

**CUSTER COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
**420 MT.RUSHMORE RD**  
**CUSTER, SD 57730**  
**PHONE: 605-673-8174**

## **APPROACHES**

### **General Information**

Private roads and driveways are considered to extend as far as the edge of the driving surface of the public road (the through-traffic, or traveled lanes). The approach is that portion of the driveway that crosses the public right-of-way from the right-of-way boundary to the edge of the driving surface. The road's shoulder extends from the edge of the driving surface to the point where the inside slope of the adjacent drainage ditch beyond (see diagram).

The construction and maintenance of an approach and any appurtenances is the responsibility of the landowner and/or permit holder. The landowner and/or permit holder is responsible for the repair, removal or relocation of any public or private utility within the public right-of-way. All materials used in construction within the public right-of-way or on permanent easements shall become public property.

Approaches to public roads are to be located to best advantage in relation to sight distances, grade and curve profiles, and road alignment. As nearly as possible, approaches should be positioned at right angles to the intersecting road.

### **Approach Permits**

To avoid delays in the application process, all items for the application request must be complete at time of submittal. All required permit fees must be paid when the permit is issued. Work begun before the required permit has been obtained will be subject to a late application fee.

1. Approach permits must be obtained prior to the construction of an approach.
2. One (1) approach will be allowed for each lot, tract, and parcel of land unless otherwise first approved by the Planning Department.
3. Secondary approaches may be considered, but are not limited to: geography, drainage, population or housing density, parcel size (road frontage). The County Commissioners shall make the determination whether a secondary approach will be allowed.
4. The Planning Department, shall inspect the approach site before and during construction and upon completion of the approach to determine that all conditions and requirements of the Approach Specifications have been met. Reconstruction, improvement or removal of the approach may be required when the landowner and/or

permit holder has failed to meet required specifications with respect to design or materials.

5. If the work described in the approach permit has not been substantially completed within one (1) year of the date of issuance thereof, said Permit shall expire.
6. When construction of the approach has been completed, contact the Custer County Planning Department to schedule a final inspection. A 911 address will be assigned after completion and final inspection of the approach.

### **CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Approaches shall be built with a minimum road base width of twenty-four (24'), a minimum shoulder radius of twenty-five feet (25'), and a driving surface at least twenty-four feet (24') wide with at least four inches (4") of gravel compacted to a uniform consistency.
2. For a minimum distance of thirty feet (30') before a private road or driveway approach intersects with the edge of the driving surface of the road, a vertical gradient of zero percent (0%) plus or minus two percent (+/- 2%) is required.
3. The edges of a private road or driveway are required to be connected to the edge of the driving surface of the road. Approaches with lesser shoulder radii may be allowed with the approval of the Planning Department.

### **DRAINAGE**

1. All private roads and driveways must be constructed so as not to impair existing roadway drainage systems and ditches. Drainage structures are required to be of a size, type and length to ensure proper drainage at the approach site. (see SDCL 31-24-7)
2. The minimum size required for culverts is eighteen inches (18") in diameter. The minimum lengths required are thirty feet (30') or thirty-two feet (32'). Culverts must be constructed of concrete or galvanized material; however, doublewalled plastic pipe may be used with the prior approval of the Planning Department.
3. The required minimum bottom depth of ditches at all culvert inlets and outlets is two and one-half feet (2½') below the driving surface. Certain installations may require ditch improvement to achieve proper drainage.
4. Approval of the Planning Department is required prior to the installation of any drainage structure.

Approach is the shaded area.

