



DeKalb County Engineer's Office

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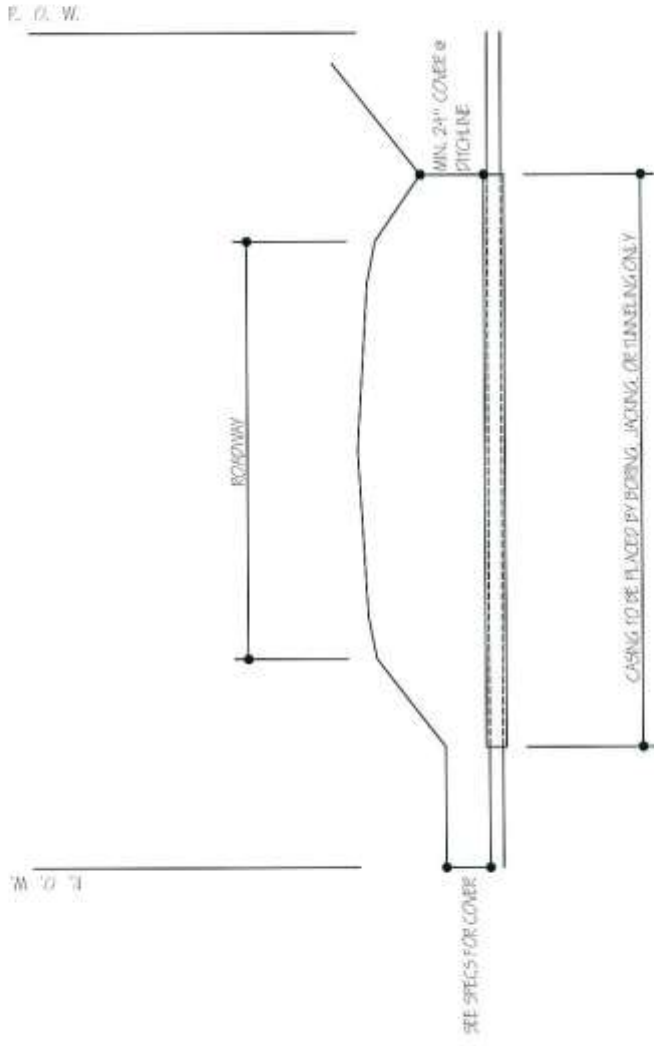


PLACEMENT OF UTILITIES WITHIN COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY

Per adoption at the regular session of the DeKalb County Commission on July 24, 2007, all persons, including individuals and utility companies must abide by the following regulations when desiring to install utilities on County Right-of-Way:

1. Local utility companies shall fill out a permit application before December 31st for a blanket permit for the next calendar year. A performance bond of \$15,000.00 must be kept on file for every blanket permit. This permit will cover all utility work done by representatives of the utility that is considered maintenance work or minor expansion work. Maintenance work is defined as service taps and any repair work required to existing utilities. Minor expansion work is defined as extensions under one-fourth mile in length.
2. Any utility company, contractor, etc. proposing to perform work on County right-of-way that is not considered maintenance or minor expansion as defined above shall apply for a permit and post an appropriate bond as determined by the County Engineer. This bond shall be posted at the County Engineering Office, DeKalb County Activities Building, 111 Grand Avenue SW, Suite 113, (Telephone 256-845-8584), and, except for local utilities, be in the form of a certified check or other funds deposited in an account held for that purpose by the County.
3. As a matter of policy, DeKalb County does not allow open-cutting of any paved roads or unpaved roads scheduled to be paved in the immediate future. If it is determined due to rock or other unforeseen circumstances a road must be open cut, written approval shall be obtained from the County Engineering Department prior to the work being performed (see Item No. 10). **Any utility company, contractor, etc. open-cutting a County Road without written approval will immediately forfeit their required bond or pay a minimum fine of \$15,000.00.**
4. When emergency utility work is required on County right-of-way, the County Engineering Office should be notified as soon as possible. Notification of after-hours work can be left on voice mail, or can be phoned in the following work day.
5. Each utility is responsible for work done on a contract basis. Representatives of the utility should continually inspect the project to insure it is completed per these specifications and that the right-of-way is left in an acceptable condition.
6. Complete drawings showing location of proposed utility installation (over one-fourth mile in length) along with a letter of request to locate subject utility on County right-of-way should be submitted to the Engineering Department for review and approval before any utility installation work begins.
7. All utilities are to be placed parallel with the roadway within the outermost five feet of the right-of-way. There may be certain situations where adverse conditions would not allow installation of utilities at this location. The Engineering Department must approve deviations from this standard installation location requirement.
8. All underground fiber optic utilities within County right-of-way shall be buried with a minimum of 42 inches of cover. All other underground utilities within County right-of-way shall be buried with a minimum of 30 inches of cover. Underground utilities should have a minimum of 24 inches of cover beneath the flow line of drainage ditches. There may be certain situations where adverse conditions would not allow installation of utilities at this depth.
9. The County Engineering Office must approve all deviations including depth, location, type installation, etc.

