

MTC Sign and Literature Box Policy

Adopted by the Board of Directors 11/18/19

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This policy is intended to protect and enhance the viewscape of the Montour Trail, and preserve the limited space in MTC trail-side literature boxes for trail-related communications with trail users. Accordingly, this policy defines permitted signage on Trail property and use of trail literature boxes for disseminating information.
- 1.2. This policy is applicable to any signage not addressed in either the MTC Naming Rights Policy for acknowledgement of gifts, or MTC's Event Policy for approved temporary event signage.
- 1.3. This policy does *not* define standards for the design of permanent trail directional signage, rules signs, and similar permitted signage.

2. Policy

- 2.1. **Placing, affixing, carrying or displaying any type of signage on Montour Trail property or using the literature boxes for disseminating information, except as specifically permitted in this policy, is forbidden.**
- 2.2. Any other signs or literature will be removed by representatives of the Montour Trail Council and destroyed, with no effort made to locate the owner.
- 2.3. Expressly prohibited signage:
 - 2.3.1. Political signage
 - 2.3.2. Any commercial advertisements, except in conjunction with an MTC-approved event or initiative, and expressly allowed by the MTC for some duration near the scheduled event date
 - 2.3.3. Any non-MTC signage affixed to trail structures (e.g. mileposts, fences, bridges, rule signs, etc.)
- 2.4. Permitted Signage
 - 2.4.1. MRHS historical signs
 - 2.4.2. Directional signage, trailhead information, mile markers, rule signs, trail closure signs and other MTC-approved signage of a similar nature
 - 2.4.3. Signage for MTC or Friends Groups' events
 - 2.4.4. Short term displays of MTC-approved signage for non-MTC events, in accordance with the events policy
 - 2.4.5. Limited public-interest postings may be made at specific community information kiosks or bulletin boards erected for that purpose by local Friends Groups. The types of material posted is subject to the policies of the local Friends Groups, and may include community event notices, lost pets, and similar notices. As noted above, commercial advertisements and political signage are not permitted.

3. Administration and Implementation

- 3.1. Primary responsibility for administering and enforcing this policy resides at the local level with each local Friends Groups.
- 3.2. Removal of signs or information box content violating this policy should be done by local Friends Group members, or by other MTC representatives after conferring with the local Friends Group president or his/her representative, who may have knowledge of a local consideration. (*e.g. – MTC information boxes on Arrowhead Trail were permitted by the township with a shared use understanding with Peters Parks & Recreation for their events*)
- 3.3. Friends Groups who have policies for permitted uses of their local bulletin boards or kiosks are encouraged to post their rules at those locations to minimize queries to the MTC office, and to make them available online to assist in administering this policy.
- 3.4. All outside permission requests for Montour Trail signage or dissemination of literature in Trail literature boxes will be referred to this policy, the Event Policy (if applicable), or the local Friends Group president as appropriate.