

Adams County Dust Control Policy for Gravel (Unpaved) Roads

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to allow residents to control dust on gravel-surfaced county roads adjacent to their property while ensuring environmental compliance, road integrity, public safety, and consistent application practices. Dust control applications on county-maintained gravel roads are permitted only under this policy.

Approved Dust Control Products

Only the following products are approved for use as dust suppressants on county gravel roads:

- Calcium Chloride (flake or liquid form)
- Magnesium Chloride (liquid form)
- Lignin Sulfonate (also known as lignin or tree sap/resin binder)

No other products, materials, or blends are permitted without prior written approval from the County Engineer. All products must meet Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and applicable EPA guidelines for environmental safety, runoff prevention, and non-toxicity when applied as directed.

Application Requirements and Restrictions

- Dust control product may only be applied by **approved contractors** holding a valid permit from the Adams County Engineer's Office. Residents or unauthorized parties are not permitted to apply dust control products themselves.
- A list of approved contractors is available from the Adams County Engineer's office.
- Approved contractors must provide and deliver bright colored plastic flags to the county engineer's office to be available for residents to pick up. Residents are responsible for placing and maintaining clearly visible flags designating dust control areas from May 1st until October 1st, in accordance with county standards and safety regulations.
- Approved contractors must provide the Adams County Engineer's office with a complete list of applicants no later than one week after the May 1st application deadline. The list must contain applicant's full name, location (township, section & E911 address) and length of application and indicate if there will be a second application applied or first application only. The preferred (but not required) format of the list would be in an excel spreadsheet.
- Applications shall not interfere with normal road maintenance activities (e.g., blading, grading) performed by county crews. The Adams County Engineer's office must be notified by approved contractors at least 5 working days in advance of any planned application so the road can be prepared, if needed. Due to various weather and working conditions, approved contractors must call the engineer's office to confirm that the locations have been prepared and are ready for application.

Application Signup, Payment and Deadline

- The deadline to sign up for the season (including eligibility for the first application) is **May 1st. No additions, changes, or new signups will be accepted after May 1st.**
- All residents desiring dust control must contact approved contractors for application forms and rates and submit a completed form and payment directly to the approved contractor of choice. Applications must be received by approved contractors on or before the application deadline of **May 1st**.
- Applications received after May 1st are not eligible for the first (spring/summer) application but may qualify for the second application only if submitted and approved before the second application window (typically after **August 1st**). Late applicants are subject to availability, contractor scheduling, and any additional fees or restrictions.
- Adams County does not subsidize or collect payments; billing and collection are between the resident and contractor.

Additional Provisions

- Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to road conditions, weather, traffic volume, and county resources.
- The county reserves the right to deny, or revoke permits if applications do not comply with this policy or if the product/contractor fails to meet standards.
- Residents are responsible for full payment of application costs (rates set annually by the approved contractors).
- This policy complies with Iowa DNR fugitive dust regulations and does not authorize use of unapproved products that could violate environmental rules.
- Adams County does not apply dust control unless a route (or segment) has been established as a haul route (or detour) for an approved construction project.
- To prepare roads for winter conditions, Adams County will begin blading through dust-controlled areas after October 1st
- Adams County reserves the right to blade through any dust treated areas at any time. Issues that may result in blading treated areas include but are not limited to washing or rutting.
- Adams County will not be responsible for replacing or reapplying dust control if maintenance activities require cutting through or disturbing the existing dust control treatment.

For the approved contractor list or additional information, contact the Adams County Engineer's Office at 2004 200th St., Corning, IA 50841; phone 641-322-3910; email engineerofc@AdamsCounty.Iowa.Gov; or visit the county website at adamscounty.iowa.gov/engineer.

This policy is effective immediately and subject to annual review/update by the County Engineer. Board approved on 2/9/26