

Harrison County IRVM Plan, Version I

Adopted May 24, 2018

(Revisions 6/12/2018)

Preface

The following is a plan for the Harrison County Roadside Management activities. The plan includes the reason for a plan, structure, and technical elements. The parameters of the plan are outlined and the means of inception and operation are defined.

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2) Personnel involved in originating and contributing to the plan:

Harrison County Engineer, Steven Struble – Originator.

With consultation and approval from the County Board of Supervisors and County Conservation Director.

Day to day decisions are made by the County Engineer, and the Secondary Roads foremen with input and assistance from the County Conservation Director.

3) Executive Summary

Harrison County has 1,110 miles of roads consisting of paved, rock and earth surfaces. This equates to over five thousand acres of roadside ditches, backslopes, and other areas to control trees, brush, noxious weeds, and other invasive plants with a limited amount of herbicide chemicals. Contractors and county crews doing construction and maintenance projects also disturb many acres of vegetation each year that needs reseeded by following the seeding methods that are outlined in the IRVM Technical Manual. The Harrison County Engineer, with the assistance of a possible future Roadside Manager, directs Roadside Vegetation Management, according to this plan, including spraying roadsides for noxious weeds and invasive plants, shearing and cutting trees, and reseeded all disturbed and eroded areas.

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4) Goals

The goal of Harrison County IRVM is to prevent destructive erosion and destructive species from degrading our roadsides in these sensitive Loess Hills. We endeavor to control erosion and control the spread of trees, brush, noxious and invasive species in order to increase the safety of travelers and to preserve the environment. The roadside environment will be improved with ditch checks, proper drainage, and suitable vegetation, enhancing the natural beauty of roadsides and improving wildlife habitat. Planting and maintaining native vegetation is a pivotal action in attaining our goals.

5) History

Harrison County Roadside Management is being established in 2018 to develop a relationship with the Roadside Management community in Iowa and to establish a management program which will follow the example of that set by the current County Engineer in Greene County in about 1991 and in O'Brien County in about 1998. The county desires a more effective and permanent way of controlling noxious weeds and brush in the right-of-ways with a limited amount of herbicide chemicals.

6) Jurisdictional Recognition and Approval

Management: The Harrison County Roadside Manager/County Engineer are in charge of the Harrison County IRVM program. Budgeting, grant writing, and equipment needs are determined by the County Engineer and possible future Roadside Manager.

The day to day duties of a future Roadside Manager would be set and supervised by the County Engineer and the County Maintenance Foreman. The Board of Supervisors will approve the vegetation management budget as a part of the Secondary Roads Budget as proposed by the County Engineer.

Rules and Regulations that must be followed by the Roadside Manager. (see Appendices)

7) Inventory and Analysis

An initial plant inventory of Harrison County Roadsides will be taken as prioritized by the Roadside Manager or County Engineer for various areas of the county. The maps and records will be maintained and stored in the care of the County Engineer. Harrison County roadside management will use paper records for spraying and seed records which will be scanned and digitized for use and for archive purposes. The County uses Schneider's Beacon and Pictometry GPS sites for Arial maps, ownership, and other geo-data. The County Engineer has Bob Mohlenbrock and Minger/Johnson Plant identification workshop-trainings and will continue his own education, and that of the Conservation Director and staff, of the appropriate staff training to further the goals of this plan. The Engineer, the Conservation Director and staff educate the community about the IRVM program and goals at public meetings throughout the year. The Conservation Department distributes brochures and flyers and holds frequent personal speaking engagements to notify the community of IRVM related projects and of opportunities to be involved in the County's IRVM projects such as plant identification workshops, prescribed burning, and wildflower seed collection.

8) Program Structure

Flow chart: Harrison County Board of Supervisors -> County Engineer-> Roadside Manager (future) -> full time Secondary Roads personnel as assigned and all seasonal help as needed. The Harrison County Road Department employs 3 full time personnel with pesticide applicator licenses for roadside application.

The Road Department also maintains a Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship Pesticide Applicator License. The staffing needs are adequate at this time with the current budget level. There are no future plans to hire additional help.

