FDOT staff and placed at one of the department's operations centers. FDOT personnel will make reasonable attempts to preserve campaign signs that are taken down and to provide campaign offices an opportunity to claim the signs.

The roadway right of way includes the roadway surface, concrete or grassy median, intersections, entrance and exit ramps, and a strip of land, usually bordering either side of the road, which is reserved for shoulders, drainage ditches, sidewalks, traffic signs/signals, fencing, electrical traffic signal control boxes, utility lines and future road expansion.

Improperly located signs on state right of way poses a traffic safety hazard that can distract motorists or block their view, endanger the safety of individuals who are erecting signs along busy highways and present obstacles to crews who maintain roadways.

For more information, follow the Florida Department of Transportation District Three on Twitter @myfdot\_nwfl or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MyFDOTNWFL](http://www.facebook.com/MyFDOTNWFL).

[www.dot.state.fl.us](http://www.dot.state.fl.us)

*Consistent, Predictable, Repeatable*

## FOR THE USE OF FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS OF WAY



*Unauthorized use of the public right of way is prohibited by Florida law.*

*Illegal use of the right of way is a crime. Each day a violation continues is a separate offense.*

Section 337.406, Florida Statutes

### PROHIBITED USES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY

Any use which interferes with the safety and efficiency of the road.

• Display of advertising of any sort.

• Solicitation, including for charitable purposes.

• Sale, display, or free distribution of any merchandise, goods, property or services.

• Storage, servicing or non-emergency repairing of vehicles.

### USES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY THAT MAY BE ALLOWED BY PERMIT

**Note: None of these uses are allowed**

**Art festivals, parades, fairs, or other special events.** These may be allowed with a permit from the appropriate county or city government. Road closure by the county or city government requires FDOT approval. Temporary banners or similar devices may be allowed upon approval by local government and FDOT.

**Temporary uses allowed by cities and counties.** Cities and counties may issue permits within their limits to allow uses which are ordinarily prohibited if the use is of limited duration, will not interfere with the safe and efficient movement of traffic and will cause no danger to the public.

**Sales from vehicles standing on the right of way to occupants of abutting properties.** Such sales are permitted by persons holding valid peddlers' licenses issued by a county or city.

**Solicitation for non-profit organizations.** Permits for solicitation for non-profit organizations may be issued by local governments.

?

### WHY IS THE USE OF THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY REGULATED?

Regulation of activities occurring within the right of way is necessary to help prevent:

- Distractions to motorists
- Unsafe pedestrian movement within travel lanes
- Sudden stoppage or slowdown of traffic
- Rapid lane changing and other dangerous traffic movements
- Increased vehicular accidents
- Motorist and pedestrian injuries and fatalities

### WHAT IS THE RIGHT OF WAY AND HOW DO I KNOW WHERE IT IS?

The right of way for a road or other transportation facility is the paved area of the road, the road shoulders, sidewalks, swales, and all the other property adjacent to the road owned by the government for the construction and operation of the road or other facility. It may extend far beyond the paved road surface and may or may not be mowed or fenced.

Maps showing the location of the right of way for state roads are available from the Florida Department of Transportation. Maps for local streets and roads are available from the appropriate county or city offices.

The Florida Highway Patrol, the Florida Department of Transportation, and local law enforcement agencies monitor the use of the public rights of way and may issue citations when unauthorized uses are found.

Courts may impose a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment of up to 60 days or both for each offense. Local ordinances may impose additional fines.

Each day an unauthorized use continues is a separate offense.



To order more brochures please contact the FDOT Office of Right



Revision 1008  
(ver al reverso en Español)