

MUTCD 2009 - Removal of Inappropriate or Unnecessary signs

Engineering Reference

Section 1A.04 Placement and Operation of Traffic Control Devices

01 Placement of a traffic control device should be within the road user's view so that adequate visibility is provided. To aid in conveying the proper meaning, the traffic control device should be appropriately positioned with respect to the location, object, or situation to which it applies. The location and legibility of the traffic control device should be such that a road user has adequate time to make the proper response in both day and night conditions.

02 Traffic control devices should be placed and operated in a uniform and consistent manner.

03 **Unnecessary traffic control devices should be removed.** The fact that a device is in good physical condition should not be a basis for deferring needed removal or change.

Section 1A.06 Uniformity of Traffic Control Devices

Support:

01 Uniformity of devices simplifies the task of the road user because it aids in recognition and understanding, thereby reducing perception/reaction time. Uniformity assists road users, law enforcement officers, and traffic courts by giving everyone the same interpretation. Uniformity assists public highway officials through efficiency in manufacture, installation, maintenance, and administration. Uniformity means treating similar situations in a similar way. **The use of uniform traffic control devices does not, in itself, constitute uniformity. A standard device used where it is not appropriate is as objectionable as a non-standard device; in fact, this might be worse, because such misuse might result in disrespect at those locations where the device is needed and appropriate**

Section 2C.02 Application of Warning Signs

Standard:

01 The use of warning signs shall be based on an engineering study or on engineering judgment.

Guidance:

02 The use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the **unnecessary use of warning signs tends to breed disrespect for all signs.** In situations where the condition or activity is seasonal or temporary, **the warning sign should be removed or covered when the condition or activity does not exist.**