



WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

50 Jesup Road

Westport, Connecticut 06880-4385

Telephone: 203-341-6000 Fax: 203-341-6092

Foti Koskinas
Chief of Police

Press Release

WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONS AGAINST THE REMOVAL OF TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

(Westport, CT) – With the approaching November elections has also come the traditional posting of political signage expressing support for various candidates. Unfortunately, as has been the case in the past, once again the Westport Police Department has begun to receive complaints related to the disappearance, removal and/or theft of these types of signs.

Residents and visitors are advised against taking it upon themselves to remove signs that do not belong to them, from either public or private property. The enforcement of the town's rules is the responsibility of the town of Westport, not that of private citizens. The removal of signs from public or private property by someone not authorized to do so by the town, or by the owner of the sign, may constitute theft. Entering onto private property to remove signs may also constitute trespassing. Both of these acts can ultimately result in arrest.

The following policy has been established by Westport Town Officials in order to provide coordination for the placement of temporary signs by Westport non-profit organizations wishing to advertise one-time-only charitable events. Signs placed on public property advertising a private business or company will be removed.

General Guidelines for ALL Temporary Signs

- Town property includes traffic islands and road rights of way.
- The Town may not approve, nor is it responsible for, any signs erected on State of Connecticut property. It is not advisable to place signs on State of Connecticut property (including rights of way and islands along Routes 1, 136, 57, 33, and the Sherwood Island Connector, nor on the exit or entrance ramps of I-95 or the Merritt Parkway) as the State may remove them.
- No sign may be placed on any school property without the prior permission of the Superintendent's Office.

- No sign may be placed within the interior of Compo Beach or Longshore Club Park.
- No sign may be placed on Town Hall property.
- No sign may be placed on trees or utility poles.
- No sign may interfere with traffic visibility.
- Signs on private property require property owner approval. Signs on private property shall not extend beyond the property line or into the Town right-of-way and is suggested they be removed within 2 days after the publicized event or election.

Temporary Signs for Advertising Charitable Events

The placement and locations of temporary signs on Town property for the purpose of advertising a charitable event requires review and approval by the Westport Police Chief, Director of Planning and Zoning, and Director of Parks & Recreation, or their designated representatives. Qualifying organizations (i.e. local non-profits) may send a copy of the attached request, including proposed locations, for the placement of temporary signs to: Selectman's Office, Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Avenue, Westport, CT 06880 or selectman@westportct.gov.

The following conditions will apply to charitable events:

- A maximum of 15 signs are allowed for each such event. This includes directional signs.
- The signs may be erected not more than 2 weeks before the event and must be removed within 2 days after the publicized event.
- The size of the sign cannot exceed 2 feet by 3 feet.
- **Non-compliance may result in the removal of signs.**

Temporary Signs for Political Purposes

Political signs are considered an expression of free speech and are allowed on public property. The General Guidelines noted above apply to temporary signs for political purposes.

Please note that this Press Release pertains to Town of Westport roads, and not State Roads, like Route 1, Route 33, Route 57 and Route 136.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 9.21.2020

Lieutenant Anthony Prezioso

(203) 341-6009



WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

James S. Marpe
First Selectman

Policy for Temporary Signs on Town Property for Advertising Charitable Events and for Political Purposes

Modified and Adopted by the Board of Selectmen
January 9, 2002, **revised January 29, 2004, January 7, 2005,**
March 23, 2005; minor revision May 26, 2005, revised February, 2015

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- No sign may be placed on any school property without the prior permission of the Superintendent's Office.
- No sign may be placed within the interior of Compo Beach or Longshore Club Park.
- No sign may be placed on Town Hall property.
- No sign may be placed on trees or utility poles.
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WESTPORT TEMPORARY SIGN REQUEST

Non-Profit Organization:	
Name of Event:	
Requested Dates:	Event Date:
Contact Name:	
E-mail:	Phone:

State Roads – No Authorization	State Roads – No Authorization
Bridge Street	Kings Highway North (Partial)
Canal Street	Main Street (Partial 57)
Charles Street	Merritt Parkway (RT 15)
Compo Road North (RT 136)	Interstate 95
Compo Road South (RT 136)	Post Road East (US RT 1)
Easton Road (RT 136)	Post Road West (US RT 1)
Exit 17 (I-95)	Riverside Avenue (RT 33)
Exit 18 (I-95)	Saugatuck Avenue
Exit 41 (RT 15)	Sherwood Island Connector
Exit 42 (RT 15)	Sherwood Island Lane
Interior of Compo Beach	Sherwood Island State Park
Interior of Longshore Club Park	Weston Road (RT 57)
Town Hall property	Wilton Road (RT 33)

Requested Locations (*Please Do Not Request Roads/Areas Listed Above*):

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 8. _____ | |

Your signature below indicates that you have read and agree to abide by the terms of the Policy for Temporary Signs on Town Property for Advertising Charitable Events and for Political purposes.

Signature _____
Date