

# Code Enforcement and You: New Ordinance Snipe Signs and political signs to be Litter if on the Right of Way

By: Robert C. Solera, Code Enforcement Director / Code Services Inc. President

The Town of Southwest Ranches Council in amended Article 70 of our code which is entitled "Signs". This article is part of our Unified Land Development Code better known as ULDC. The specific section that we would like to bring to your attention is the section that relates to "prohibited signs" There are a number of prohibited signs outline in this article of the code. The Council included "snipe signs" as part of the prohibited signs and classified them as litter if located within the right of way of the Town.

Snipe signs are those types of signs that many times can be found on intersections or main highways around town. Basically these signs serve as a mode of advertisement for a specific business or perhaps a resident. This encompasses political signs that are located within the confines of the rights of ways. It does not apply to political signs that are located within the confines of a private property.

When the sign is located within the private property, the section allows for one sign per frontage of property for each candidate and issue. The Town continues to see a proliferation of these types of signs; and since the owners do not pick them up, it has begun to create a very unpleasant look to our Town. In an effort to curve this issue article 70 of the code was amended to allow anyone from the public in addition to the Code Enforcement Officer or Town representative to collect and dispose of them as litter. As the election season approaches the Department wanted to provide you with information and a reminder of the code that is in place.

There is a difference between these types of signs and those that are found along roads such as real estate signs, or other signs which are properly permitted.





**Sample Snipe Signs**

**Real Estate Sign**

The previous pictures provides you with a depiction of one type of sign versus the other one. You can contact the Code Enforcement Department at (954) 434-0008 if there are any questions related to this new ordinance amendment.