

**Town of Chester
New Hampshire**

Driveway Regulations

As of August 28, 2019

Driveway Regulations

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Article 1 - Driveway Regulations

Purpose and Authority

1.1 - The purpose of these regulations is to implement the powers conferred by RSA 236:13 for regulation of access to public highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Chester.

Article 2 - Driveway Regulations

Permit Required

2.1 - No driveway giving access to a Class V highway or road shown on a subdivision plat shall be constructed or altered in any way that substantially effects the size and grade of the driveway within the limits of the public right-of-way without a written permit issued by the Planning Board or its designee.

2.1.1 – Temporary Driveway Permits – Temporary driveway permits may, at the discretion of the Road agent, be required for temporary driveways / access points for activities such as logging, and construction activities such as additional construction, septic system construction or replacement, foundation replacement, or water well drilling etc. (8/28/2019)

Article 3 - Driveway Regulations

Administration

3.1 - The Planning Board or its designee shall administer the permit application process, perform site inspections where appropriate, and issue enforcement directives in connection with these regulations.

Article 4 - Driveway Regulations

Permit Fee

4.1 - A fee, established by the Planning Board, shall be submitted by the applicant to the Planning Board or its designee prior to the issuance of the Driveway Permit, to defray the cost of processing the application. For the dollar amount, please consult the Planning Board Schedule of Charges.

Article 5 - Driveway Regulations

Permit Application

5.1 - Permit application shall be obtained from and submitted to the Planning Board or its designee along with the septic design plan.

Article 6 - Driveway Regulations

Security for Improvements

6.1 - The Planning Board or its designee may require security in a form and amount acceptable to the Planning Board for improvements to the driveway before any work commences and before any Building Permits are issued (See Schedule of Charges).

The security shall be placed under the control of the Planning Board or its designee. Before voting to release the security, the Planning Board shall determine to its satisfaction, that the improvements have been completed.

Temporary driveway permits may also be subject to a security for restoration costs in the Town Right-of-Way (ROW), as determined by the Road Agent. (8/28/2019)

Article 7 - Driveway Regulations

Information Required

7.1 - The application shall provide details concerning the location, size, use, profile, headwall detail and where required by the Planning Board or its designee, submit engineering information concerning the proposed driveway. The details shall be located on the septic design plan or shall be provided separately. (8/28/2019)

Article 8 - Driveway Regulations

Scope of Work

8.1 - The Planning Board or its designee may approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove driveway permit applications. In reviewing driveway permit applications, the Planning Board or its designee shall consider the safety of the traveling public and the requirements of the road construction and drainage. The Planning Board or its designee may prescribe appropriate grading specifications, drainage structures and traffic control devices, and may require the applicant to bear the cost thereof.

Article 9 - Driveway Regulations

Driveway Design & Construction Standards

All new driveways shall be constructed as follows:

9.1 - Driveway sight distances, measured from a point ten (10) feet back from the edge of the roadway at an elevation of five (5) feet, shall be two hundred (200) feet in both directions. Note: attaining the proper distance may require the clearing of brush and / or trees along the roadway.

9.2 - Driveway entrance may flare to twenty-two feet (22) at the intersection with the roadway.

9.3 - All loam and organic material shall be removed down to an acceptable subsurface.

9.4 - Driveways shall be constructed for the entire length with a minimum of at least twelve (12) inches of crushed gravel that meets the NHDOT Crushed Gravel 304.3. (8/28/2019)

9.5 - Driveways shall be graded and have proper drainage to prevent runoff from entering any Town right-of-way.

9.6 - Where required, driveway culverts shall be a minimum diameter of twelve (12) inches ABS, and shall extend at least four (4) feet out beyond the edges of the driveway.

9.7 - All culverts shall have precast concrete or cemented stone headwalls installed or built on each end.

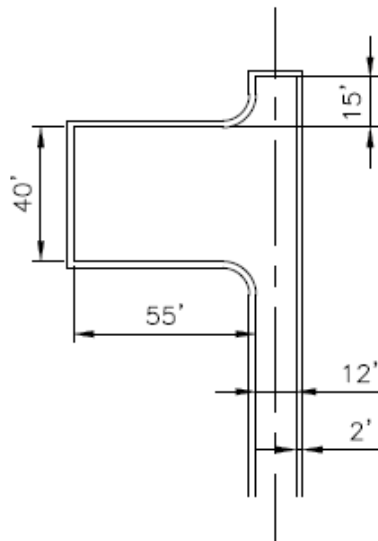
9.8 - There shall be a minimum of one (1) foot of cover gravel (see 9.4) over culverts.

9.9 - The minimum driveway width shall be twelve (12) feet.

9.10 - Driveways shall have additional cleared and unobstructed side-widths of two (2) feet, to achieve an overall unobstructed year-round width of sixteen (16) feet.

9.11 - Driveways shall have a minimum vertical clearance of thirteen and a half (13.5) feet.

9.12 - Driveways with lengths in excess of five hundred (500) feet shall provide means for Fire Department apparatus to turn around via a hammerhead or other approved means. The dimensions of the required hammerhead shall be as shown below: (8/28/2019)



The hammerhead layout shown above may be flipped (mirror image) to accommodate the layout of the site. The hammerhead shall not be located within ten (10) feet of any structures.

9.13 - No driveway shall have a slope exceeding ten (10) percent at any point. (8/28/2019)

9.14 - A plan and profile shall be required for all proposed driveways. Both the Building Inspector and Road Agent shall approve the applications for driveway permits, approve the driveway plans and profiles, and conduct inspections during the driveway construction process.

9.15 - Improvements to a driveway that include any dimensional change to the width, length, turnout or parking require a site plan and permit. Upgrades to an existing driveway (e.g. paving a gravel drive) without any of the above changes, require a permit only. (8/28/2019)

Article 10 - Driveway Regulations

Schedule of Driveway Charges

New Residential Application Fee:	\$100.00
Residential Improvement Application Fee:	\$50.00
New Commercial / Multi-Family Application Fee:	\$ 50.00
Commercial / Multi-Family Improvement Application Fee:	\$105.00
Security for Improvement:	\$500.00