

## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Jackson County's vegetation management program controls roadside vegetation using a variety of methods. Maintenance includes control of turf, shrubs, and trees on county owned properties, and county rights-of-way.

Uncontrolled vegetation has the potential to limit visibility at intersections, driveways, and curves; obstruct traffic signs; and account for excessive accumulations of ice, snow, water, and debris on the road. It may also interfere with the safe movement of tall vehicles or present a hazard to a driver that runs off the road.

In an effort to assure efficient, effective, and environmentally responsible methods of vegetation management, Jackson County is developing the Upper Rogue Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. This plan is being prepared in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation and should be completed and implemented by early 1999. Development of the new vegetation management plan is based on sound ecological principles and will be responsive to the current regulations and recommendations from the Governor's Salmon Recovery Plan.

### COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: What methods are used to manage vegetation?**

**A:** Grading of shoulders, flail mowing of brush, cattails and grasses, mechanical ditching, manual brushing, and chemical controls are all used to control the growth of problem vegetation.

**Q: Who applies the herbicides?**

**A:** Herbicides are only applied by trained and state-licensed technicians who use the utmost care when applying chemicals. For example, they alternate herbicides so plants don't develop a tolerance, which means lower application rates can be used. They also use herbicides with short residual activity. Areas where grasses are beneficial are treated with "selective" herbicides that leave the grasses unaffected.

**Q: Even so, what if I don't want herbicides sprayed near my property?**

**A:** You may sign a "No Spray" agreement. This agreement requires you to control the vegetation to county standards on the county right-of-way in front of your property. However, the county may resume control if you fail to meet the standards. Call Jackson County Roads & Parks Services for an application (541) 774-8184.

**Q: What if I don't want the county cutting or pruning trees or shrubs on the right-of-way in front of my property?**

**A:** The Roads & Parks Services Director is legally required to give a property owner 30 days written notice when the county wants to remove or alter any "marketable" tree or "ornamental" shrub that is causing a problem. The property owner can then obtain a permit from Roads & Parks Services to do the work him or herself. If the work isn't done within 30 days, the county is obligated to do it.

If the county removes a tree, it may be retained to defray the cost of its removal. If it's a "firewood" type tree, not otherwise ornamental or marketable, the 30-day notice doesn't apply. The county in this case may remove or prune the tree and give the wood to the property owner.

The county may remove or alter any tree or shrub on the right-of-way without notice if it's determined that a hazard exists because of its condition or location. Don't forget, you *must* get a permit to work on the right-of-way or you may receive a citation.

**Q: Who decides if a tree or shrub is "marketable", "firewood," or "ornamental"?**

**A:** The Roads & Parks Services Director or his designee.

**Q: What if I don't agree that the tree has to be removed or altered?**

**A:** You may appeal to the County Board of Commissioners within the 30-day time limit.

**Q: What training do the people pruning trees and shrubs for the County receive?**

**A:** They attend an annual workshop presented by the Oregon State University Extension Service and/or local professional arborists.

**Q: I'd just like to plant some shrubs and ornamental trees in front of my place to enhance my property.**

**A:** That may be possible even if your work is in the right-of-way. Apply for an encroachment permit from Roads & Parks Services and we will review your plan. It's possible that your request can be conditionally approved.

