As Clark County continues to grow, the wear and tear on our roads also increases. Clark County Public Works is responsible for maintaining 2,665 lane miles of roadway in unincorporated Clark County.

Chip sealing is a key part of Clark County’s preservation program to maximize the life of our roads. It is used in cities and counties across the country as a cost-effective method of pavement preservation.

Thank You

We realize chip sealing can create some inconvenience for residents, pedestrians, motorists and businesses.

When the work is complete, county roads will be safer and better-maintained. The county thanks you for your patience and cooperation during this work.

Funding for this Program

100 percent of funding for the chip seal program comes from the County Road Fund.

For More Information

Phone: (564) 397-2446
Email: pubwks.cservice@clark.wa.gov
Web: www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/summer-road-preservation

Si usted necesita esta información en español, por favor llame al (564) 397-2446.

Если Вам нужна эта информация на русском языке, пожалуйста, позвоните по телефону (564) 397-2446.

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Revised March 2018
Program Overview

This summer, road crews will refurbish some county roads with a new layer of asphalt and crushed rock.

This process, called chip sealing, is done annually on various roads throughout the county. The treatment extends the life of each road by seven to ten years and provides a new sealed surface, at a fraction of the cost of an asphalt overlay.

Preliminary work, such as crack filling, will begin in the spring, weather permitting.

In some cases, residents may need to trim vegetation overhanging the roadway. Those residents will receive further notification from the county alerting them to needed vegetation trimming.

Advantages to Chip Sealing

- Small cracks and distresses lead to bigger problems. A new seal prevents water saturation and extends road life.
- Vehicles can drive on roads shortly after chip sealing.
- Chip seals are a proactive and cost-efficient preservation process used nationwide.

Chip Seal Process

An asphalt mixture is sprayed onto the road, followed by a layer of crushed rock. The surface is rolled to press the rock into the asphalt, creating a chip seal.

Some loose gravel will remain on the road for several days, so speed limits of 20 mph will be in effect during that time. Driving slowly will minimize loose gravel being thrown from tires and help compact the road surface. Please remember that fines for speeding are doubled in construction zones.

Crews will return after chip sealing to sweep up loose gravel, followed by additional sweepings over the next few weeks. The final step is applying a diluted asphalt fog seal, which provides an additional surface seal and better rock retention. It also creates a good contrast for lane striping and other pavement markings.

What You Need to Know

This surface treatment will not require closing the road, but there will be lane closures. Drivers should expect some delays, but roads often can be driven on shortly after chip and fog sealing. Flaggers and/or pilot cars will guide drivers during construction.

There will be no parking on streets during chip and fog sealing. Residents should not park in a designated “No Parking” zone. Failure to follow these temporary restrictions will result in your vehicle being towed.

After a fog seal is sprayed, the roadway will need time to cure, with the time dependent on temperature, humidity and other weather conditions. Please keep vehicles, pets, children and adults off the treated roadway as it cures since material can be tracked into your home or vehicle.

In addition, please refrain from washing your vehicle or watering your lawn and other vegetation immediately before, during and after chip sealing and fog sealing. Also, remove basketball hoops, recreational vehicles and other items from the street and sidewalk.

The treated surface also can be damaged by vehicles making sharp turns, so please be sure your vehicle is moving before turning the steering wheel for the first week after the treatment.

All work is dependent on scheduling, weather and other factors.

www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/summer-road-preservation