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9) Annual Operations

The Harrison County Roadside Management Office performs the following duties:

- A. Seeding of road projects and other county projects as needed. Projects include ditch cleanings, culvert and bridge replacements, and road regrades.
- B. Installation of straw-bale ditch checks, silt fence, and erosion blankets on new construction projects and maintenance areas as needed.
- C. Spraying of County owned areas including roadsides, building sites, and conservation areas.
- D. Spraying is done for brush control, noxious weeds and invasive plant control.
- E. Organizing crews for brush cutting and brush mowing. Crew members include grader operators, truck drivers, and excavator operators. Brush cutting takes place mainly in the winter months.
- F. Mowing of highway shoulders and other roadside areas for sight distance safety and weed / brush control.
- G. May harvest native species seed when the opportunity arises.
- H. Conducts prescribed burns on county roadsides and other county areas under direction of Conservation Department
- I. Grant writing and record keeping.
- J. Purchasing seed, chemicals and mulch.
- K. Performing daily and scheduled maintenance on equipment and making repairs as needed.
- L. Timing of Duties:
 - 1. Spring: Vegetation duties include burning of roadsides, drilling, seeding, scouting for and spraying weeds.
 - 2. Summer: Drilling, seeding as conditions allow, spraying for brush and noxious weeds, and mowing, including new seeding sites and road shoulders.
 - 3. Fall: Drilling and seeding as time allows, mowing, harvesting native species, and brush mowing and tree shearing. Winterizing equipment and getting ready for winter.
 - 4. Winter Brush cutting and tree shearing. Ordering materials and repairing equipment.

10) Methods

Harrison County is intent on following the seeding methods that are outlined in the IRVM Technical Manual. The manual located at the Engineers office is available to all personnel involved in seeding. Seeding for Secondary Roads is currently accomplished mostly by the Conservation Department with Conservation department equipment and personnel. A drill is used where ever and whenever practical. However, seeding on some Secondary Roads projects are hydro-seeded by a contractor. Seed selection is based on the site. Ditch cleanings and new construction are seeded to natives when the seed is available and adjacent property owners object to the seeding of natives. Otherwise, they are seeded to cool season grasses. Secondary Roads department makes extensive use of straw bale ditch checks or silt fence to minimize erosion on steep sites. Secondary Roads crew has installed erosion blankets on recent projects and intends to continue their use.

11) Material Procurement

The Harrison County Supervisors and the County Engineer maintain a policy to buy all materials locally where and when practical. Our cool season seed, straw bales, and cover crops are purchased at a local farm store. Quotations are requested from several Iowa vendors for Secondary Roads herbicide chemicals. They are currently being purchased from Van Diest Supply. A minimum amount of seed is kept on hand thru the winter and is stored in our maintenance shop. Chemicals are stored in minimum amounts at our maintenance shed.

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12) Harrison County IRVM Equipment

Year	Description	Condition			
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
2013	Chevy K1500 pickup		X		
2005	Ford F250 Service Truck w/200 gallon sprayer			X	
2015	JD 6120M W/Boom & Side Mower – 3 Units		X		
2015	JD 6120M W/Full Bat Rhino Mower		X		
2019	JD 6120M W/Half Bat Mower	X			
2013	Bobcat S590 Skidloader		X		
1999	JD 4110 Utility Tractor, 25 HP			X	
	6' Brush Cat Mower Attachment			X	
	5' Grapple Attachment			X	
	5' Tandem Disk, 3 PT.			X	
	Solo Backpack Chemical Sprayer – 2 Units			X	
	Stihl Chainsaw, 271 Series – 3 Units			X	
	Stihl Brushcutters, MDL FS460 – 2 Units			X	
	<u>Prescription Fire Equipment:</u>				
2013	JD Gator 825I UTV – 2 Units		X		
	125 Gallon Slip-In Pumper			X	
	165 Gallon Slip-In Pumper			X	
	60 Gallon Slip-In Pumper – 2 Units			X	
	Drip Torch – 6 Units			X	
	Rakes – 6 Units			X	
	Flappers – 6 Units			X	
	Radios – 6 Units			X	
	Water Backpacks – 6 Units			X	

LRTF Grants Received: NONE at this time

Applicant Award Fiscal Year Description

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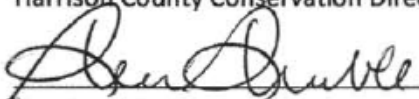
Signatures Supporting and Administering the Plan:



