

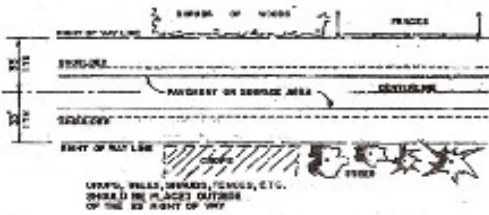
HIGHWAY-RIGHT-OF-WAY

Right of Way, as it pertains to transportation, is a general term denoting acquired interests or rights in land that are necessary to build, maintain, and operate a facility. Since 1849, the local units of government have had authority for the location, administration and maintenance of those roads is vested in the respective counties, towns, and incorporated municipalities in which the roads or streets are located in accordance with provisions of the Wisconsin Statutes.

As outlined in Chapter 80 of the Statutes, **road right of ways are generally 4 rods in width, which is 66 feet (or 33 feet from centerline).** There are exceptions. There are roadways which were laid out as 3 rods, 95 49.5 feet, or roadways which were laid out as 3 rods, 95 49.5 feet or There may be wider right of way widths as a result of reconstruction.

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of road maintenance and repair. Liability exists for injury caused by insufficiency or want of repairs of roads. In addition, as outlined in Section 81.17 of the Statutes, if damages happen to any person or property by reason of any defect in any highway caused by or arise from the wrong default or negligence of any person or private corporation, such person or private corporation shall be primarily liable therefore.

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Local officials are required by law to keep roadways safe and free from defects. They need your help. There are a number of specific roadside prohibitions and hazards which officials need your help to address. Examples of some of these statutory requirements include:

- No person shall plow, cultivate or work any

Highway right of way which would interfere with or obstruct drainage.

- No person shall willfully or maliciously make any ditch, depression or embankment or any place any obstruction in any public highway right of way which would impede or incommode the use of the highway.
- No person shall place any obstruction in any ditch constructed to drain the highway.
- The highway right of way shall not be encroached upon, under or over, by any fence, stand, building or any other structure or object.
- No person shall make any excavation or fill or install any culvert, or make any other alteration in any highway or in any manner disturb any highway or bridge without a permit therefore from the highway authority maintaining the highway.

Common examples of these statutory prohibitions as they would apply to the right of way area, which is typically 33 feet from the centerline, would include, but not be limited to the following:

- Any type of cultivating or cropping within the highway right of way.
- Planting of trees and shrubs in the right of way.
- Any fencing or decorative landscaping.
- Placing or throwing of stones, debris, garbage or burning in the right of way.
- Filling in, or obstructing any road ditch.
- Depositing of snow onto the roadway and shoulders.

THE ONLY PERMITTED USE OF HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY BY A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL IS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MAILBOX OR DRIVEWAY CULVERT.

SPECIFIC ROADSIDE HAZARDS

Trees Although there is always some public pressure to keep the trees along our highways, serious accidents do occur when vehicles strike them. Trees are the most hazardous type of fixed object, in terms of overall accident numbers and severity. Unfortunately, this is an area where safety interests are often in conflict with beautification goals. To increase safety, while giving attention to environmental concerns:

- Trees should be planted at locations where it is unlikely that vehicle will stray, such as beyond the clear zone, behind barriers, beyond structures, and on cut slopes.
- Keep the clear zone free of all trees. Small trees will eventually grow into large ones. A tree 4 inches or more in diameter is considered a 'fixed object'.

Culvert Ends The ends of drainage pipes can be a hazard when located within the clear zone. The pipe end and/its head wall should be fitted to the shape of the side slope. The ends of pipes laid parallel to the roadway, such as the driveways and cross roads, are particularly hazardous. In some cases, the driveway can be reshaped to fit with the ditch profile.



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DOG AND CAT CONTROL

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DOG LICENSE

Due every year by April 1st

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TOWN HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

For Information and reservations please call the
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