**Q: Are there fees for this permit?**

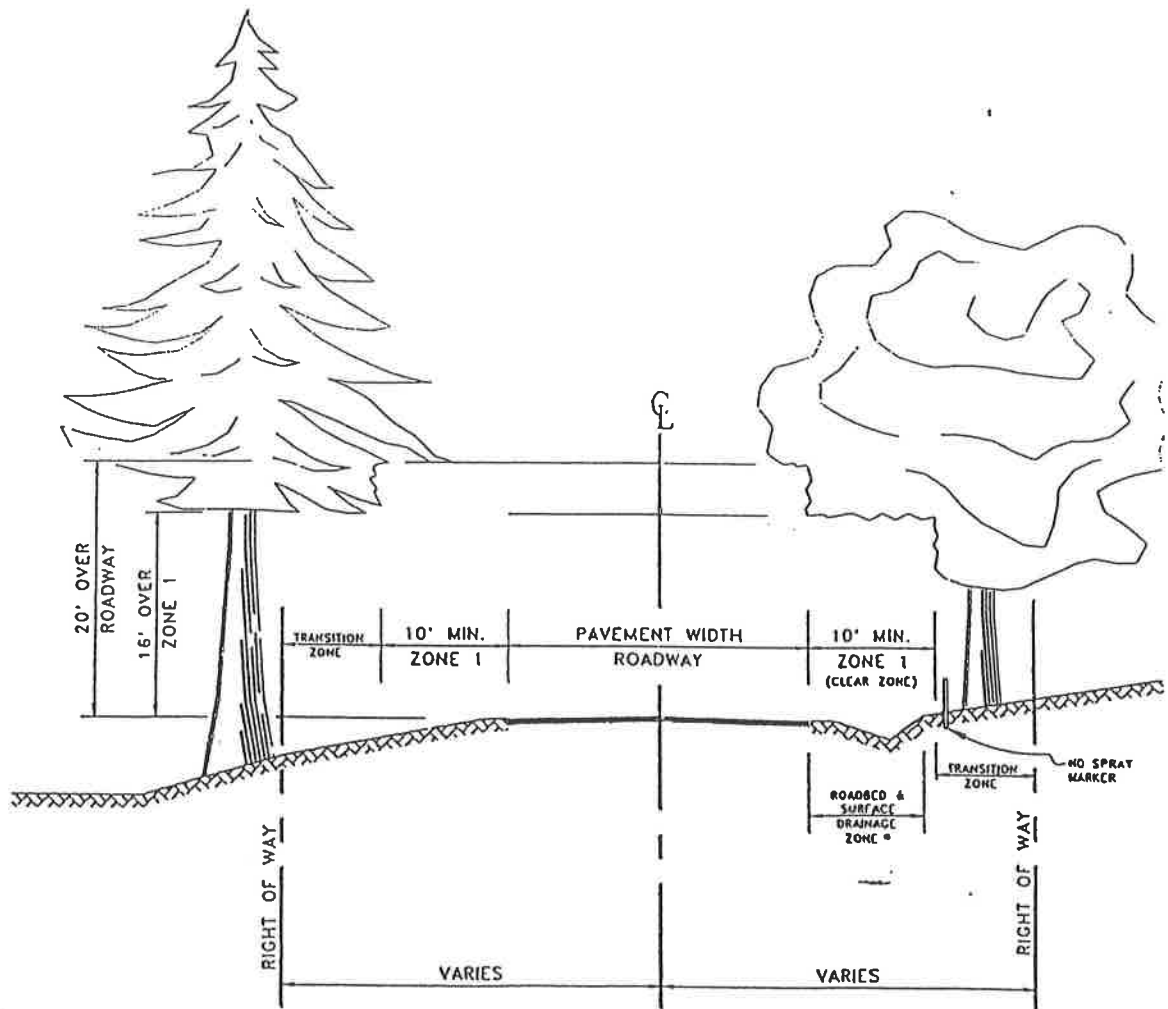
**A:** Yes, and it is subject to change on a yearly basis.

**If you have other questions or are unsure where the right-of-way line is, please call (541) 774-8184 for assistance.**

**Revised 9/98**

JACKSON COUNTY ROADS AND PARKS SERVICES

ROADWAY VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT STANDARD



CLEAR ZONE

A barrier free vehicle recovery area defined by 1989 AASHTO Roadside Design Guide.

TRANSITION ZONE

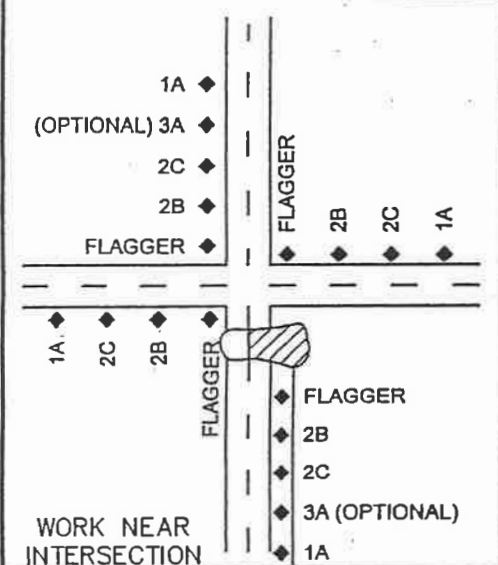
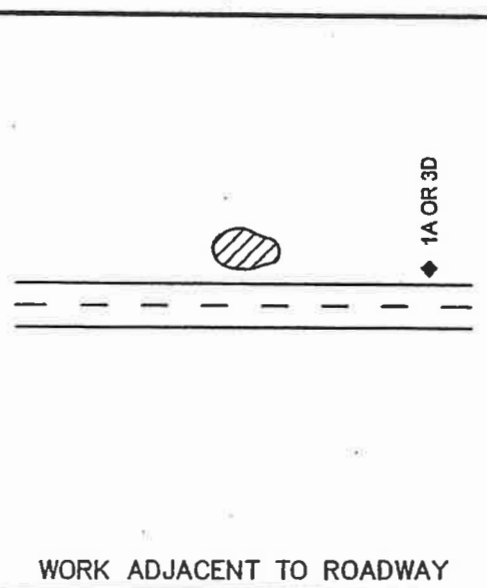
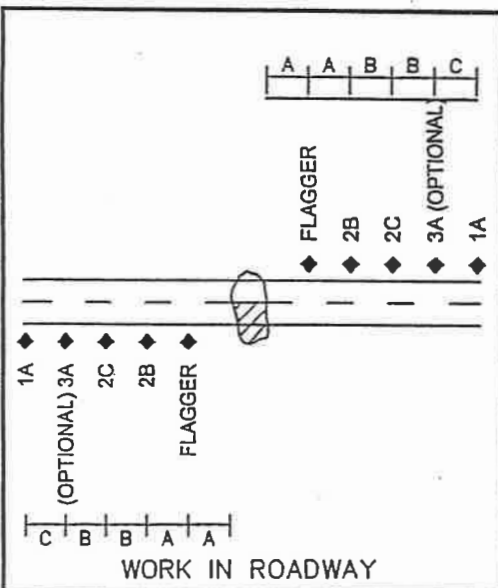
The transition area between the transportation facility and its surroundings.