Harrison County Conservation Director

6-6-18

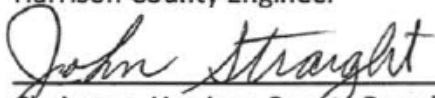
Date



Harrison County Engineer

6-5-2018

Date



Chairman, Harrison County Board of Supervisors

6-7-2018

Date

13) Appendices

- Iowa Code 314.22 Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management <http://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=iowaCode&ga=83&input=314#314.22>
- Pesticide Applicator License # PO 00282 000 for Harrison County Roadside Management
- Iowa Noxious Weed Law <http://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=iowaCode&ga=83&input=317>
- Iowa code 314.17 Mowing Law

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INTEGRATED ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN RESOLUTION

Res. No. 2018-8

WHEREAS: The Board of Supervisors is empowered under authority of Chapter 317 of the Code of Iowa to establish policies, practices and funding to control noxious weeds,

WHEREAS: The Board of Supervisors desire to establish a plan for the long term management of the roadside vegetation within the county.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Harrison County Board of Supervisors that the county establish the Roadside Vegetation Management Plan referenced by this resolution to work toward these goals:

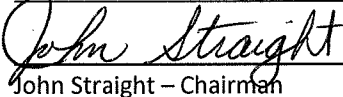
1. Improve public relations image on roadside management practices and procedures.
2. Inventory county roadsides to determine weed populations and concentrations, native prairie indicators, populations and concentrations, and brush problems.
3. Restore native prairie grass and flower species where appropriate.
4. Protect county roadsides from erosion, slump and siltation.
5. Take advantage of unique funding, management, and seed procuring opportunities.
6. Control brush and other vegetation that could interfere with snow removal and/or public safety.
7. Promote economic advantages of better roadside management throughout the county.
8. Investigate alternative methods for controlling weeds within the county right of way.
9. Evaluate program periodically to identify strengths and weaknesses.

HARRISON COUNTY ENGINEER:

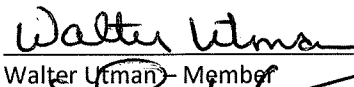

Steven D. Struble, P.E. – Harrison County Engineer

6-14-2018
Date


HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:


John Straight – Chairman

6-14-18
Date


Walter Utman – Member

6-14-18
Date


Larry King – Member

6/14/18
Date

ATTEST:


Susan E. Bonham – County Auditor

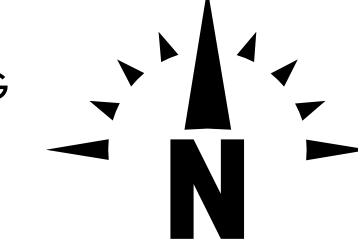
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HARRISON COUNTY

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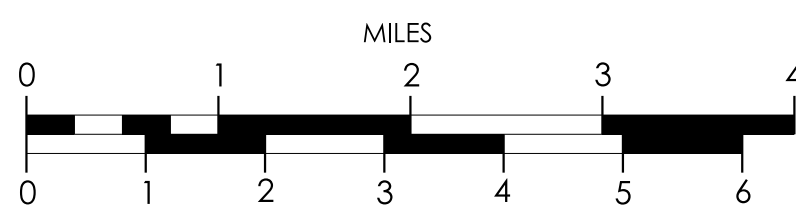


