



Office of the City Clerk

# The City of Morgantown

Linda L. Little, CMC  
389 Spruce Street, Room 10  
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505  
(304) 284-7439 Fax: (304) 284-7525  
cityclerk@morgantown.com

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: POLITICAL CANDIDATES**

**RE: SIGN REGULATIONS AND POLITICAL SIGNS**

### **1. General Guidelines:**

Signs supporting a candidate who is running for elected office or relating to an issue that is scheduled for consideration for the public body are usually of a temporary nature, made of nondurable materials, and displayed for a short time before the election/event and expected to be removed shortly thereafter.

Once a candidate has been verified and filled out all appropriate paperwork by the deadline to become an official candidate for office, they may begin posting political signs. The candidate, their supporters or committees are responsible for removing all political signs no later than 10 days after the election.

State law requires all to say: Paid for by for the Candidates campaign. If you have a treasurer you must have your treasurer do this.

### **2. Signs along a street:**

Signs within a City right-of-way are not permitted and may be removed by a municipal employee. Signs within a State Route right-of-way are not allowed and may also be removed by a municipal or state employee. Signs within a City or State Right-of Way are not permitted and may be removed by City and/or State Employees

### **3. Signs on private property:**

Signs erected on private property without prior permission may be removed by the property owner. When in doubt, contact the land owner.

### **4. Legal basis for regulating political signs:**

Although a 1992 West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Case does grant municipalities clear guidance to regulate political signs in the City, Morgantown has not yet had a big problem with such signs and a continued practice of common sense in placement of such signs can help avoid additional sign regulations.

### **5. Zoning and Sign regulations:**

The Department of Development Services and Morgantown City Code states that political signs are exempt.

According to the Planning & Zoning Code, Article 1369.05, Political Signs are exempt, except for height restrictions, which are not to be higher than 48 inches in all districts.