

# Signs Along the Road

WCRC is responsible for keeping the road and roadside safe for all users



Every year, they appear...signs advertising local businesses, political candidates running in the next election and so much more. While these signs may just seem annoying to some, they are a very serious problem.

Unauthorized signs along the road can create a safety hazard by blocking sight distance and distracting from important safety signs. In addition, these signs can become hazards to road users and road workers during routine maintenance operations such as roadside mowing.

Michigan law prohibits placing unauthorized signs in the roadside (aka the road right-of-way) or on a traffic sign/signal.

**The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) has the right to remove unauthorized signs from the road right-of-way and dispose of them without notice.**

While WCRC does not have the resources to remove every sign placed illegally in the road right-of-way, it prioritizes removing signs that are a safety hazard or are in the way of pending maintenance. If WCRC removes an unauthorized sign, it will not be returned to the owner and will be destroyed.

If you believe a sign along the road is a safety hazard, submit a service request at [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org) or the WCRC Fix It App.



## Where can I place my sign?

Private signs, such as political signs, should be placed on private property, outside the road right-of-way.

When in doubt, the safest assumption is to place signs on the far side of sidewalks, ditches or utility poles, these are typically located near the edge of the right-of-way. If these things are not present, place signs a minimum of 33 feet from the center of a two-lane road or 60 feet from the center of a wider road.

Many townships, cities and villages have also adopted ordinances prohibiting the placement of signs within rights-of-way or along sidewalks/non-motorized pathways. Before placing a sign, reach out to the local municipality for more information.

## Where is the road right-of-way?

The road right-of-way width varies by road. On most two-lane county roads, the right-of-way is 66 feet wide but it can be more than 120 feet wide.

Visit [washtenaw.org/MapWashtenaw](http://washtenaw.org/MapWashtenaw) for a map showing approximate road right-of-way locations across the county.

## Questions? Contact WCRC

(734) 761-1500

[wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org)

Facebook/Twitter @WashtenawRoads