

Illegally placed campaign signs getting ripped out of the ground by DPW

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BATON ROUGE, LA (WAFB) - The rolling tide of election signs has already begun to sweep parts of Louisiana now that candidates for office have officially signed their qualification papers. Many of those signs are being placed illegally and East Baton Rouge Parish is sending a message by ripping down those signs.



For the past two weeks, Joseph Bohrer's job has been to drive around the city looking for signs of things his boss says don't belong. "Today, I just picked up a couple of signs from Pontich," he says. "Mr. Neil gets calls about signs being too close or on those telephone posts right there." Signs are the very thing he's been taking off the streets and dumping into his truck. "I've seen like eight or ten signs on one post, which is a lot."

Some of the places signs aren't allowed are: the neutral ground between the street and the sidewalk, trees, utility poles, or in front of any publicly owned structure. DPW says any signs found placed in an illegal location won't be there much longer. Even the boss of the DPW workers, Mayor-President Kip Holden, has signs with his name on them where Bohrer says they shouldn't be. "Don't put them in the median and don't put them on the telephone post or the right of way of the street or else I'm going to take them and put them in the dumpster," says Bohrer.

The Department of Public Works can issue fines up to \$25 for each illegally placed sign, and the campaign gets the bill. Bohrer says signs can be picked up before he throws them away. You can call DPW at 389-3158 for more information.