Office of Systems Planning
Phone: (515) 239-1664
WWW.IOWADOT.GOV/MAPS



In Cooperation With
United States
Department of Transportation

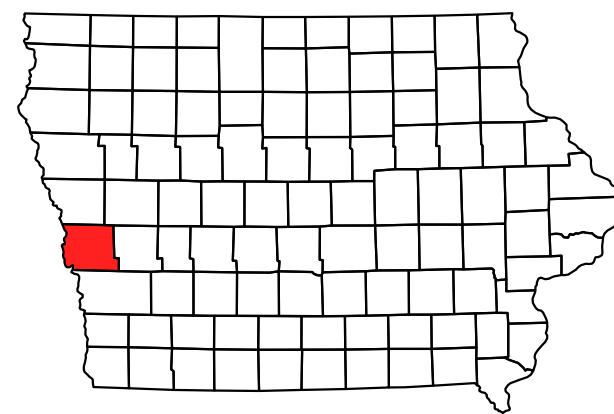
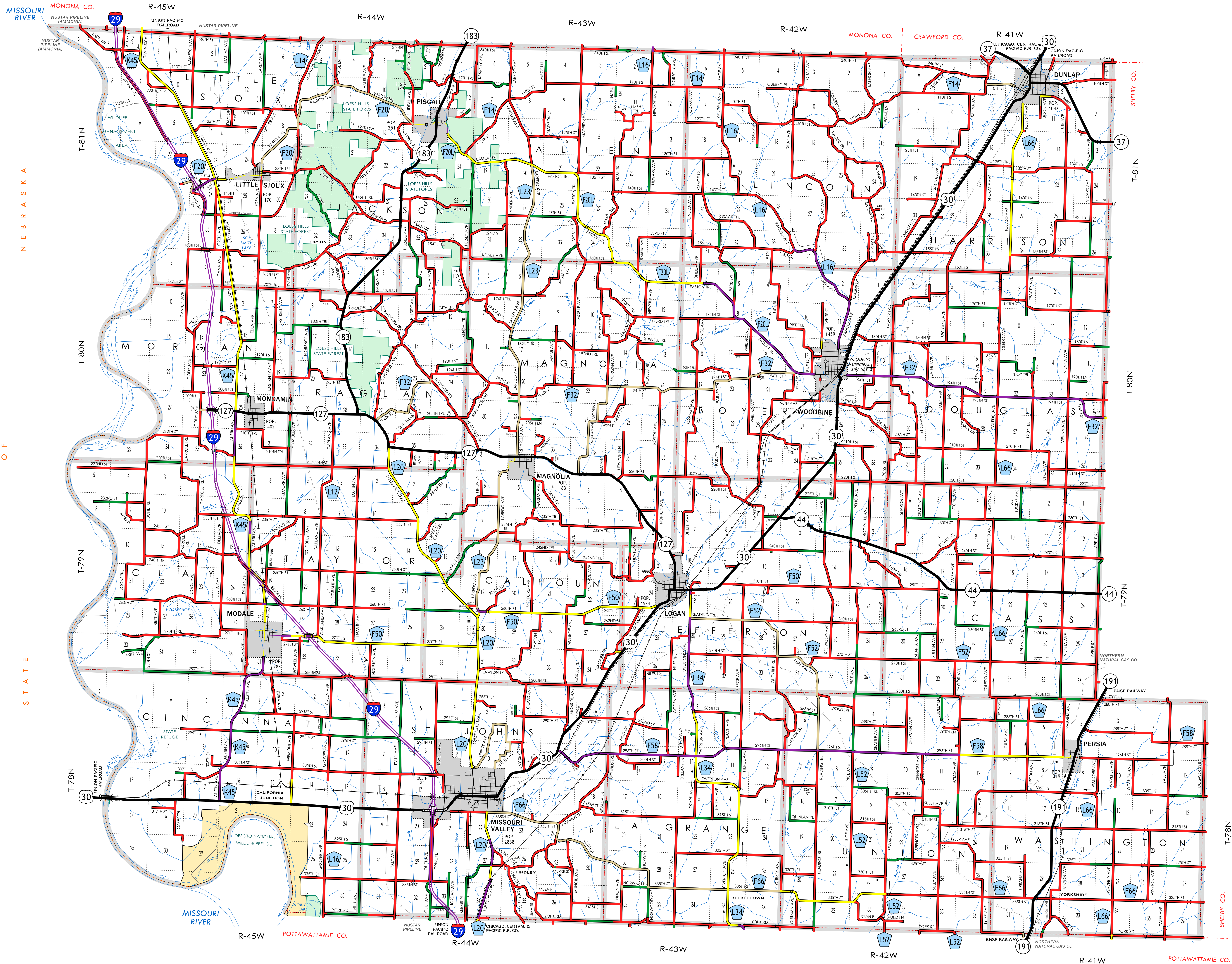
JANUARY 1, 2017



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LEGEND

- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY-DIVIDED
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE ROAD
- ASPHALT ROAD
- BITUMINOUS ROAD
- GRAVEL ROAD
- EARthen ROAD
- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- UNITED STATES HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAY
- COUNTY HIGHWAY
- RAILROAD
- PIPELINE
- AIRPORT
- HYDROLOGY
- BRIDGE
- STATE BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- CORPORATE BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP LINE
- SECTION LINE
- ROAD NAMES
- UNINCORPORATED PLACE
- STATE PARKS
- STATE INSTITUTIONS
- FEDERAL LAND



HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

211 NORTH 2ND AVENUE
Phone 712-644-3123

2nd FLOOR COURTHOUSE

LOGAN, IA 51546
Fax 712-644-2643

ROBERT V. SMITH
GAYLORD PITT
WALTHER UTMAN

CHAIRMAN
MEMBER
MEMBER

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the Harrison County Board of Supervisors that benefiting property owners be charged the total cost associated with the installation or modification of any driveway and/or field entrance providing access to his/her property from a County road.

