

## DOs and DON'Ts for signs in Charleston County

The **penalties** for sign violations in Charleston County are: **a maximum fine of \$500 and/or a maximum of 30 days in jail.** Each sign is considered an individual offense, and each day a sign remains posted is an individual offense.

### DO:

- Get an approved zoning permit for your sign through the County's Zoning & Planning Department.
- Have a sign contractor get a building permit for installation.
- Visit the County's website or email, call or visit the Zoning & Planning Department Office with any sign-related questions.

### DO NOT:

- Install signs without obtaining a permit
- Place signs or sandwich boards in the public right-of-way.
- Put up banners, pennants, streamers, gas/air filled balloons or other animated signs.
- Place signs at locations other than the property on which the business is located.

**Any prohibited sign is subject to impoundment without notice to the owner.**

## Charleston County Zoning & Planning Department

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## Charleston County Sign Regulations



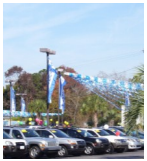
What you need to know  
before purchasing  
signs for your business

# Prohibited Signs

## Flashing Signs

Lighted or electrical signs that emit light in sudden, transitory bursts. Strobe lights in window fronts visible from public rights-of-way are included in this definition. On/off time and temperature signs and message boards are not considered flashing signs.

## Pennants, Streamers, Balloons and other Animated Signs



Pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, light bulbs or other similar moving devices when part of a sign, or when used to draw attention to a business or its signs.

## Signs Imitating Traffic Devices (Signals)

Signs of such size, location, movement, content, coloring or of a manner of illumination that could be confused with or construed to be traffic control signals; or hide from view any traffic or street signal; or obstruct the view in any direction from a street intersection.



## Signs Imitating Traffic Signs

Signs that imitate official traffic signs or signals, or signs that contain the words “stop”, “go”, “danger”, “slow”, “caution”, “warning”, or similar words in such a manner as to imitate official traffic signs or signals.

## Signs in the Marsh

Signs erected or displayed in a marsh area or on land subject to the tides.



## Signs in Right-of-Way

Signs in the public right-of-way and signs or structures that obstruct traffic from an entrance

or exit.

## Vehicle Signs

Permanent or temporary signs affixed, painted on or placed in or upon any parked vehicle, parked trailer or other parked device capable of being towed, which is displayed to attract the attention of the motoring public or pedestrian traffic.



## Roof Signs

Signs erected upon, against or directly above a roof or roof eave, or on or above any architectural appendage above the roof or roof eave.

## Banners

Strips of cloth containing a message or advertisement.



## Off-Premises Signs (except Billboards, Shared Signs, and Bona Fide Agricultural Use Signs as defined by the Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance)

Signs located or proposed to be located at any place other than the same property on which the specific business or activity being identified on such sign is located or conducted.



## Snipe Signs

Non-permitted signs pasted or attached to utility poles, trees, fences or other locations.