

Activity 138 Fence Maintenance

Description

Activity 138 involves inspecting, maintaining, repairing, and replacing right-of-way and access control fence and cattleguards, except cattleguard legends, along roadways to restrict access and control livestock. It involves any work on gates and gateways in the fence.

General Instructions

Fences along Interstate highways are the responsibility of ODOT. Fences along other State highways may be the responsibility of ODOT or they may be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The Transportation Maintenance Manager must be aware of responsible ownership of all fences in the maintenance area. To identify proper ownership, work with the District Manager to review the right-of-way description for the parcel and determine ownership of the fence and specific agreement for the purpose and/or maintenance of fences.

If an adjacent property owner or tenant places animals on the adjacent property, the property owner or tenant is responsible for properly containing those animals. This may require the property owner or tenant to erect a suitable fence if the ODOT fence is incapable of properly containing the animals.

Generally, maintain or repair fence when the fence:

- Has been damaged, knocked down, etc. by natural or unknown causes or by persons or animals, according to the right-of-way description agreement for the fence, and the fence is needed for its intended purpose.
- Has been damaged by maintenance activities.
- Has outlived its useful life and no longer serves the intended purpose.
- Has been damaged by a crash or incident. Perform this repair under Activity 149 or 305.

Generally, do not specifically repair or maintain fence:

- Because the fence is unable to control domestic animals on the adjacent property. This is the animal owner's responsibility.
- If fence will be replaced under an upcoming construction contract and the damage does not warrant immediate repair.
- If vegetation in the fence line provides needed separation of property and uses and neither ODOT nor the adjacent owner will remove the vegetation.

Replace or repair fence with the same type of material as the existing fence. If the use of the adjacent property has changed and a different type of fence is needed, work with the District Manager to establish funding and install proper fencing under Activity 304.

Refer to the ODOT Standard Drawings for Design and Construction for specific details regarding the fence installation and materials.

If damage to a fence allows unwanted access to the roadway area, repair the damage promptly. If it does not present an immediate problem, schedule the repair as part of the normal workload.

Inspect fences frequently, normally as part of routine patrol, to detect needed maintenance and repair. Cursorily inspect fences, preferably on an annual basis, to detect deterioration and defects hidden in vegetation, etc. and to identify and schedule needed maintenance, repair, replacement, or improvement.

Maintain and repair cattleguards, according to the agreement for the cattleguard, to properly contain livestock.

Refer to Activity 137 when working on fences around rest areas.

Refer to Activity 141 when working on cattleguard legends applied on the roadway.

Refer to Activity 149 when repairing damage caused by a crash or incident and ODOT will not attempt to recover the repair costs from the responsible party.

Refer to Activity 305 when repairing damage caused by a crash or incident and ODOT will attempt to recover the repair costs from the responsible party.

Refer to Activity 179 when working on snow fence.

Refer to Activity F03 when working on fence around stockpile sites or other building sites.

Refer to Activity 304 when upgrading the fence type.

Controlling Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollutants or Contaminants

Plan and implement methods to control erosion, sedimentation, and pollutants or contaminants, including those discussed in the Control of Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollutants or Contaminants section of this Guide and the ODOT *Routine Road Maintenance Water Quality and Habitat Guide Best Management Practices*.

As appropriate, implement and maintain devices and processes including those described in the *Field Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control*.

Temporary Protection and Direction of Traffic

Plan, implement, and maintain traffic control as addressed in the *Traffic Control on State Highways for Short Term Work Zones* handbook.

Equipment

Select equipment suitable for the work and situation.

Materials

Materials may include:

- Fence fabric or wire, with needed fasteners, etc.
- Posts, including concrete for footings as required.
- Appropriate materials to maintain or repair cattleguards.

Work Method

1. Identify needed maintenance or repair and obtain needed materials.
2. Implement appropriate traffic control.
3. Implement appropriate methods to control erosion and sedimentation.
4. Remove unwanted vegetation to allow fence repair.
5. Perform needed maintenance or repairs.
6. Remove traffic control.
7. Dispose of removed or waste material in an appropriate location.

Measurement of Accomplishment, Expenditure Account, and Charge Activity

Measurement is the length, in feet (meters), repaired or maintained. Expenditure account type is Highway EA. Designate a subjob of 800 if the work involves bicycle path facilities.

- Charge all work to TEAMS Activity 138.