Unless otherwise approved by the County Engineer, or his representative, no new driveway, or change in the use of an existing driveway, will be allowed where there is less than 350 feet of stopping sight distance on an unsurfaced or aggregate surfaced road, or less than 600 feet of stopping sight distance on a seal coated or paved road.

Unless otherwise approved by the County Engineer, or his representative, the side slope of any new or modified access must be at least 3:1 on driveways, with or without pipes, accessing an unsurfaced, aggregate surfaced, or seal coated road; at least 8:1 on driveways with pipes, accessing a paved road; and at least 12:1 on driveways without pipes accessing a paved road.

The County reserves the right to install and/or modify the driveway and to bill the landowner for the time, equipment and material included in the work. However, it is the intent of the County that the landowners/requestor arrange to have the driveway installed or modified by him/herself or by an independent contractor acceptable to the County. The contractor will then bill the landowner directly for the work.

The use, location, design, pipe size, and material must be approved by the County prior to the work being done.

Once a driveway installation or modification has been completed and accepted by the County, it shall become the property and the maintenance responsibility of the County.

The County will not rock new or modified entrances or maintain the rock surface on existing entrances.

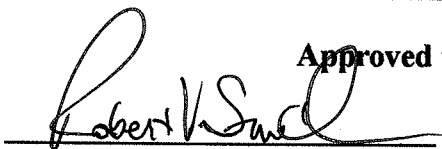
Any driveway installed or modified without prior approval of the County may be removed by the County, without notice, and the removal cost billed to the person initiating the work.

This resolution takes effect when approved.

Motion by: Pitt

Second by: Utman

Approved this 24th Day of February, 2011


Robert V. Smith, Chairman


Susan E. Bohnam, Auditor

C: Res_Driveway

2014 IOWA CODE
TITLE VIII – TRANSPORTATION
SUBTITLE 1 – HIGHWAY AND WATERWAYS
CHAPTER 314 – ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FOR HIGHWAYS
SECTION 314.17 – MOWING ON INTERSTATES, PRIMARY HIGHWAY, AND SECONDARY ROADS

314.17 Mowing on interstates, primary highways, and secondary roads.

Mowing roadside vegetation on the rights-of-way or medians on any primary highway, interstate highway, or secondary road prior to July 15 is prohibited, except as follows:

1. Within two hundred yards of an inhabited dwelling.
2. On rights-of-way within one mile of the corporate limits of a city.
3. To promote native species of vegetation or other long-lived and adaptable vegetation.
4. To establish control of damaging insect populations, noxious weeds, and invasive plant species.
5. For visibility and safety reasons.
6. Within rest areas, weight stations, and wayside parks.
7. Within fifty feet of a drainage tile or tile intake.
8. For access to a mailbox or for other accessibility purposes.
9. On rights-of-way adjacent to agricultural demonstration or research plots.

98 Acts, Chapter 1212, Section 7; 2010 Acts, Chapter 1164, Section 1; 2010 Acts, Chapter 1193, Section 121

Referred to in Section 317.9

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HARRISON COUNTY-SECONDARY ROADS

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Truck Driver
REPORTS TO: Road Foreman
SUPERVISES: NA

PURPOSE OF POSITION: Responsible for the operation of single axle dump trucks, tandem axle dump trucks with pups and tractor/trailer combinations in the maintenance and construction of the secondary roads.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Operates county vehicles in the construction, repair and maintenance of secondary roads including single axle dump trucks, tandem axle dump trucks with pups and tractor/trailer combinations.

Hauls construction and maintenance materials and equipment to and from work sites.

Performs snow removal operations utilizing a truck equipped with a blade and/or sander.

