



Black Hawk County Engineer

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“The mission of the County Engineer and Secondary Roads Department is to develop, construct, manage and maintain a safe and modern network of county roads and bridges, by being efficient, financially responsible and environmental stewards to the residents and visitors of Black Hawk County.”

Black Hawk County Dust Control Policy

Statement of Policy

It shall be the policy of Black Hawk County to permit the application of dust control agents, by private and/or commercial application, for the control of fugitive dust on unpaved county gravel roads pursuant to the provision of Chapter 318.8 of the Code of Iowa. Permit applicants assume the full responsibility for any liability resulting from this work on a public roadway.

Permit Required

No material may be applied to the road surface without obtaining a permit from the County Engineer. Work performed under the permit shall be performed in conformity with the specifications herein provided. Dust Control Permits expire October 1st of each year.

Resident Requirements

All residents desiring dust control shall apply with a preapproved contractor before April 1. The resident is responsible for all payments to the contractor. Please see Obligation of Residents for maintenance of the roadway. Complaints about the product or product application should be directed to the contractor.

Contractor Requirements

Pre-Approval

Black Hawk County requires each contractor who wishes to apply dust control work within the County right-of-way, to first be approved by the Black Hawk County Engineer. The contractor must meet the insurance and materials requirements below. Upon meeting those requirements, the contractor shall be placed on the County website. The contractor shall submit the paperwork before March 1. See the Black Hawk County website for a list of approved contractors. www.co.black-hawk.ia.us.

Permit Applications

The contractor shall provide to the county a list of locations where dust control has been requested for the season. The list shall provide the residents name, address, material to be applied, length of application, and number of applications that year. The county should receive this list no later than April 15.

Insurance

All contractors desiring to provide dust control service in Black Hawk County shall submit a conforming Certificate of Insurance; refer to the County website for the Certificate of Insurance requirements.

Materials

Dust control products shall be approved prior to application with the submission of a Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Contractors shall certify that all materials used for dust control are free of toxic materials affecting the environment, the public, and livestock. A list of ingredients shall be submitted stating the composition and percentage of each ingredient in the mixture. Certification shall state that the mixture meets or exceeds applicable DNR and EPA regulations. The following materials are approved for use as dust control:

1. Lignin Sulfonate (tree sap)
2. Soy products
3. Calcium Chloride
4. Magnesium Chloride
5. MC70/Seal Coat/Chip Seal

Crank case oils and used or waste motor oils are not allowed on county roads.

Typical Dust Control Schedule

The typical dust control treatment shall be a minimum of 20 feet wide. The dust control treatment schedule will usually be an initial treatment placed before June 1 and a second application placed in August, weather permitting. Application is not allowed on Sundays, Holidays, or between sunset and sunrise.

Traffic Control

The contractor shall provide proper traffic control and signing during and after the application.

Notification and Marking Required by Contractor

The contractor shall notify the county 3 days prior to each application required. This time allows the county to prepare the roadway. The contractor shall then allow for notification from the county before applying any treatment. Each location treated for dust control shall be marked with plastic flags provided to the resident at no cost to Black Hawk County. The flags shall be placed on both sides of the road at each end of the dust control area and embedded into the road shoulder, at the break of the slope. The flags shall be placed at the time of application.

County Requirements

Upon the County Engineer's approval, the county will issue a permit to residents who have requested an application of approved dust control product. The county will then prepare the roadbed after notification from the contractor. The county should have the roadbeds ready by May 15 unless extreme weather, wetness, or frost conditions make this impossible. The county will notify the contractor when the roads are ready for application.

Maintenance of Treated Areas

Chlorides and Lignin Sulfonate

Obligations of Resident

The resident shall keep all flags up marking the limits of the dust control area for the entire season. Residents shall fill potholes that develop regardless of the type of dust control used. Loose rock from the road mixed with a binding agent, such as the dust suppressant works for the tree sap or chloride treatments.

Obligations of the County

Grader operators will be instructed to avoid blading the area between the initial application and October 1 as long as the road remains in good condition. If potholes or other deterioration of the treated area reaches the point of being an immediate hazard to traffic, the county, upon the order of the County Engineer or Road Superintendent, will blade and repair the treated area without notice or compensation to the resident. Repair by the county will consist of scarifying the treated area and maintaining it as a granular road. After October 1, the county will resume regular road maintenance and blade the surface in preparation for winter weather.

Seal Coat

If a seal coat is the dust control, then cold mix is the preferred fill material to fill holes that develop. If the resident does not fill the potholes the county will blade the road to the proper crown and grade when the condition warrants it. The county will typically notify the owner by letter that the condition of the seal coat is deteriorating and it needs to repair or the county will blade it. Normal winter maintenance of a seal coated surface will consist of blading by the motor grader. It may also include scarifying the surface with teeth on the motor grader's blade to try to reduce some of the ice on the surface. The county will not be responsible for any damage caused by scarification to the seal coat. Additionally, on rare occasions the county may sand or salt a seal coat. The county will not be responsible for any damage from these practices.