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