
Election Signs

To:	2026 Municipal and School Board Trustee Candidates
From:	Renée Ainsworth, Clerk
Date:	August 25, 2026
Re:	2026 Municipal Election – Election Signs

This memo includes important information regarding election signs for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election.

Election Signs Information and Tips

Starting **September 11, 2026**, candidates who have paid the required \$100 sign deposit will be authorized to erect election signs within the Township. Candidates who have not paid the required sign deposit are not permitted to place election signs.

Election signs must be erected in accordance with the following by-laws, policies, and requirements:

- [Township of Springwater By-law 2017-068 – Being a By-law to Regulate Municipal and School Board Election Signs](#)
- [County of Simcoe By-law 6756 – Sign By-law](#)
- [Ministry of Transportation Highway Corridor Management Manual Chapter 5 \(MTO roads\)](#)

It is important that you know the restrictions and ensure that members of your campaign team are aware of the rules. As a candidate, you are ultimately responsible for all of your election signage.

Important notes regarding the Township sign by-law:

Road Allowances and Municipal Property

Election signage is **strictly prohibited** on any municipal property including but not limited to parks, trails, road allowances, or sites with municipal buildings.

Road allowance means an allowance (normally 66 feet in width, 33 feet on either side of the centre line) for a road laid out by a Crown surveyor.

A general rule to abide by is to ensure that signs are placed beyond ditches, utility poles, electrical boxes etc. and only on PRIVATE property. You are urged to review specific properties on the Simcoe County mapping system to ensure compliance with the by-law. Road allowances are not always straight and intersections generally include more than 66 feet due to sight lines.

- 1) To view road allowances, please visit <https://maps.simcoe.ca/public/>
- 2) Click on “Imagery” on the top right hand corner of the map.
- 3) Zoom in on the road/property the sign will be erected on. The thin white line that you see represents the road allowance. Signage within any road allowance is strictly prohibited.



Important Restrictions:

Please note the following important restrictions:

- No election sign shall be larger than 16 square feet (i.e. 4ft x 4ft). For clarification, this means that billboards are not permitted.
- Election signs cannot be placed outside of the jurisdiction (Ward) of the position for which you are seeking office. Mayor/Deputy Mayor/School Board Candidates may have signage in the entire Township. Ward Candidates may only place signage within the boundaries of the ward they are running in. For greater clarity – the ward boundaries used for this are the NEW ward boundaries, as noted within the following map: [Ward Lookup Tool](#)
- No election sign shall be placed on a utility pole or light standard.
- No election sign shall be posted on private property without the express consent of the owner.

Enforcement and complaints:

All complaints of signs are to be sent to the By-law Enforcement Department:

- Online by [Reporting a Concern](#)
- Via email to bylaw@springwater.ca
- Via phone at 705-728-4784 x 2101

The Clerk's Department will not be accepting complaints regarding election signs.

Signs causing a safety concern, sightline issue, placed on Township property/road allowances or signs placed on private property without permission from the owner will be removed immediately without notice.

Upon receipt of a complaint, a By-law Enforcement Officer will visit the site and determine whether there is an infraction. Any sign deemed to be in contravention will be removed. If the sign is located within a road allowance abutting a residential property, the property owner will receive a notice on their door advising that the sign has been removed. The Township will not be contacting candidates to advise of sign removal; however you may be contacted by staff directly should there be multiple infractions noted.

In order for signage to be removed from private property, the owner of the property or a member of their immediate family must contact the By-Law Enforcement Department. Removal will not take place if the complaint is received by a candidate or their representatives.

All election signs removed by Township staff will be held at the Township Administration Centre and can be picked up by the candidate at any time during business hours. Should a candidate wish to send a representative to collect the signs, the candidate shall send an email to the By-Law Enforcement Department to provide authorization. Election signs that are not collected by the candidate by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 will be disposed of.

Election Signs – Removal after Election

Election Signs shall be removed within five (5) days following the municipal election. Election Signs on County roads shall be removed 48 hours after the day of the election. Failure to remove signs will result in the forfeiture of the election sign deposit.

For questions regarding County of Simcoe and Ministry of Transportation Election Signs please contact:

County of Simcoe

Attn: Municipal Law Enforcement Office
Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst ON
L9X 1N6
705-726-9300 Ext. 1338

Ministry of Transportation

777 Bay Street
5th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 1Z8
Toll Free: 1-800-268-4686
Telephone: 416-235-4686

For questions regarding the Township of Springwater Election Signs by-law please contact the Clerks Department at clerks@springwater.ca or 705-728-4784 x 2304.