
272 Hardscape Designs

272.1 General

This chapter provides the criteria and requirements for hardscape features.

Hardscape is any non-living structure or feature included within a landscape design. Hardscape-only projects are not landscape projects. Examples of hardscape include:

- Landscape borders (e.g., stone, bricks, and concrete)
- Planters, fountains, or other Community Aesthetic Features
- Retaining walls or sidewalks
- Benches and decks
- Wayfinding signage
- Transit stops
- Pavers for driveways, paths, plazas, or patios

See **FDM 944** for Hardscape Plan content and Construction Cost Estimate.

272.2 Hardscape Design Requirements

Hardscape designs must comply with the following requirements:

- (1) Be compatible with the maintaining agency's preferences, abilities, and resources. Request proprietary product certification when applicable.
- (2) Preserve visibility of Community Aesthetic Features, highway signing, and permitted outdoor advertising signs.
- (3) Be compatible with above and below ground utilities.
- (4) Support community efforts for economic development, urban revitalizations, and aesthetic enhancements. See **FDM 127** for hardscape identified as a Community Aesthetic Feature.
- (5) Meet vertical and horizontal clearance requirements for pedestrian and bicycle facilities in **FDM 222, 223, and 224**.
- (6) Meet lateral offset or clear zone requirements in **FDM 215**.

- (7) Meet sight distance requirements in **FDM 210**.
- (8) Meet intersection sight distance in **FDM 212**.
- (9) Use materials that are low maintenance and durable.
- (10) When possible, use recycled or recyclable materials.
- (11) Comply with:
 - (a) Florida Building Code
 - (b) Florida Administrative Code