

**WAPELLO COUNTY
ENTRANCE AND DRIVEWAY POLICY**

Be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Wapello County, that effective this _____ 1st _____ day of June, 2004, the following policy shall apply to all entrances and driveways serving as access to a secondary road under the jurisdiction of Wapello County.

PURPOSE:

This policy is to establish Wapello County's regulations for access to a secondary road under the jurisdiction of Wapello County. The policy establishes requirements for the location and establishment of driveways, field entrances, and subdivision streets requested by property owners. It is designed to assure that adequate standards are maintained to allow safe access for persons entering upon secondary roads and providing safe highway use for the traveling public.

APPLICATION TO COUNTY ENGINEER:

Section 319.14 of the Code of Iowa requires that all persons shall not excavate, fill, or make a physical change within the right-of-way of a public road or highway without obtaining a permit from the highway authority having jurisdiction of the public road or highway.

All landowners, or their agents, tenants, or designees, who desire a new entrance, additional entrances, or to modify existing entrances, are required to obtain a permit for installation from the County Engineer prior to installation. Permits are available at no cost to the applicant.

Permit applications shall identify the road and location where the work is proposed. The County Engineer will review the proposed location and application to determine if it will comply with the location and construction requirements set forth by this policy. If the site satisfies all criteria, the County Engineer shall issue a permit and establish the culvert diameter and length. If the proposed location fails to meet all of the requirements, the Engineer may reject the application, explaining the reasons for such action and advising what changes would be necessary to obtain approval.

RESPONSIBILITY OF WORK AND COSTS:

The property owner or tenant is responsible for the construction of all new entrances or modifications to existing entrances. This includes all materials and labor involved in the installation. All construction work shall conform to the requirements set by this policy.

FINAL APPROVAL OF ENTRANCE:

After completion of a new entrance or modification of an existing entrance, the applicant shall notify the County Engineer, who shall inspect the entrance for conformance to this policy. The entrance will either be accepted or rejected. If the work is rejected, the applicant will be notified of the deficient work. All corrections must be completed before the entrance is put into use.

NONCONFORMING ENTRANCES:

Any nonconforming entrance built after the effective date of this resolution may be removed by Wapello County and the cost billed to the owner or party responsible for installing the entrance.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE:

The owner or tenant requesting a new entrance or modification to an existing entrance is responsible for all future maintenance of the entrance. In the event repairs are needed at any time with respect to culverts, it is the responsibility of the property owner to make such repairs, and in the event the owner fails to do so, the County shall have the right to make the repairs and charge the owner for doing so. If the property owner fails to reimburse the County for the cost of said repairs, the cost shall be certified to the County Treasurer and specially assessed against the property as the law allows.

ENTRANCE SURFACING:

Wapello County will not furnish, maintain, nor pay for any driveway surfacing (gravel, oil, asphalt, or concrete). Entrance surfacing removed by the County during road construction will be replaced by the County at no expense to the owner.

ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION:

Any entrances removed for road construction will be replaced by the County at no cost to the owner. Existing entrance surfacing removed will also be replaced by the County at no expense to the owner. At the request of the owner and with proper location approval, the County may construct additional entrances at the time of roadway construction with the owner responsible only for the cost of the culvert pipe.

LOCATION REQUIREMENTS:

All driveways, field or business entrances, and subdivision street intersections must meet the following specifications for minimum sight and stopping distance requirements:

1. 400' on gravel roads measured from the centerline of the entrance in each direction
2. 600' on pavements measured from the centerline of the entrance in each direction

The County reserves the right to make exceptions in extraordinary circumstances to the sight distance requirements at the discretion of the County Engineer where the exercise of sound and reasonable engineering judgment indicates that public safety will not be compromised.

Entrances will not be allowed within 100 feet from the end of a bridge and/or any guardrail installation.

Entrances on a paved road will not be allowed within 250 feet from any intersecting road.

Entrances on a gravel road will not be allowed within 100 feet from any intersecting road.

CULVERT PIPE REQUIREMENTS:

If the location is approved, the County Engineer will determine if a culvert pipe is required, the size of the opening required, and the length of culvert pipe required. The required diameter and length for each culvert shall be based on the drainage area, entrance top width, entrance use, ditch depth and type of road surface being entered.

All Culvert pipes shall be approved by the County Engineer. Used culverts showing rust or having holes will not be approved. New pipe culvert pipe shall meet IDOT standards for entrance pipe and shall be a minimum of 15" diameter. The following new pipe are approved:

1. Corrugated metal pipe-15" to 48" diameter (16 gage), greater than 48" diameter (12 gage)
2. Tied reinforced concrete pipe (2000D Class or better-no rejects)
3. PVC Pipe (Double walled required)

CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS:

Entrance installation shall be according to IDOT specifications.

Minimum top width for a driveway or field entrance shall be 20 feet. Top width for subdivision streets will meet the requirements of the subdivision ordinance.

Sideslopes for entrances on rock roads shall be 3:1 minimum and sideslopes for entrances on paved roads shall be 8:1 minimum.

Entrances shall slope away from the road shoulder and shall be shaped to prevent water from the property to drain onto the roadway.

Entrance shall be compacted by tamping or rolling.

No filling will be permitted in the right of way other than necessary to construct the proposed entrance.

No excavations will be made within the limits of the traveled portion of the roadway.

The construction, future repair, or maintenance of entrances shall be carried on in such a way as to not interfere with, or interrupt traffic on the County road.

Private property may not be used so as to obstruct or encumber the County right of way, or interfere with safety, comfort, and the use of the County roadway users.

The permittee shall leave the road and the road right of way in as good as condition as it was prior to construction.