

Signage located within public right-of-way

This document is meant to provide general rules and information, contacts and resources about signage placement. More details are available on the Transportation Permits office webpage: www.hennepin.us/roadpermits.

Minnesota Statute 160.2715 prohibits the unauthorized placement of advertisements in a public right-of-way. This includes installing signs, as well as painting, printing or attaching advertisements on any object within the limits of a public right-of-way. The prohibition covers all unauthorized sign messaging, including, but not limited to, political campaign and referenda signs, as well as garage sale, real estate and public/social information signs. The unauthorized placement of signs in the public right-of-way is a misdemeanor.

Identifying the right-of-way along county roads

The county right-of-way typically extends beyond the actual road surface and includes shoulders and ditches. Hennepin County offers an interactive map that highlights county road and property line information: www.gis.hennepin.us/property/map.

You can also contact the transportation permit office to find out where a sign can be placed when specific right-of-way cannot be clearly identified.

Protecting safety for all roadway users

This law protects the safety of all roadway users. Right-of-way is used for several purposes, including visibility, providing space for vehicles that leave the roadway, snow storage, public utilities, drainage and vegetation/landscaping. Unauthorized signs and people stopping to place signs in this space can compromise the safety of the road.

Removal process

As allowed by Minnesota Statute 160.27, county staff will remove any unauthorized signage located within county right-of-way. The owner of the removed signs will need to contact Hennepin County dispatch at the number provided to claim removed signs. Signs will be stored at the Public Works Facility in Medina until February 1 of the year following their removal. All unclaimed signs will be recycled.

Contacts

Dispatch

612-596-0299

dispatch@hennepin.us

Permits office

612-596-0339

roadpermits@hennepin.us

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