

Roadway Encroachment Permits:

Greenwood County and the City of Greenwood **require** encroachment permits to cover **any work** by homeowners and contractors **in the public right of ways**. Permits are specific to each requested activity and are prepared by the Engineering department on a case-by-case basis and are based upon descriptions and sketches provided by the requesting landowner or contractor. These permits include a requirement that the permittee hold the County harmless from any accidents or maintenance of the requested encroachment. This permit requirement includes such activities as:

- installing sprinklers
- landscaping the ditches within the right of ways,
- installing utilities for individual homes or for general public use.
- Commercial entrances from the road
- Connecting to the roadway drainage system

There are a number of activities that are **prohibited** in the rights-of-ways including:

- planting of trees,
- construction of walls,
- installation of fences,
- filling of ditches,
- installing sprinklers beyond the ditch line or closer than 3' behind a curb
- placement of any permanent obstructions.
- Private water or sewer lines except for a direct crossing at 90 degrees to the road
- Driveways over 24' wide, except for 3 lane commercial drives
- Basketball goals

Grassing and mowing to the edge of the roadway is allowed without a permit, and may include ground-based greenery located behind the ditch line that will mature at less than 2' in height. Only grass is allowed between the pavement and the ditch. Although the County mows the rights of ways occasionally to control overgrowth, it is the homeowners responsibility to mow the grass to the edge of the roadway if they desire a more finished appearance.

Right of way widths for most newer City and County roads are 25' each side of the road centerline, or 50' overall. This property has been generally deeded to the County or City in exchange for the ongoing maintenance of the road. Property owners are urged to learn where their property pins and corners are actually located and to understand that *no rights are granted over the publicly owned right of way without a specific encroachment permit.*