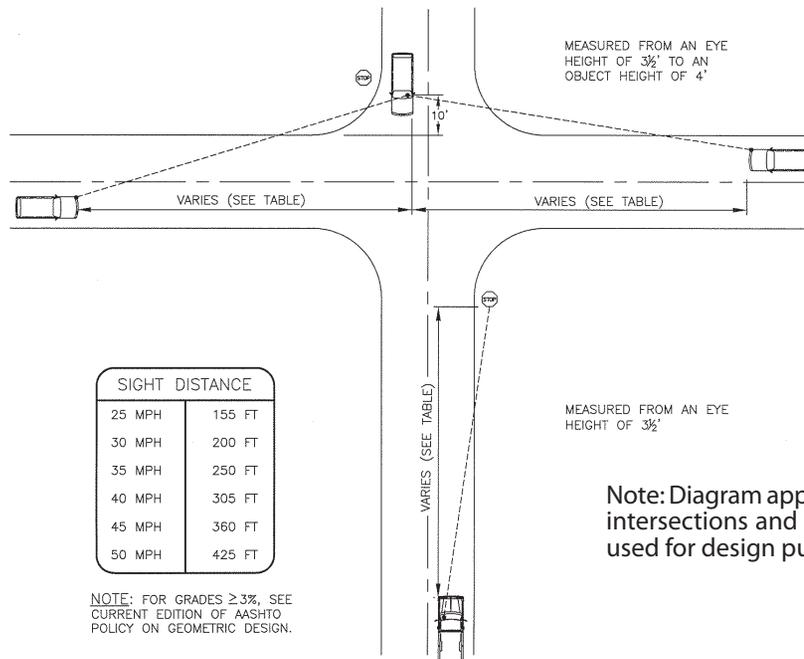




## Sight Distance Requirements



Note: Diagram applies to existing intersections and should not be used for design purposes.



All trees, hedges, billboards, or other obstructions which prevent persons from having a clear view of traffic approaching an intersection from cross streets in sufficient time to bring a motor vehicle driven at a reasonable speed to a full stop before the intersection is reached are declared a nuisance.

Property owners may choose to remove vegetation in cracks and maintain adjacent areas to the edge of the street. The City will not spray or mow obviously maintained areas.

For further information contact

**The City of Bellingham**  
 Public Works Operations Division  
 2221 Pacific Street  
 Bellingham WA 98229

Phone: (360) 778-7700, Fax: (360) 778-7701 website:  
[www.cob.org](http://www.cob.org)

# Controlling Vegetation in the City of Bellingham



Controlling vegetation is the responsibility of the City as well as the property owners in Bellingham. Please do your part to keep our streets and sidewalks safe and our city beautiful and green.

# Who's Responsible for What?

The City of Bellingham Public Works Department is responsible for ensuring vegetation does not obstruct legal sight distance or encroach upon streets and sidewalks. The Street Division will enforce compliance with the vegetation ordinance by notifying the property owners when vegetation is found to be obstructing legal sight distance (see back) or the traveled way portion of any street, alley or sidewalk. All trees or shrubbery must be maintained to a minimum height of 15 feet over a street and 8 feet over a sidewalk (full width).

## CLEAN GREEN PROGRAM

The Bellingham Clean Green Transfer Station accepts residential yard waste from Whatcom County residents. The cost for this service is \$10 per load and the station is open 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Saturdays and Sundays, April through October. Located on the corner of Woburn and Lakeway in Bellingham.

## DRAINAGE

The Street Division will, when notified, remove any vegetation obstructing the free flow of water through the storm drainage system.

## MOWING

The City will maintain roadside vegetation by mowing in the following areas:

- ▶ Four (4) feet behind the back edge of a curb when there is no sidewalk.
- ▶ Four (4) feet beyond the edge of the paved roadway.
- ▶ Drainage ditches and slopes of those ditches.

## SPRAYING

The City will spray any grass in sidewalk cracks, curbs and gutters and up to 18" off the edge of the established roadway. Any chemicals applied to control vegetation will be applied by licensed persons.

## TREES

The abutting property owner shall maintain street trees and other vegetation located on planting strips adjacent to streets except those trees listed in the City maintenance responsibility list. For a detailed list of trees under City responsibility, please contact the Public Works department at 778-7700.

No person shall perform major pruning or remove trees in planting strips, improved right-of-ways, or other public places. No person shall authorize any person to trim, prune or remove trees in public places, without first obtaining a street tree permit.

No person shall plant trees or shrubs in improved right-of-ways without first obtaining a street tree permit.

Street tree applications may be obtained by contacting the City of Bellingham's Permit Center at 210 Lottie Street in City Hall.  
Phone: 778-8300 / Fax: 778-8301

