

Sevier County Right of Way Utility Permit Application

Requirements and Policies for Installation and Repair of Utilities and Driveway Connections in Sevier County Right-of Ways

Agencies or companies desiring to perform work in the non-traveled portion of the right-of-way must apply for a permit from the Sevier County Highway Department at least three (3) working days prior to desired work date. No work will commence without written approval of the Superintendent, Sevier County Highway Department or his designated representative. Permits will be evaluated and returned within three (3) working days. Sevier County will attempt to arrange a joint on-site meeting the first working day after receiving the application. If the joint meeting is delayed, then approval of the permit will be delayed accordingly.

(When emergency repairs are necessary, notification shall be given the Sevier County Highway Department within 24 hours)

All agencies that routinely perform work in the non-traveled portion of the right-of-way will apply for a permit. Permits are required for below ground and above ground work. Blank permit applications may be obtained at 139 County Garage Road, Sevierville.

Any time work is performed on or adjacent to any road in Sevier County, safety will be the primary consideration. Safety considerations will extend to the travelling public, local bystanders, and work crews. Work crews will strictly adhere to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, Part VI, Work Zone Safety. Any crew failing to meet these criteria will have their permits revoked immediately until such time as discrepancies are rectified.

The following are minimum requirements for operations in the right-of-way:

1. Tennessee One Calls will be made prior to beginning any project to avoid damage to existing facilities.
2. All utilities in the right-of-way shall be a minimum of thirty (30) inches deep. When the manufacturers' specifications require greater cover, they will supersede the thirty (30) inch minimum. The county reserves the right to waive the minimum depth where rocky terrain and/or other circumstances make it difficult to obtain the desired depth. The county shall determine the minimum depth in these situations. Additional depth may be required in areas scheduled for future excavation.
3. All overhead utilities will be a minimum of sixteen (16) feet above the surface.
4. All above ground utilities will be a minimum of five (5) feet from the edge of the pavement.
5. The installer will attempt to bore or jack under all roadways prior to being permitted to cut the surface. Bore depth shall be a minimum of four (4) feet.

6. All cuts in existing road surfaces will be perpendicular to the edge of the pavement. Cuts in the roadway will be backfilled with #10 stone, compacted. Repairs to the surface will be a minimum of four (4) inch binder, and one and one-half (1½) of the surface mix. TDOT approved flowable fill may be required to be substituted for #10 stone.
7. Lateral cuts in the road surface will be avoided and approved by exception only. Lateral cuts will be backfilled with #10 stone or may require TDOT approved flowable fill. Four (4) inches of binder will be installed in the cut and the entire width of the pavement from twenty (20) foot of either side of the cut will be resurfaced with a minimum of one and one-half (1½) inches of surface mix.
8. Any areas within the right-of-way damaged by the installation shall be repaired and restored to its original condition by the applicant or the cost of the repair performed by the county shall be assessed to the applicant.
9. All work in the shoulder will be a minimum of two (2) foot from the paved surface. They will be backfilled in six (6) inch lifts, compacted to 95% RC, and the shoulder stone will be replaced with crusher run at a minimum of four (4) inches deep and two (2) foot wide. All disturbed areas will be dressed, seeded, and stabilized (straw or geotextile) within 72 hours of completion of work.
10. The agency or persons securing the permit will guarantee the work for one (1) year after acceptance by Sevier County. This guarantee will include maintenance and repair, labor, and materials.
11. The owners of any equipment (fire hydrants, phone boxes, guide wires, utility poles, etc.) are responsible for keeping the area free of debris, grass, etc. and the highway department will not be responsible for any damage to equipment.
12. All county governments are released from any liabilities from underground utilities placed in drainage ditches, pipes, etc. for any damages incurred under normal circumstances (mowing).