

## Dust Abatement Program

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The Department of Public Works has made major changes in the dust abatement program for 2003. The Public Works Department coordinates a user paid dust control program. The user paid program will be for MC-30 asphalt only. Those willing to pay for dust control must have their application and payment mailed by May 1, 2003.

The charge is set up to offset actual cost of the dust oil application and preparation. The cost is \$400 for 300 ft. and \$1 per ft. for each additional foot. We encourage neighbors to work together on treating continuous areas, which are both easier to apply and maintain. Some dust control areas have lasted two years, and some just a few months. Effectiveness and duration of dust control varies with traffic and weather conditions. Dust control is intended to provide one or two season control and is not a long-term solution.

## Legal Requirements for Dust Control

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Counties in Kansas are not required to control dust on county roads. No county in Kansas has a free dust control program.

## Maintaining Dust Control Areas

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We will leave the dust control areas alone until they become rough. However, usually in the fall or winter, dust control areas begin to deteriorate and become rough for traffic. If we receive complaints about a dust control area and find that it is hazardous to traffic then we will blade the road. This will more than likely cause the dust control area to become ineffective. To make the dust

### ***If You Want Dust Control***

***If you are interested in obtaining dust control in front of you home, you must complete a form available from the Public Works Department and mail it (and your check for payment) to the Public Works Department. The charge is \$400 for the first 300 ft. and \$1 per ft. for additional. To obtain a form contact***

control areas last longer landowners can patch small potholes before they become big and hazardous. Asphalt patch material can be purchased at home centers and lumber companies.

## Gravel Road Maintenance

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In order to reduce dust and save gravel we have changed our maintenance operations. Routine blading cuts the crust and causes loose rock and more dust, so we have reduced blading. The reduced blading has resulted in the roads not being as smooth and there are a few more potholes. This

is offset by less loose rock on the roads and less dust. We have also been experimenting with the use of magnesium to stabilize the rock roads and to reduce road dust and regular maintenance. These pilot projects have been on highly traveled gravel roads and seem to reduce the dust about 90%. We will continue the use of magnesium chloride on those roads with traffic count in excess of 250 vehicles per day. On these roads the cost of the magnesium chloride is offset by the need for less rock and routine maintenance.

## How to Have Your Road Blacktopped

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Many people inquire about the possibility of having their gravel road blacktopped. There are 248 miles of gravel road in Johnson County and most gravel road improvement projects are based on traffic count.

However, the Public Works Department has a program to blacktop one mile of gravel road per year based on landowner participation by willingness to donate needed right-of-way. These blacktop projects are prioritized based on traffic count, number of houses on the road, and whether the adjacent landowners will donate right-of-way. This is one way that neighbors working together can accomplish getting their road improved. The roads that rank high on the priority list will still have a high traffic count. If you think your road might qualify for this program, you may contact the Public Works Department for more details and application forms.

# *Road Dust Control 2003*

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