

Temporary Signs

What is considered a Temporary Sign?

Banners, canvas, cloth, paper, posters or any sign that was not approved as a regular sign for the business are temporary signs. Help wanted signs are temporary signs. A-Frame and blade banner signs are also temporary signs.

How long can I have a sign up?

One property, regardless of how many businesses are on the property, can only have a temporary sign up no more than 90 days annually. You can split that up, but it can't be more than 90 days total annually. The 90-day rule is not specific to individual signs, but the total of all temporary signs on the property. Election signs, real estate signs, and contractor signs have specific timelines separate from the 90 days.



Can I get a Variance?

Probably not. That's not really what a variance is for. A variance can only be used when there is something limiting on the property, like a stream or a hill that prevents you from being able to use the site. It's not a tool that lets you have more signs or signs up longer.

How many temporary signs can I have? How big can they be?

No more than one sign is permitted at a time on any property. Signs cannot be more than six square feet per side.

Can I advertise products on temporary signs?

Temporary signs intending to advertise products or services are not allowed.

What about signs at my home?

There are no limits on temporary signs on residential properties, except they cannot be in road rights-of-way or easements. Additionally, there are still time limits for political signs, real estate signs, and contractor signs.



What Code Sections Does This Come From?

Chapter 5.10 of the Municipal Code regulates temporary signage.

Do I need a permit?

No. A permit is not required but the Code DOES require that you register the sign with us so we can make sure it meets the code size requirements and track the time it is posted. Registration is free. In order to register the sign you can email (Planner@MillersburgOregon.gov) the details to City Hall or bring them by. Be sure to tell us how long you plan to have the sign posted. We track that in a log and will follow up after that to be sure its removed.



Where can I put my signs?

- Temporary signs are not permitted in the road right of way or public easement
- They are not permitted on utility poles
- Signs are not permitted on fences, trees or shrubs
- They are not permitted to block other signs on the primary property or neighboring properties
- Pennants and streamers may be used as part of a grand opening or promotional event and NOT count towards the temporary sign provisions

What if the property is on a corner?

An additional sign is permitted if a property is on a corner and the two signs cannot be seen at the same time.

Why does the City have these regulations?

The City has had a real problem with temporary signs littering Old Salem Road and other streets in the City. These rules were implemented at the request of the City Council to address this issue. Other surrounding cities have rules that limit temporary signs. The proliferation of temporary signs has many outcomes:

- Signs placed in the street right of way, can create dangerous driving conditions;
- They can create a negative image of the City which can have long term impacts to property values;
- Too many signs can add visual clutter to the City which has impacts on civic pride. And they are technically littering.

What about temporary uses like Christmas tree farms and pumpkin patches?

Temporary uses can use up to 2 signs not to exceed 32 sq ft each. The duration can match the duration of the use. These do not count towards the 90 day max. Fairs and temporary markets work on a separate set of requirements.

