



Maintenance of roadside trees, bushes, and other vegetation growing in the road right-of-way and vegetation that grows into or hangs over the road, covers up signs, blocks valuable light from street lights or impairs sight visibility at intersections **is the responsibility of the property owner** or lawful occupant (ORS 368.256(b)).

Washington County's Operations and Maintenance Division may trim trees or otherwise manage roadside vegetation within the right-of-way along county roads when it is identified as an immediate hazard or as having adverse impacts to the road or the traveling public.

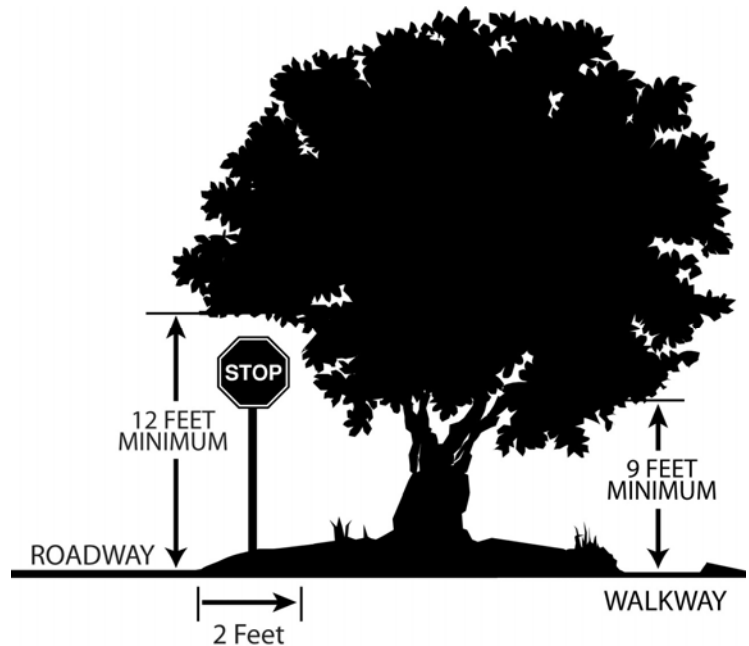
Not all roads are county roads. Some roads are "**local access roads**" – they are public roads, but the county has no responsibility for their maintenance and the county is prohibited by state law (ORS 368.031) from spending money on them unless there is an emergency declared by the Board of County Commissioners. Maintenance of local access roads, including the roadside trees and vegetation along them, is **the responsibility of the adjacent property owner**.

So **please, trim vegetation**: (1) around signs and under street lights; (2) at corners so that you can see *well* down the street for approaching vehicles; (3) over and adjacent to sidewalks and walkways so pedestrians do not have to duck under a tree or brush up against a bush; and (4) over the traveled road lanes. Remember that school busses and larger vehicles need additional height so that they can pass safely, too.

Trees and shrubs must be trimmed to a **MINIMUM** of 12 feet directly over all portions of roadway and 2 feet in from the edge of the roadway, and 9 feet directly over all portions of sidewalks or walkways.


Appropriate vegetation must be maintained in open roadside ditches to ensure stormwater filtration and to prevent erosion. Please do not use herbicide or otherwise eliminate vegetation in ditches.

Periodically the county sprays the road edge along rural county roads with an approved herbicide to control the growth of noxious weeds and other undesirable species. If you do not want vegetation in



the road right-of-way adjacent to your property to be sprayed, contact us to get a "[No Spray – Owner Will Maintain](#)" permit (\$17.50 permit fee). The county will provide "X" and "O" signs to mark the No Spray area. You will then be expected to maintain the vegetation within the marked area.

For more information, please call **(503) 846-ROAD** (846-7623) or e-mail wc-roads@co.washington.or.us.



WASHINGTON COUNTY
OREGON

Washington County is committed to building and maintaining the best transportation system, ensuring the safety of all roadway users, and to operating the county roadway system in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner.

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