



Cowlitz County

Department of Public Works
1600 – 13th Avenue South
Kelso, WA 98626
www.co.cowlitz.wa.us

News Release

July 29, 2021

Road Delays for the week of August 2-7, 2021

Contact

Mark Koelsch
Public Works, Project
Manager/Communications
Phone: (360) 577-3030
koelschm@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Road Striping:

Drivers may encounter slow moving paint striping trucks as they **continue working daily next week on roads in rural Cowlitz County**. Due to the typically short notice of specific roads to be painted by the contractor on a given day, we are unable to provide a list with this notice. Please monitor the Department of Public Works Facebook page for updates. The 2021 Striping program is expected to continue into mid-August.

Motorists encountering the lead buffer truck are asked to wait until the last truck has passed before entering the roadway. **Drivers behind, or travelling opposite of the painting operation, should not cross the paint lines. Per WAC 308-330-412, it is unlawful to drive across freshly applied markings.** If vehicles do need to exit the roadway, they should proceed slowly at a 90 degree angle. Paint drying times will depend on weather, but it is generally dry within five minutes.

Chip Sealing:

Drivers may encounter delays as chip sealing operations are scheduled to resume **Monday to Thursday, August 2-5 in the Castle Rock area**.

Chip sealing is the primary surface type throughout Cowlitz County. Crews place a thin layer of oil, followed by specific rock chips. Sweepers ensure an even rock application while a roller packs the rocks into the oil. Within a week crews will return to sweep any excess rock that has not bonded to the oil surface, often multiple times over several weeks. The treatment is applied approximately every seven years to keep roads in good quality. Chip seal is a cost-effective preservation treatment. Flaggers will direct traffic during chip sealing operations.

Roads scheduled for Chip Sealing (August 2-4) include: Bush Loop, Suthard Road, Leonard Loop, Delameter Lane, Oller Road, Crimmins Road, Schulke Road, Bosler Loop, Garlock Road, Hazel Dell Road, Melton Road, and Monahan Road. **Roads scheduled within the City of Castle Rock (Thursday, August 5) include:** Cowlitz Street, 3rd Avenue SW, Helton Street, Green Street, Larue Street, Pioneer Avenue, McCoy Street, Walsh Avenue and Old Pacific Highway North.

Due to equipment limitations, 2021 chip sealing operations will be scaled back. Some roads originally planned for 2021 will be rescheduled for 2022. Roads in the Kelso and Woodland areas are scheduled for the weeks of August 9-12 and 16-19. A list of those roads will be released when available.

Road striping and chip sealing operations are weather dependent. Moisture and temperature conditions may slow or postpone operations. Projected schedules are approximate.

Please use caution near construction zones and obey the directions of construction personnel and traffic control devices.

Paint striping, chip sealing, culvert replacements and road improvements are scheduled throughout the summer. For up-to-date information please call the Department of Public Works at (360) 577-3030, or visit our website at www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/publicworks, or the Cowlitz County Department of Public Works Facebook page.

~End~