10. All underground utilities being installed underneath existing paved County Roads shall be bored, jacked, or tunneled. Unpaved roads may be open-cut provided there are no immediate plans to pave. Utilities beneath all County Roads shall be encased. Boring, jacking, or tunneling and encasing shall extend from toe of shoulder slope to toe of shoulder slope. All boring, jacking, or tunneling and casing shall be done as shown by the attached drawing. Any damage to the roadway surface (lift and/or cracking) shall be the responsibility of, and repaired by, the utility.
11. Where it is evident that boring is impractical due to rock or other obstruction, the County Engineer, after notification of such problems, may grant written approval to open cut the paving. Where open cutting is allowed, the following conditions shall be met:
 - a) Area to be excavated should always be saw-cut so that the cut is squared off.
 - b) No materials removed from the excavation to be placed back in the cut.
 - c) Cut shall be backfilled with aggregate (crusher run or approved alternate) to within 6 inches of the roadway surface and then cold mix asphalt (minimum) to the top of the cut. Under circumstances where settlement is extremely undesirable, more particularly on high volume roads or roads scheduled for paving, the County Engineer may require open cuts to be backfilled with concrete.
 - d) If area can not be patched immediately, cut should be filled to top with aggregate. When patching can be done, excess aggregate will then be removed, along with an extra 1 foot of paving on each side of the cut.
 - e) Whenever possible, one-half of the traveled portion of the paving should be open to traffic.
 - f) Open cutting of pavement shall be done as shown in the attached drawing.
12. No tracked equipment on paved roads. In the event that a tracked piece of equipment must cross the roadway, the road should be protected in some way to prevent road damage. The utility or individual will be held responsible for any pavement damaged during the process of the utility installation.
13. All disturbed areas must be seeded/sodded, mulched (if deemed necessary by the County Engineering Department) and stabilized. All applicable Alabama Department of Environmental Management and Environmental Protection Agency rules and regulations must be adhered to. The County is not responsible for sediment and erosion control.
14. Special attention should be paid to drainage. When roadside ditches and roadway drainage structures are disturbed, repairs must be made so that they are left in good working order. Before any utility installation work begins, any pre-existing problems should be reported to the County Engineering Office.
15. The latest edition of the Alabama Department of Transportation Utility Manual is hereby made a part of these regulations and shall apply to construction procedures, construction methods, material requirements, etc., except as otherwise noted herein. The DeKalb County Engineering Department shall have the final authority as to this requirement.
16. The first offense for any company or utility not adhering to the requirements of these regulations will result in the forfeiture of the amount of the performance bond necessary to make repairs as determined by the County Engineer, and all activities stopped until corrective measures are completed. The second offense will result in the issuance of an immediate stop order, forfeiture of bond, a minimum fine of \$10,000.00 per mile of disturbed area and a ban from performing any additional work within DeKalb County until all areas have been repaired and all fines paid. Again, as stated in Item No. 3, the unapproved open-cutting of any County Road at any time will result in an immediate forfeiture of bond or a minimum fine of \$15,000.00.
17. The final authority in this process is the *County Commission*. If the utility has requested a variance through the County Engineer and is dissatisfied with the result, the utility has the right to request a variance through the *County Commission*. The utility should make a request to the County Administrator in writing to get on the Agenda for the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting. Included in the correspondence should be specifics of the request, including location(s), type and size of utility, reasoning behind variance, and any other information that might be helpful in making a decision on the variance.



BORING, JACKING, OR TUNNELING AND CASING DETAIL

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSION
 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 JANUARY 2008

	<p>CUT PAVEMENT WITH SAW AND OPEN TRENCH TO MINIMUM WIDTH REQUIRED</p>	<p>1</p>		<p>BACKFILL TRENCH TO SURFACE LEVEL PENDING REPLACING PAVEMENT</p>	<p>2</p>		<p>REMOVE SURPLUS BACKFILL AND REMOVE EXTRA 1 FT. OF PAVING ON EACH SIDE</p>	<p>3</p>		<p>REPLACE PAVEMENT OVER CUT</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>DELAWARE COUNTY COMMISSION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT JANUARY 2009</p>	<p>OPEN CUTTING OF PAVEMENT DETAIL</p>		<p>SHEET 4 OF 4</p>								