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SECTION 8: MAILBOXES AND NEWSPAPER DELIVERY BOXES

8.1 APPLICABILITY

All mailboxes and newspapers delivery boxes located within County rights-of-way shall conform to the standards set forth in this section.

8.2 STANDARDS

No mailbox or newspaper delivery box (hereafter referred to as mailbox) will be allowed within the County right-of-way if it interferes with the traveling public or the function, maintenance or operation of the roadway system. The location and construction of mailboxes shall conform to the rules and regulation of the U.S. Postal Service and the following standards established based on A Guide for Erecting Mailboxes on Highways, published by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, 1994.

8.3 LOCATION

A. The ROADSIDE FACE OF THE BOX SHALL BE OFFSET THE FOLLOWING DISTANCES:

- Paved road- the width of the shoulder plus one foot.
- Gravel road- one foot from the edge of the traveled portion on the roadway.
- Curbed street- one foot from the face of the curb

B. Where a mailbox is located at an intersecting road it shall be placed a minimum of 100 feet beyond the center of the intersecting road in the direction of the delivery route. This distance should be increased to 200 feet when the average daily traffic on the intersecting road exceeds 400 vehicles per day.

C. Where a mailbox is installed in the vicinity of an existing guardrail, whenever practical, it shall be placed behind the guardrail.

D. Mailbox turnouts are encouraged on all new road construction and on reconstruction.

8.4 STRUCTURE

A. Mailboxes shall be constructed from sheet metal, plastic or similar weight materials and shall not exceed 11 pounds. No more than two mailboxes shall be mounted on a support structure unless the support structure and mailbox arrangement have been shown to be safe by crash testing, approved by the U.S.

Department of Transportation. Newspaper boxes may be mounted below the mailbox on the side of the mailbox support.

B. Multiple mailbox installations must meet the same criteria as do single mailbox installations. This requirement precludes the use of a heavy horizontal support members. It is recommended that mailbox supports be separated a distance at least equal to three-fourths of their heights and preferably their full heights above ground. It is also preferred that multiple mailbox installations be located outside the road clear zone.

C. A single 4 inch x 4 inch square or 4 inch diameter wooden post, or a metal post with strength no greater than a 2-inch diameter standard steel pipe and embedded no more than 24 inches into the ground will be acceptable as a mailbox support. A metal post shall not be fitted with an anchor plate, but may have an anti-twist device that extends no more than 10 inches below the ground surface. Larger wooden posts may be used provided the posts have drilled holes and the support design has been shown to be safe by crash testing, approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

D. The post-to-box attachment details should be of sufficient strength to prevent the box from separating from the post top if the installation is struck by a vehicle.

8.5 REMOVAL AND LIABILITY

The owner, upon notification by the Road and Bridge Department, shall remove any new mailbox installation that is in violation of Section 7. Bonner County shall not be liable for damage to any mailbox that does not meet the requirements of section 7, nor is it liable for any damage due to an installation being damaged by snow during snow removal operations.