



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD
SECRETARY

DME MEMORANDUM NUMBER 08-13

DATE: October 31, 2013
TO: District Maintenance Engineers
FROM: Tim Lattner, P.E., Director, Office of Maintenance
COPIES: Kristin McCrary, Tim Allen
SUBJECT: MRP FY 13/14 – Litter Hazard

Based on discussion of issues related to the definition of a litter hazard at the September DME meeting and the Asset Maintenance Liaison meeting I have decided to make the following changes related to evaluation of the litter characteristic of the Maintenance Rating Program.

For the first MRP Period which ended on October 31st, 2013.

If your teams have documented and can separate out the sample points that did not meet litter conditions due to a hazard condition only, then change those litter scores to a YES. If the teams rated the points NO due to litter volume leave it rated as a NO.

For the second and third MRP periods.

The MRP task team has been tasked with development of a new definition for the litter hazard but in the interim we will use the following:

LITTER REMOVAL: The volume of litter does not exceed 3 cubic feet per acre excluding all travel way pavement. No unauthorized graffiti/stickers within the state right-of-way on state owned property. No litter hazards are present in the roadway or on the paved shoulder.

Litter Removal – Removal of litter and graffiti from roadway and roadside areas is performed for aesthetic and safety reasons. It is desired to present a pleasing appearance to the motoring and pedestrian traffic, but is more important to provide safety. Litter in the roadway and on paved shoulders present an increased possibility of hazards to the traveling public.

Litter or debris may consist of varied sizes of bottles, cans, paper, tires, tire pieces, lumber, building materials, furniture, household items, dead animals, livestock, vehicle parts, metal junk, fallen trees, tree limbs greater than 1 inch in diameter, brush, campaign and advertising signs, and other debris.

Evaluation: The evaluation area for litter includes the mowing areas, parking areas, paved shoulders, crossovers, all medians, sidewalks, bike paths, driveways, traffic separators, gutters, travel way, and drainage structures. The evaluation area for unauthorized graffiti and/or stickers is all surfaces on state owned property within the right-of-way.

Calculation: Determine the number of acres in the mowing area within the sample point. Calculate the number of cubic feet of litter within the right-of-way of the sample point. If the volume of litter exceeds 3 cubic feet per acre, then the sample point does not meet MRP standards for Litter Removal.

(The travel way pavement includes through lanes, turn lanes and bi-directional lanes).

Do not include the volume of litter in the portion of the right-of-way that is continually under water.

Litter in the travel way or on the paved shoulder has the potential of being a hazard. For MRP purposes; a hazard is defined as the following:

- In the travel way or on the paved shoulders any object greater than 1/2 square foot in area and exceeds 1/2 inch in height.
- Any rigid protrusions above the ground greater than 4 inches in height located in the clear zone.

Note: If the hazard is in the roadway it should be called into the local maintaining maintenance unit, if it can be removed safely from the roadway by the rating team, the object should be placed in a safer location, and rate the characteristic "N" for not meeting.

Items (leaves, bagged trash, tree-trimming residue) that appear to be those which will be picked up during the normal waste collection process will not be considered as litter.

Litter Removal does not meet MRP standards when any of the following exist:

1. There is more than 3 cubic feet of litter per acre within the right-of-way of the sample point.
2. Any object in the roadway or paved shoulder greater than 1/2 sq. ft. in area, and exceeds 1/2 inch in height.
3. Any rigid protrusions above the ground greater than 4 inches in height located in the clear zone.
4. Any form of unauthorized graffiti and/or stickers on any state owned surface within the right-of-way.

If you have any questions please contact Kristin McCrary at 850-410-5694.