Performs routine scheduled maintenance on assigned vehicle, including changing the oil, filters and other engine fluids, greasing the vehicle and washing and cleaning the interior and exterior surfaces.

Completes a record of the maintenance services performed on each piece of equipment and inspects the condition of equipment before and after operation.

Completes various written work records including, but not limited to time sheets and weight scale tickets.

Performs manual labor including, but not limited to cutting brush, installing, maintaining and removing tire chains, snowplow blades and sanders on trucks and cold patching hard surface roads.

Operates power and hand tools in the performance of duties.

MARGINAL FUNCTIONS:

Loads and unloads equipment such as bulldozers, rollers and end loaders from a low-boy trailer.

Assists in assembling multiplating (drainage culverts) and general bridge repair activities.

Performs other related duties as directed or as the situation dictates.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE, AND ABILITY:

Thorough knowledge of and ability to operate assigned equipment in a safe manner according to traffic laws and regulations.

Thorough experience in the operation of single and tandem axle trucks and tractor/trailer combinations.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY: (continued)

Good knowledge of occupational hazards and the safety precautions necessary for the proper operation and use of assigned vehicles, equipment, tools and materials.

Good knowledge of and the ability to perform routine maintenance on assigned vehicles and equipment.

Ability to read and follow a series of both oral and written instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees, supervisors and the general public.

ESSENTIAL EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION AND/OR LICENSES:

Must possess a valid Commercial Drivers License (C.D.L.) valid in the State of Iowa at the time of hire.

Must maintain a Commercial Drivers License (C.D.L.) valid in the State of Iowa as a condition of employment.

ESSENTIAL PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS:

Work is performed in a variety of outdoor environments and locations throughout the year. Work environment is occasionally noisy and may be hazardous, if proper safety precautions are not taken.

Must be able to lift 100 pounds to perform job duties.

Operation and maintenance of vehicles and equipment requires the incumbent be able to perform repetitive hand, wrist, shoulder and leg movements in tight and cramped spaces as well as bend, climb and crawl into, under and out of vehicles.

Employee's Signature

Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date

County Engineer's Signature

Date

HARRISON COUNTY-SECONDARY ROADS

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Heavy Equipment Operator

REPORTS TO: Road Foreman

SUPERVISES: NA

PURPOSE OF POSITION: Responsible for the safe and efficient operation of heavy equipment utilized in the maintenance and construction of the secondary roads.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Operates heavy construction and maintenance equipment including, but not limited to a motor grader, back-hoe, scraper, bull-dozer, end loader, 30-ton crane, single axle truck, tandem axle truck with pup and tractor-trailer combination.

Performs snow removal operations utilizing a motor grader or truck equipped with a blade and/or sander.

Performs routine scheduled maintenance of assigned machinery and equipment, including changing the oil, filters, and other engine fluids, greasing the equipment and washing and cleaning the interior and exterior surfaces.

Completes a record of the maintenance services performed on each piece of equipment and inspects the condition of equipment before and after operation.

Completes various written work records including, but not limited to time sheets and spray application reports.

Performs manual labor including, but not limited to changing cutting edge blades on the motor graders and installing, maintaining and removing tire chains.

Performs general maintenance of shop and grounds when necessary.

MARGINAL FUNCTIONS:

Cuts and carries brush to the chipper and sprays brush areas (licensed applicators only) and stumps after they have been cut.

Operates a tractor mower to cut grass along the roadsides and in the ditches.

Cold patches hard surface roads.

Performs other related duties as directed or as the situation dictates.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY:

Thorough knowledge of and ability to operate assigned equipment in a safe manner according to public traffic laws and regulations.

Good knowledge of occupational hazards and the safety precautions necessary for the proper operation and use of assigned vehicles, equipment, tools and materials.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY: (continued)

Good knowledge of and the ability to perform routine maintenance on assigned vehicles and equipment.

Good knowledge of shaping the road surfaces as well as maintaining roadside ditches.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees, supervisors and the general public.

Ability to read and follow a series of both oral and written instructions.

ESSENTIAL EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION AND/OR LICENSES:

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Work is performed in a variety of outdoor environments and locations throughout the year. Work environment is occasionally noisy and may be hazardous, if proper safety precautions are not taken.

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Employee's Signature

Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date

County Engineer's Signature

Date