Watch For Children Sign Program

“Watch for Children” Signs are warning signs placed on the roadway intended to warn motorists that children may be at play nearby.

These signs are provided for in § 33.2-251 of the Code of Virginia. The code was amended effective July 1, 2012 to provide that a county or town may undertake the installation and maintenance of such signs by entering into an agreement with the Commissioner. Previously the County or Town initiated the installation of these signs through a request by resolution to the Commissioner of VDOT. That process is no longer an option.

In accordance with the revised statute;

1. A County or Town may initiate the installation of these signs only by entering into an agreement with VDOT that specifies the locations of the signs.

2. The county or town is solely responsible for the purchase, installation and maintenance of the signs and must pay all associated costs.

3. Secondary roadway construction or maintenance funds or any other VDOT monies may not be used to pay for such signs.

4. VDOT may not install these signs on behalf of a county or town.

5. The process prescribed in the previous statute whereby a County or Town could request by resolution that VDOT install these sign(s) is no longer an option.

The signs may be installed only where the statutory or posted speed limit is 35 mph or less at major entry points within a subdivision or at the major approach(s) to a residential development not within a subdivision.

The new signs will be notable by their green color. The previous signs were yellow.

Maintenance of existing (yellow) W15-V1 signs installed by VDOT remain the responsibility of VDOT.

The document found here includes the form to be used for any agreements and includes guidance regarding the process and requirements for installing these signs.

For further information see frequently asked questions.