

<b>Policy Number:</b>	<b>C-427</b>
<b>Policy Owner:</b>	<b>Transportation Services</b>
<b>Adopted By:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>Adoption Date:</b>	<b>2010 July 06</b>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>2010 July 06</b>
<b>Date Last Amended:</b>	<b>2019 September 10</b>
<b>Date Last Reviewed:</b>	<b>2019 August 28</b>

## Purpose

- 1 This policy establishes a consistent approach to ditch and culvert management across the Rocky View County (the County).



## Policy Statement

- 2 The County is committed to ditch management best practices that prioritize public safety.
- 3 This policy applies to ditches and culverts within road allowances controlled by the County under the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c M-26.
- 4 The County's ditch management policy is intended to promote and facilitate water runoff from road allowances toward the most appropriate natural drainage course.



## Policy

- 5 Ditches adjacent to County roads are for the conveyance and storage of surface water runoff. Ditches reduce flow velocities and provide detention of the runoff from frequent rainstorm events.
- 6 The County may use ditches to store snow removed from County roads.
- 7 The County keeps ditches clear of vegetation, as much as is practicable, to facilitate water conveyance and to provide snow storage areas, in accordance with County policy C-409, Road Brushing.

- 8 Areas where water ponding is demonstrated to be adversely affecting the road base shall, where practicable, be redesigned to improve the flow of standing water.
- 9 The County maintains ditches to reduce impacts on surface water from overland drainage, as appropriate.
- 10 Landscaping and contour changes within a County ditch or road allowance are not permitted, except for the purpose of sediment control or erosion control.
- 11 The County must approve in writing any work within a County ditch or road allowance prior to commencement of such work.
- 12 County residents with existing landscaping within adjacent road allowances may be asked to remove said landscaping, in accordance with sections 13.11 and 13.12 of the *Roads and Transportation Bylaw*.



## References

Legal Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c M-26</li> </ul>
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rocky View County Bylaw C-5775-2003, <i>Roads and Transportation Bylaw</i></li> <li>• Rocky View County policy C-409, Road Brushing</li> </ul>
Related Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rocky View County procedure PRO-409, Road Brushing</li> <li>• Rocky View County procedure PRO-427, Ditch Management</li> </ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>



## Policy History

Amendment Date(s) – Amendment Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 April 5 – Amended by Policies and Priorities Committee to address issue of landowners landscaping into County controlled road rights-of-way</li> <li>• 2019 September 10 – Amended by Council for clarity and current practices and standards</li> </ul>
Review Date(s) – Review Outcome Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 August 28 – Minor amendments needed for clarity and formatting</li> </ul>



## Definitions

13 In this policy:

- (1) “Council” means the duly elected Council of Rocky View County;
- (2) “County” means Rocky View County;
- (3) “*Municipal Government Act*” means the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c M-26, as amended or replaced from time to time;
- (4) “roads” means roads as defined in the *Municipal Government Act* and includes both carriageways and rights-of-way;
- (5) “*Roads and Transportation Bylaw*” means Rocky View County’s Bylaw C-5775-2003, *Roads and Transportation Bylaw*, as amended or replaced from time to time;
- (6) “Road Brushing” means Rocky View County’s policy C-409, Road Brushing, as amended or replaced from time to time;
- (7) “Rocky View County” means Rocky View County as a municipal corporation and the geographical area within its jurisdictional boundaries, as the context requires; and
- (8) “surface water” means water bodies such as lakes, ponds, wetlands, rivers, and streams, as well as groundwater with a direct and immediate hydrological connection to surface water.