

Scenic Roads Maintenance and Improvements

by the

**Woodstock Planning & Zoning Commission
Woodstock Board of Selectmen
Woodstock Department of Public Works**

May 19, 2011

In addition to the activities designated herein as maintenance, all other activities are set forth in Section 4a of the “Ordinance Concerning the Designation of Scenic Roads”.

Type of Activity	Maintenance	Alteration or Improvement	
Any unclear work types require a discussion with the Commission.			
Road Surface:			
Grading	X		
Fill Potholes	X		
Fill Ruts	X		
Dust Control	X		
Fill Soft Spots and Sink Holes	X		
Add Material (see note)	X	X	
Change Width (see note)		X	
Ditches:			
Repair Erosion	X		
Cleaning	X		
Re-establish Cover (see note)	X		
Remove Winter Blockage	X		
Installation (see note)		X	
Culverts:			
Clean Inlet/Outlet	X		
Clean/Flush	X		
Mow or Remove Brush	X		
Replant/Install Erosion Control	X		
Repair/Replace Head or End Walls (see note)	X		
<p>Outlet Protection: Any work done under this category is to prevent erosion and sediment from entering a stream or river and to maintain good water quality. Any new installation would be an improvement and will be reported to the Planning and Zoning Commission prior to starting such work.</p>			

Type of Activity	Maintenance	Alteration or Improvement	
Bank Stabilization:			
Regrading (see note)	X	X	
Conversion of Vegetation or cover	X		
Replanting/Reseeding	X		
Installation of Rip Rap, Etc...	X		
Erosion & Sediment Control:			
Any Installation Including Catch Basins (see note)	X	X	
Other:			
Cutting/Pruning (see note)	X		
Removal of Invasive Plants	X		
Beavers	X		
Disposal of Excess Materials	X		
Temporary Storage of Materials	X		
Activity Required by Authorities		X	
Notes:			
Road surface add materials: maintenance: sand/salt mix for winter and 1-¼ inch stone or gravel for mud season; improvement: change in the surface materials of the road			
Change width: when maintaining drainage swales it may appear that the road is being widened if such work stays within the original right of way; many drainage swales may not have been cleaned in many years.			
Re-establish cover: plant grass; add stone or rip rap to stabilize slopes			
Ditch installation: areas that need drainage swales			
Repair/replace head or end walls: includes installation with materials consistent with those used elsewhere on the road			
Bank regrading: maintenance procedure if slope washes out or caves in			
Erosion & sediment control: to stabilize the soil and for prevention of erosion and sediment washing into wetlands and watercourses and to maintain good water quality			
Cutting/pruning: dead or hazardous trees and branches; see Tree and Brush Cutting Policy			

ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF SCENIC ROADS

Adopted: April 22, 1986

Effective: May 15, 1986

SECTION 1 Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-149(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes (P.A. 81-401), the Planning Commission may designate town highways or portions of highways as scenic roads. No state highway or portion thereof may be designated as a scenic road under this ordinance.

SECTION 2 The Planning Commission shall consider designating as a scenic road only those town roads which are free of intensive commercial development and intensive vehicular traffic and which meet at least one of the following criteria:

- 2.a It is unpaved,
- 2.b It is bordered by mature trees or stone walls,
- 2.c The travel portion is no more than 20 feet in width,
- 2.d It offers scenic views,
- 2.e It blends naturally into the surrounding terrain, or,
- 2.f It parallels or crosses over brooks, streams, lakes or ponds.

SECTION 3

3.a When a highway is to be considered for designation as a scenic road, the Planning Commission shall schedule a public hearing on the proposal. Hearing notices and deadlines will be in accordance with the provisions of Section 8-26(d) and (h) and 8-26(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Planning commission shall notify the Selectmen, the highway foreman, and owners of lot frontage abutting the highway or portion of a highway of the proposed designation and scheduled public hearing.

3.b Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission shall vote on the proposed designation. No highway or portion of a highway may be designated as a scenic road under this section unless the owners of a majority of lot frontage abutting a highway or a portion of

the highway agree to the designation by filing a written statement of approval with the Town Clerk of the Town of Woodstock. The designation shall become effective upon such date as the Planning Commission may establish.

3.c The scenic road designation may be rescinded by the Planning Commission, using the same procedures and having the written concurrence of the owners of a majority of lot frontage abutting the highway.

3.d Any person aggrieved by a designation of a highway or a portion of a highway as a scenic road pursuant to this Section by the Planning Commission may appeal such designation in the manner in utilizing the same standards of review provided for appeals from the decisions of Planning Commissions under Section 8-28.

SECTION 4

4.a No road which has been designated as a scenic road under this ordinance shall be altered or improved, including but not limited to, widening of the right of way or of the travel portion of the road, paving, changes of grade, removal of stone bridges, straightening, removal of stone walls, and removal of mature trees, except for good cause determined by the Planning Commission. Prior to the Planning Commission approving any alteration or improvement of a road designated as a scenic road under this ordinance. The Planning Commission shall schedule a public hearing on the proposed alteration or improvement. The Planning Commission shall notify the Selectmen, the highway supervisor, and owners of lot frontage abutting the highway or portion of the highway designated as a scenic road of the proposed alteration and improvement and scheduled public hearing. Hearing notices and deadlines shall be in accordance with the Provisions of Section 8-26D and 8-26E of the Connecticut General Statutes. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission shall vote on the proposed future alterations and improvements and shall state the reasons for any such approved alterations or improvements in its minutes.

4.b Any highway or portion of any highway designated as a scenic road shall be maintained by the Town, in good and sufficient repair and is in passable condition. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to prohibit a person owning or occupying land abutting a scenic road for maintaining and repairing the land which abuts the scenic road if the maintenance or repair occurs on land not within the right of way, paved or unpaved on the scenic road.

SECTION 5

This ordinance will become effective 15 days following its publication in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Woodstock.

Currently, the following roads are designated as scenic in Woodstock, including 15 improved gravel and paved scenic roads for a total of 9.83 (dirt) and 2.32 (paved) miles:

Road Name	Year Designated	Distance (miles)	Type
Barber Road	1986	0.52 +1.06	improved gravel & paved
Bradford Corner Road	2006	1.03	paved
Bull Hill Road	1999	0.54	improved gravel
Camp Road	1986	1.10	improved gravel
Center Cemetery Road	1988	0.96	improved gravel
Corbin Road	1987	0.08	improved gravel
Dividend Road	1986	0.69	improved gravel
Marcy Road	1986	0.69	improved gravel
Phelps Road	2000	0.61	improved gravel
Pulpit Rock Road	1986	1.39 + 0.23	improved gravel + improved paved
Quarry Road	1991	1.49	improved gravel
Roxbury Road	2006	0.49	improved gravel
Sherman Road (dirt section)	1989	0.55	improved gravel
Smith Road	1988	0.72	improved gravel

Adapted from the Woodstock Conservation Commission