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ROCHESTER, MN
55904-4744

<http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/pw>
507•328•7070

PRESS RELEASE PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 7, 2018

Contact: Dale Prestegard, Olmsted County Right of Way & Transportation Contract Supervisor
Olmsted County Public Works

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<http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/pw>

Political campaign signs not permitted on county road rights of way

ROCHESTER, MN — Placement of campaign and other advertising signage on any county highway rights of way is not allowed under state law, according to the Olmsted County Public Works Department. All state, county, city and township roads and highways fall under the same state law.

Highway rights of way include driving lanes, inside and outside shoulders, ditches, back slopes, and sight corners at intersections. Typically, the right of way is marked with triangle signs that are green and white.

Landowner consent is needed before signs are placed on private property outside of the right of way.

County crews will remove unlawfully placed signs and impound them at one of its local maintenance truck stations.



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Violation of the law (Minn. Stat. 160.2715) is a misdemeanor. Civil penalties also may apply if the placement of signs contributes to a motor vehicle crash and injures a person or damages a motor vehicle that runs off the road.

The Minnesota Outdoor Advertising Control Act (Minn. Stat. 173.15) also prohibits placing advertising materials on public utility poles, trees and shrubs, and painting or drawing on rocks or natural features.

When improperly placed signs are removed by the County, they are temporarily stored at the County Public Works Service Center (PWSC) for a period of two weeks. The PWSC is located at 1188 50th Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904. Pick up may be coordinated by calling 507-328-7060.

Minnesota Statute 160.2715 further prohibits the placement of fences, buildings, planting of crops or landscape (trees, bushes, flowers, rocks, etc..) within County right of way. Further information may be found at: [Olmsted County Right of Way](#)

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