

# Deschutes County Sign Code Ordinance



## Overview

Real estate signs are an essential tool for REALTORS® that not only advertise a listing, but also represent the agent's brand and reputation. As such, REALTORS® naturally work to determine the ideal structure and placement of their signs, including open house signs. But before placing a sign for your next listing, it is important to be familiar with the rules and regulations related to sign usage and placement in Deschutes County. If you see a sign that does not comply with Deschutes County standards, please attempt to contact the agent or the agent's managing principal broker prior to reporting the sign to county enforcement staff.

## Area Defined

This FAQ is based on [Deschutes County Code 15.08](#) ("Signs") and does not apply to those lands lying outside the City limits of Bend and within the Bend Urban Growth Boundary. For rules and regulations pertaining to signs within the city of Bend specifically, see the Bend Sign FAQ or reference [Chapter 9.50 of the Bend Development Code](#).

## Do's & Don'ts:

### DO'S:

- Ensure your sign is maintained and in a state of good repair
- Remove open house signs and directional signage immediately following an open house

### DON'TS:

- Obstruct any window, doorway, transom, architectural details, fire escape, stairway or standpipe
- Place a sign in a side yard common to another lot or within a rear yard
- Interfere with exits through any window, obstruct any door or required exit from any building or obstruct any required light or ventilation
- Place signs in such a manner to cause a public safety hazard or nuisance
- Obstruct a sidewalk, walkway, or other space used by pedestrians
- Interfere with any utility wires or supports
- Allow signs to project or extend into any clear vision area (for a definition of "clear vision area," [see Deschutes County Code 15.08](#) ("Signs"))
- Place a sign on a designated historic landmark site

## Is a permit required?

No. Temporary real estate signs are exempt in Deschutes County and do not require a permit so long as they adhere to the following requirements.

## Requirements

1. Signs must not exceed 12 square feet in area and 6 feet in height
2. Signs must be unlighted
3. Signs advertising the sale, rental or lease of a property must be placed on the premises of the property being advertised
4. Signs shall be removed no later than 14 days after the sale or lease of, or expiration of the listing



## Disclaimer

This FAQ is meant to serve as a guide. It is not a complete list of policies or requirements. For the full list of rules related to signs within Deschutes County, reference [Deschutes County Code 15.08](#) ("Signs"). In addition, signs are subject to the CC&R's of the development in which they are placed. The language used on signs is regulated by the Oregon Real Estate Agency. If you have questions about what language needs to be included on your signs, please reference the [advertising rules \(OAR 863-015-0125\) - Division 15 of the Real Estate Brokers Regulations](#).