\* INCLUDES TO TOP OF SLOPE IN CUT AREAS

VEGETATION STANDARD

All vegetation must be removed so there is a clear line of sight at all roadside signs. All vegetation such as blackberries, callalls, or grasses, must be removed or kept under four inches in height in Zone 1 or to the backside of the drainage ditch, whichever is greater. Woody vegetation, like young trees, sucker growth, or woody brush, must be completely removed from Zone 1.

Herbaceous or small woody vegetation (under six inches in diameter) in the Transition Zone must be removed if the vegetation limits vision or causes other hazards. Removing vegetation in the Transition Zone will be handled on a case-by-case basis.



**Sign Spacing and Buffer Lengths (feet)**

Posted Speed	Spacing Between Signs			Buffer Space
	A	B	C	
20				50
25	100	100	100	75
30				100
35	350	350	350	125
40				150
45				180
50	500	500	500	210
55				250

\*Lengths as per Oregon Temporary Traffic Control Handbook, 2011 Edition  
See OTTC for distances not specified.

**NOTES:**

Since it is not practical to prescribe detailed standards of application for all situations that may conceivably arise, minimum standards are presented here for the most common situations. It is emphasized that additional protection must be provided when special complexities and hazards prevail. "BUMP" signs must be placed on either side of utility trenches when jump plates are used.

As a \*rule of thumb\* the minimum signing required should convey \*informational\*, \*instructional\*, and \*specific warning\* (see below) messages to motorists on ALL approaches to a work site or hazard area.

Signs are to be located not less than 250' in advance of hazards and stop points. Minimum spacing between signs is to be 100' unless otherwise directed.

Sign stands are to be stable and weighted to prevent easy tipping. Signs are to be securely fastened to stands.

Signs, stands, barricades, etc., and the placement thereof, shall conform to the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" (M.U.T.C.D.). Warning signs for construction areas shall have a black legend on an orange background. The minimum dimension for APPROACH signing to a work area shall be 36" x 36". Signs WITHIN the work area limits may be smaller (24" x 24" minimum) if approved by the Roads & Parks director or his authorized representative.

When not protected by flaggers, all hazardous areas within the traveled way and road shoulder shall be barricaded with light/reflective barricades in addition to the prescribed signing. Non-appropriate signs, such as "FLAGGERS" shall be covered or removed when not needed.

Nothing herein shall prevent the permittee from installing such additional signing, barricading, etc. as he may judge necessary; provided however that all such installations shall be in accordance with the M.U.T.C.D.

- SIGN EXAMPLES**  
(USE SIGN(S) APPROPRIATE FOR CIRCUMSTANCES)
- INFORMATIONAL**
    - A. ROAD WORK/CONSTRUCTION AHEAD
    - B. WORKERS AHEAD
    - C. DETOUR AHEAD
    - D. OTHER - AS APPROPRIATE
  - INSTRUCTIONAL**
    - A. SLOW
    - B. FLAGGER AHEAD
    - C. BE PREPARED TO STOP
    - D. OTHER - AS APPROPRIATE
  - SPECIFIC WARNING**
    - A. ONE LANE ROAD AHEAD
    - B. DETOUR
    - C. ROUGH ROAD
    - D. SHOULDER WORK AHEAD
    - E. DIP
    - F. BUMP
    - G. OTHER - AS APPROPRIATE



**JACKSON COUNTY ROADS**

---

MIKE KUNTZ, P.E.  
COUNTY ENGINEER

Date	By	Revision
11/2012	CSF	

**MINIMUM SIGNING REQUIREMENTS  
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AREAS**

I: \Engineering\LIBRARY\COUNTY\STD\_DWG\2010\TrafficControl\2Lane2Way\_2010.dwg

**SHEET 1 OF 1**                      **NO SCALE**