Key Points for Temporary Signs

- Temporary signs must be registered
- No fee for registration
- Signs cannot be located in the public right-of-way
- Balloons, pennants, and wind-driven signs are prohibited
- Signs can be no larger than 16 square feet
- Signs can be in place no longer than 60 days per calendar year

The Town of Matthews
Unified Development Ordinance is available online at
www.matthewsnc.gov

click on Town Government, then
Town Ordinances

Sign regulations can be found in the UDO beginning with § 155.608

Questions?
Please contact us if you have any questions regarding temporary signs.

Code Enforcement:
704-708-1232

cmckoy@matthewsnc.gov

232 Matthews Station Street
Matthews NC 28105
704-847-4411

www.matthewsnc.gov
**Temporary Advertising Signs**

A sign conveying a message to identify or advertise a product, service, or establishment and that is not permanently installed in the ground or permanently affixed to a building is considered a temporary sign in Matthews. If you plan to put up a banner that says “Grand Opening”, or “Now Hiring”, or “Biggest Sale of the Year”, it must be registered with the Town, specifying start and stop dates, size, and proposed location on the property.

There is no charge to register a temporary sign and registration takes only takes a few moments.

The Town of Matthews Unified Development Ordinance allows a temporary sign to be displayed for a total of 60 days during the calendar year. A minimum of 14 days is required between postings of the same or different temporary signs on the same property. Banners are limited to 16 square feet in size and must be located on your own property. They cannot be placed in the public right-of-way or on a separate lot down the street. Temporary signs can be up to 6 feet high, or may be attached to the first floor façade of the building.

**Other Temporary Signs**

“A” frame, sandwich board and pedestal signs are allowed as long as they are no greater than 8 square feet in area and no taller than 4 feet outside the Downtown Overlay district. They must be 10’ away from the public right-of-way or sidewalk, and not block any parking space or vehicular turning area.

Up to 5 feather signs, no greater than 30 square feet in size and 12 feet in height are allowed on nonresidential properties when they are at least 10 feet from any public right-of-way, driveway, sidewalk, or multi-use path and not obstructing visibility of drivers, pedestrians, or other businesses. Feather signs can be placed on a property up to 5 consecutive days, not exceeding 60 days during a calendar year. Feather signs are not allowed within the Downtown Overlay district, or within the undisturbed Highway Overlay buffer along NC51 corridor.

**Public Right-of-Way**

Public right-of-way is generally identified as the area between the sidewalk or utility poles lining the street and the street pavement, including medians and intersections.

A temporary sign that is placed within the public right-of-way is considered an abandoned article, and as such is subject to immediate removal and/or citation and fine without a warning notice. Confiscated signs are disposed of by the Town.

**Prohibited Signs**

Off premise advertising signs, roof signs, pennants, balloons, air-driven and moving or flashing signs are not allowed anywhere within the Town limits.

It is a criminal offense to post signs or placards on utility poles or on any public signs in the right-of-way.

**Prohibited Signs Include the Following:**

**Temporary Signs must be registered**

**Permanent Signs**

Permanent signs have different regulations. Contact Planning and Development to discuss your permanent signage options.