

Guide to Election Signs

As election season approaches, it's important to follow the guidelines for placing campaign signs.

Whether you're a candidate, volunteer, or supporter, placing signs legally and safely keeps our community organized and accessible. This factsheet covers key rules and best practices to help you stay compliant while spreading your message.

? Frequently Asked Questions

I have questions about the Election Sign By-law, who do I call?

All questions about the Election Sign By-law should be directed to Municipal Law Enforcement.

When can I start putting up my Election Signs and when do I have to take them down?

For the 2026 Municipal Election, Election Signs may be erected on private property once the candidate on the sign is certified. Election Signs may not be erected or displayed on public property until September 29, 2026, and must be removed no later than three (3) days after Voting Day on October 26, 2026, being October 29, 2026. Election Signs may only be displayed on public property at the designated intersections identified in Election Sign By-law 2018-050-RE.

Is there a fee to put up Election Signs?

A mandatory Election Sign Fee is \$297 and only allows for signage on municipal roadways. A separate permit must be purchased to place Election Signs on regional roads.

Where can I pick up my sign(s) that have been removed by the Town?

Election Signs removed for non-compliance with the Election Sign By-law cannot be retrieved. In addition, for each sign the Town removes for non-compliance, \$10 will be deducted from the \$250 deposit paid at the time the permit was issued. Any remaining balance of the deposit will be returned following the election.



Municipal Election Day:
October 26, 2026



Have any questions?

Municipal Offices

111 Sandiford Drive Stouffville, ON L4A 0Z8

Customer Service Centre: 905-640-1900

Toll Free: 1-855-642-TOWN (8696)

Fax: 905-640-7975

Municipal Law Enforcement

Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Extension 2229

Regional Roads are governed under The Regional Municipality of York's Sign By-law. Information can be found regarding Regional Signs at: york.ca/newsroom/news/election-sign-guidelines. All inquiries pertaining to Regional Roads should be directed to the Region at 1-866-665-6752.

This handout has been prepared for information purposes only. Candidates should refer to Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Election Sign By-law 2018-050-RE. A copy of the bylaw can be obtained from the Municipal Offices or online at townofws.ca

Guide to Election Signs

General Rules for Placement of Election Signs

Residential and Private property

Election Signs are permitted on a residential boulevard and private property provided that:

- Consent of the owner/occupant is obtained; and
- They do not impede the safe operation of traffic or impair the safety of pedestrians.

Election Signs shall not:

- Have flashing lights or rotating parts;
- Be illuminated;
- Simulate any traffic sign or other sign that directs traffic;
- Use words such as "stop", "look" or "danger", which may mislead or confuse traffic; or
- Be attached in any manner to any utility box, planter, bench, railing, retaining wall or similar object which has been placed on municipal property.
- Be supported by anything other than wooden stakes or posts.

Public Parks & Municipal Property

Election Signs are not permitted in any park, building or structure owned, operated or controlled by the Town or on the adjacent highway.

Voting Place

Election Signs shall not be placed on a property used during an advance vote or on election day at a voting place. The entire property, including the parking lot, is deemed a voting place when used during an election. Election Signs may not be placed on a highway adjacent to voting places on or in a vehicle which is visible from the outside of the voting place.

Position and size

- Election Signs must not be located within 10 metres (32.81 feet) of another Election Sign for the same candidate;
- No larger than 1.49 square metres (16 square feet) - maximum height of 1.22 metres and maximum width of 1.22 metres (4 feet x 4 feet); and
- No higher than 2 metres (6.56 feet) off the ground on municipal property.
- No larger than 1.49 square metres (16 square feet) - maximum height of 1.22 metres and maximum width of 1.22 metres (4 feet x 4 feet) including the height from the ground to the top of the sign.

Roadways

- Election Signs shall not be located on any centre median, centre boulevard, roundabout or traffic island;
- Must be located a minimum of 1 metre (3.28 feet) from the outer edge of a sidewalk; or
- A minimum of 1 metre (3.28 feet) from the outer edge of a curb or shoulder, where there is no sidewalk.
- Election Signs may only be displayed at the designated intersections identified in the Town's Election Sign By-law 2018-050-RE.

Intersection visibility

- Election Signs are prohibited to be placed within a Daylighting Triangle of any intersections, measured 5 metres (16.4 feet) along the street from the point of intersection of the street lines. (See diagram).
- Election Signs must meet all other safety requirements



Signs can not go on grass area between sidewalk and roadway (please see diagram)



1 metre (3.28 feet) from curb

Median



Light standard utility pole or tree



Town Blvd



Sidewalk



1 metre (3.28 feet) from sidewalk

5 metres
(16.4 feet)



Daylighting Triangle

