Private Roads - Not County Maintained

If a road in an unincorporated area is private, (not accepted into the MCDOT roadway system) and you want to grade the road, there are important permitting considerations:

To determine if the road is located within a regulated floodplain, contact the Flood Control District at 602-506-1501 or review the maps at www.fcd.maricopa.gov.

If the road is within a regulated floodplain, a Floodplain Use Permit and Grading Permit will be required. Permits would be obtained through the Planning & Development Department (P&D) at 602-506-3301 or to review the process, visit www.Maricopa.gov/planning.

If the road is not located within a floodplain or defined wash, maintenance of an unpaved road may not require a Grading Permit from P&D. Permits are not required provided:

→ existing roadway storm water flow pattern is not altered;
→ existing roadway grade/elevations, are not changed by more than 12 inches.

A Dust Permit from the Air Quality Department will be required if 0.1 acre or more is disturbed.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
2901 W. Durango St., Phoenix, AZ  85009
602-506-8600
www.mcdot.maricopa.gov/contact

AIR QUALITY DEPARTMENT
1001 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ  85004
602-506-6010
www.maricopa.gov/aq

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
501 N. 44th St., 2nd Fl., Phoenix, AZ  85008
602-506-3301
www.maricopa.gov/planning

FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
2801 W. Durango St., Phoenix, AZ  85009
602-506-1501
www.fcd.maricopa.gov

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS
2901 W. Durango St., Phoenix, AZ  85009
602-506-8797
www.mcdot.maricopa.gov/mcid

Updated 1/10/2018
Dust Control Measures

Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) and MCDOT are committed to reducing airborne pollutants to improve air quality for everyone. A few simple actions to help reduce dust on unpaved roads and the impact to your property are:

- Reduce speed—drive slowly
- Use gravel, sand, straw, wood chips, or other dust suppressants on private roads and driveways
- Install windscreens or shade cloth on chain link fencing for windblown dust
- Grow vegetation around your property

MCAQD regulates unpaved roads and easements where more than 150 vehicle trips per day, and those owned or maintained by Federal, State, County, Municipal, or other governmental or quasi-governmental (supported by the government but managed privately) agencies.

MCAQD does not regulate private unpaved roads unless, 0.1 acre or more is disturbed during construction or maintenance activities.

MCDOT’s maintenance and construction activities are performed in accordance with MCAQD and EPA requirements and part of a larger countywide plan to reduce particulate air pollution.

Unpaved Roads

Before taking any action to control dust, it is important to determine the ownership and which government agency controls the road.

In rural areas of Maricopa County, many unpaved roads are private ingress/egress easements. Some may have been dedicated for public use, but may or may not have been accepted into the Department of Transportation’s (MCDOT) roadway maintenance system.

It is also important to know if and at what location a roadway passes into another government jurisdiction. Other road conditions may include drainage concerns or regulated floodplains.

To determine roadway ownership/jurisdiction please click on the MCDOT Roadway Information Tool link: http://gis.maricopa.gov/RoadInformationPublic

County Improvement District

If you live on a road that is not maintained by the County, in the unincorporated areas of the county, you may be eligible to form a County Improvement District (CID) to maintain or pave your road. CID’s allow residents to get together and petition to improve their neighborhoods.

Residents can initiate the request for a petition to form a CID with the Office of Superintendent of Streets. It is important to recognize the right-of-way easements and the improvements must be dedicated to the County. Moreover, the property owners within the CID are perpetually responsible for the costs of any improvements.

Among the many types of CID’s are two types of road improvement districts:
- Maintenance Improvement District (MID)
- Paving Improvement District (PID)

For more information on County Improvement Districts contact the Office of the Superintendent of Streets at 602-506-8797.

File a dust complaint with the Air Quality Department by calling 602-506-6010.