What happens if my sign doesn’t comply with the new ordinance?

Signs legally erected under the previous Ordinance that do not comply with the new Ordinance are generally considered legal nonconforming. These signs are protected from removal by state law (Business and Professions Code 5490).

Legal nonconforming signs may continue with routine maintenance/repair, but shall not be moved, enlarged, or raised in height unless required by law or to conform to the new Ordinance. Modification of a nonconforming sign may be allowed through the plan check application process if it is determined that the modification will bring the sign into conformance with the provisions of the new Ordinance. Existing off-site signs (e.g., billboards) shall not be converted to digital signs.

Permanent signs illegally erected under the previous Ordinance or under the new Ordinance are considered illegal and shall be abated by the property owner.

Illegal temporary signs are subject to immediate removal.
El Dorado County Sign Ordinance Update

On July 28, 2015, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors adopted a comprehensive update to the County's Sign Ordinance (Chapter 130.16 of Title 130). The new Ordinance became effective 30 days after adoption on August 27, 2015.

The complete Sign Ordinance is available on the County website at: [www.edcgov.us/LongRangePlanning/LandUse/Sign_Ordinance_Update.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/LongRangePlanning/LandUse/Sign_Ordinance_Update.aspx)

Key Changes

Some key changes include, but are not limited to:

⇒ The following are now **prohibited:**
  - New general advertising for hire signs, including billboards
  - Off-site commercial signs on private property (e.g. any sign not located on premises of the establishment indicated or advertised by sign)
  - Mobile/movable signs with a commercial message

⇒ The following are now **allowed:**
  - Community sign programs to help create sense of place and community identity, as well as to provide directions to nearby accommodations and attractions, scenic and historic points of interest, etc.
  - Digital signs, with limitations

Sign Ordinance Implementation and Enforcement

El Dorado County Community Development Services (CDS) is responsible for implementing the Sign Ordinance. Below is a list of CDS Departments that have a role in implementation and enforcement, the Department’s specific responsibilities, and contact information.

**Planning and Building**

General questions about the new Ordinance; processing applications/permits for new signs

**Contact:** (530) 621-5355 or planning@edcgov.us

**Environmental Management**

Removal of small and/or temporary illegal signs in County right-of-way (e.g. A-frame signs)

**Contact:** (530) 621-5300 or emd.info@edcgov.us

**Transportation**

Removal of large and/or permanent illegal signs in County right-of-way (e.g. signs cemented in to ground);

**Contact:** Leah Rademacher at (530) 621-5933 or leah.rademacher@edcgov.us

Installs and maintains traffic control devices (e.g. stop signs); addresses roadside memorials in County right-of-way

**Contact:** Darryl Brown at (530) 621-4919 or darryl.brown@edcgov.us

**Code Enforcement**

Addresses illegal signs on private property on a prioritized complaint process. Complaints may be submitted by calling (530) 621-5999 or filling out a complaint form available online at: [https://www.edcgov.us/Government/CodeEnforcement](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/CodeEnforcement)