



# Bluffton Police Department

---

DATE: May 19, 2016

RELEASE NUMBER: 16-41

## Political Sign Rules and Regulations

As the political season begins, please see below the parameters of where political signs can be placed. Please be mindful the Town of Bluffton and unincorporated Beaufort County has different ordinances pertaining to the duration of political sign placement. The Town will give a grace period until May 23, 2016 to relocate or retrieve your signs prior to removal.

Town of Bluffton Political Sign Regulations: If signs are placed within Town of Bluffton limits, the signs **DO NOT** require a permit as long it is placed on private property and the below rules are followed:

- Signs shall not be placed earlier than 60 days prior to the election.
- Signs shall be removed within five days after the election.
- Signs for candidates in a runoff election may be maintained until the final election.
- Signs shall not exceed six square feet in area per sign face, twelve square feet in total sign area, and shall not exceed a height of four feet.
- Signs may be placed on public property within the Town limits only with the Town Manager's approval.
- Signs can't be placed on private property without the property owner's approval.
- Signs can't be placed on power poles, telephone poles, street signs, etc.
- Signs are not allowed in public right-of-ways unless permitted by the Town Manager.

Unincorporated Beaufort County Political Sign Regulations: If signs are placed outside Town of Bluffton limits, Beaufort County **DOES** require a permit.

- A sign permit of \$5.00 is required through the Beaufort County Zoning Office. This fee covers an unlimited number of signs.
- Signs must be no closer than ten (10) feet from the highway right-of-way.
- Signs may be displayed or erected at any time within the election year
- All signs must be removed within 48 hours after the election.

Below is a link to the Town of Bluffton Zoning Map that will help determine if a property is located within the Town of Bluffton. If the property is in an area that is gray in color, it is not in the Town of Bluffton and subject to Beaufort County rules. All other properties are in the Town of Bluffton.

<http://www.townofbluffton.us/gallery/PublicGallery/PDF/zoningmap.pdf>

If there are any questions regarding the placement or removal of signs, please call the Town of Bluffton's Community Code Enforcement Officer at 843-706-7814.

Joy Nelson, Community Relations Manager  
Office (843)706-4542, Cell (843)540-8308  
[jnelson@townofbluffton.com](mailto:jnelson@townofbluffton.com)