



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rules for Work Performed in City Right of Way

Encroachment Permits for Drywells, Driveways and Landscaping

(Hailey, Idaho) – In many cases the public right of way is much wider than the paved surface of the street. Property owners who wish to place improvements in the right of way, (for example, landscaping, gardens, drywells or driveways), must first obtain an encroachment permit from the City. The permit is a means to ensure projects meet City requirements and do not impair traffic visibility, proper grade and drainage, or snow plowing operations.

Without an approved encroachment permit, property owners risk the City requiring all the work performed in the right of way to be removed and the right of way returned to its prior condition. These permits can be revoked at anytime and the city is not responsible for any damage caused to work done in this area, from snow plowing or otherwise. However, with a permit at least the city has an opportunity to mitigate any risks or issues with property owners in advance versus requiring everything to be removed after the fact.

What is an encroachment?

An encroachment is any excavation, digging, paving, landscaping, or construction of an improvement or placement of personal property within an easement or right of way. Encroachments include, but are not limited to, fences, sidewalks, driveways, drywells, mailboxes, newspaper boxes, utility boxes and poles, trees (see tree article on page 3), shrubs, grass, sprinklers and other landscaping improvements.

What is a right of way?

Right of way means any property owned by or dedicated to the City for the purposes of providing city services and general circulation to the public. Such rights of way include, but are not limited to: public streets and the space between those streets and private property lines, alleys and sidewalks.

How do I locate my property line?

Several methods exist to locate property lines.

- The Blaine County GIS system (<http://maps.co.blaine.id.us/>) shows aerial views of properties with property lines.
- Locate the survey pins on your property.
- Determine the street width for your street (call the City at 788-9830 x20), and measure from the center of the roadway half the street width distance towards your house (less accurate, but can work for many purposes).

How do I obtain an Encroachment Permit?

File an Encroachment Permit application. An application fee is required at the time of submittal (\$50 for a residential application, \$75 for a commercial application). The city will review the application and prepare the permit. Inspection fees, if necessary, will be invoiced to the applicant, and are due when the permit is issued.

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