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Scenic News:

A1A Scenic Byway [releases six new videos](#) for bicyclists...

Maitland, FL residents [organize to uphold](#) city's billboard ban...

NJ Township [moves to ban](#) digital billboards...

The [last billboard](#) in Cary, NC comes down...

L.A.'s darkened digital billboards [won't get](#) vinyl ads...

Daphne, AL city leaders [hold the line](#) against billboards...



Your tax-deductible contribution will support our unique and vital mission to protect the scenic qualities of America's communities.

Sign Regulation Guidebook available

Scenic Michigan, in conjunction with the Planning and Zoning Center at Michigan State University, has developed a new [sign guidebook](#) for use by local government officials.

The guidebook addresses a wide range of issues associated with local sign regulation with a major focus on legal issues and how communities can develop good sign ordinances. It includes information on how to regulate different sign types, as well as approaches to sign regulation that preserve "content neutrality," a critical issue under federal First Amendment law.

While the guidebook was designed with Michigan laws in mind, it is easily adaptable for use in other states. For more information and [to order a copy click here](#).

Residents begin to feel impacts of North Carolina tree cutting law

North Carolina residents are starting to feel the impact of a law passed by that state's legislature allowing billboard companies to cut down and remove many more trees on the public right of way.

In just one instance, the Wesley Heights neighborhood in Charlotte, adjacent to Interstate 77, has long enjoyed a canopy of trees and vegetation providing a buffer from the noise and traffic of the highway. But in May 2013 most of those trees were removed to clear the view of a billboard. [Click here](#) to learn more about the situation in Charlotte and see before/after photos.



NC DOT estimates that the law will allow billboard companies to clear cut public trees valued at 15 million dollars over the next 5 years, and will result in an 80%

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increase in clear cutting along the state's Interstates and other major roadways.

Scenic America strongly opposes the destruction of trees around billboards. Please join the **more than 25,000 people** who have [signed our petition](#) opposing the practice.

California State Sen. Mark Leno gets Stafford Award in San Francisco

Scenic America [presented its Stafford Award](#) to California State Senator Mark Leno for his longtime support of scenic beauty and his bold efforts to combat billboard blight in the state.

The award was given during the recent conference of Scenic America's Board of Directors, affiliates and allies in the San Francisco.



While on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Leno introduced legislation to restrict the placement of advertising on the sides of buildings, increased fines for illegal signs and required all billboards to display license numbers.

More recently, Leno introduced Senate Bill 690, which sought to give local governments the authority to force owners to remove or modify billboards that violate their original conditions.

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