Effective June 15, 2012, the City of Appleton will be handling unauthorized signs/flyers placed in the public right-of-way accordingly:

- City of Appleton Ordinance 23-505 (h) prohibits signs, handbills, posters, notices or similar attention gathering devices posted or affixed on traffic control boxes, traffic signs, utility poles, traffic control support structures or otherwise in the public right-of-way. Violations are subject to forfeiture amounts up to $326.50 per sign.
- Any unauthorized sign observed in the public right-of-way shall be removed by A.P.D. patrol personnel during non-committed time. Other City of Appleton employees will also be removing these signs when they are on-duty and uncommitted (DPW, Health, Fire, etc.).
- For a sign to be authorized and placed in the public right-of-way, a permit/license must first be obtained through the City of Appleton City Clerk's office. Permits are not available for rummage/garage sale type signs.
- City of Appleton Ordinance 23-507. Signs in the right-of-way, states:
  (a) No signs shall be placed upon any street right-of-way except for the following:
    (1) Permanent signs including public signs erected by, or on behalf of, a governmental unit to post legal notices, identify public property, a direct or regulate pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
    (2) Temporary construction or street repair signs.
    (3) Bus stop signs erected by a public transit company.
    (4) Informational signs of public utility regarding its poles, lines, pipes, or facilities.
    (5) Banners, signs, or decorations as permitted by the Common Council.
- The most frequently dealt with unauthorized signs are rummage/garage sale signs, 1-800 signs, event signs, and “Going out of Business” type signs.
- All removed signs will be disposed of in a garbage receptacle without notice being provided to the person who placed the sign in the public right-of-way.
- Signs in the public right-of-way are considered abandoned property, which the “owner” relinquished rights to when placing on public property in violation of city ordinance.
- Please help your neighbors by not placing signs on public property. Experience shows when one sign is placed on a corner, others also follow, detracting from the neighborhood’s overall character
- Please do your part and refrain from placing signs in the public right-of-way. Public education is an important step in changing behavior, please tell your neighbors about our new procedure.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the Appleton Police Department. A District Commander or other patrol supervisor would be happy to discuss this issue with you.