FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I know if I can widen my driveway?

The total site coverage of your property will affect the size of driveway you are allowed. The Development Officer will help you determine your property's site coverage.

What do I do if I have a driveway that is wider than the standard set by the Land Use Bylaw?

Meet with the Development Officer to see how much wider your driveway is from the standard. In certain circumstances you may be able to apply for an administrative variance or variance. The Development Officer will be able to help you through this process if necessary.

I just bought a newly constructed house. How long do I have until the driveway has to be hard surfaced?

You have two years from the date of original occupancy to hard surface your driveway.

There is a light pole next to my driveway. How do I have it moved?

Your driveway must be 1.85 metres from a utility pedestal or light post. If you require the post to be removed, you must contact the utility company to relocate it. You will be responsible for paying for the relocation of the light post.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

TOWN OF WHITECOURT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

5004 52 Avenue
P.O. Box 509
Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1N6
Phone: 780.778.2273
Fax: 780.778.2062

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed between
12 noon and 12:30 p.m.

www.whitecourt.ca

ALBERTA 1 CALL

Call before you dig
1.800.242.3447

Alberta 1 Call will assist you in locating electric, oil-gas and communication lines.

Whitecourt

JULY 2011

RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

KEEPING YOU INFORMED.

Whitecourt

REGULATION OF RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY WIDTHS

The Town of Whitecourt Land Use Bylaw regulates residential driveway widths for a number of reasons. Limiting driveway widths:

- Allows for effective snow removal.
- Ensures that there are adequate areas for snow storage throughout residential neighbourhoods.
- Increases pedestrian safety (snow piled high due to large driveways can restrict visibility of pedestrians).
- Ensures that adequate on-street parking is available.
- Helps maintain a standard and appealing neighbourhood aesthetic.

ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN DEVELOPING A DRIVEWAY

Surface materials:
Asphalt, concrete, interlocking bricks and hollow core pavers can be used when constructing a driveway.

Inspections:
Upon completion please notify the Planning and Development Department.

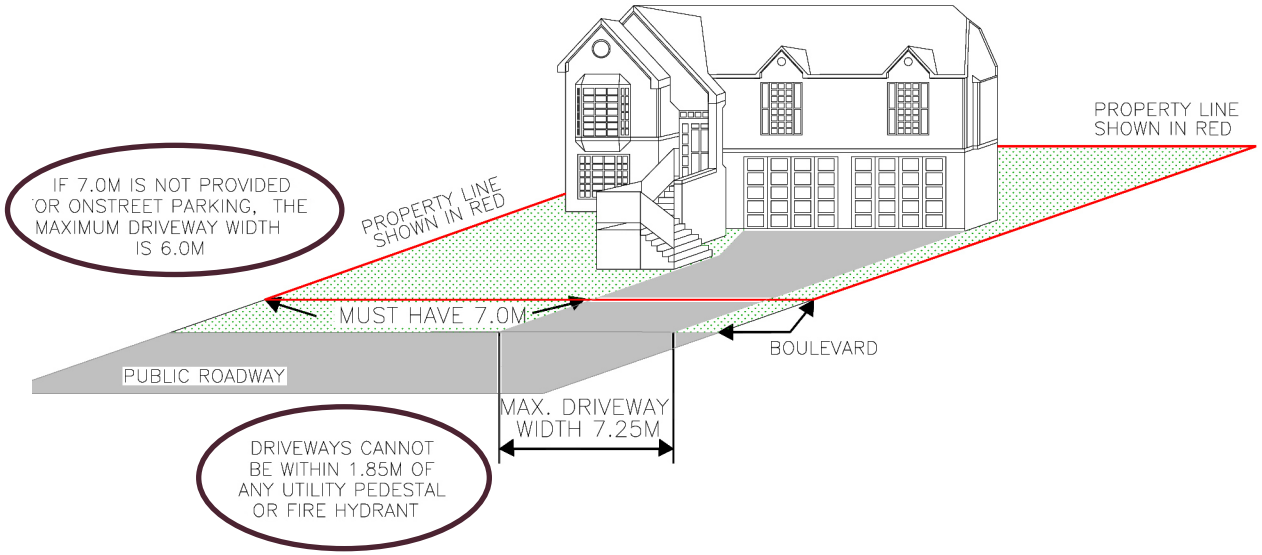
Permits:
Permits are not generally issued for driveways.

DRIVEWAY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS & REGULATIONS

In **Residential Districts**, property owners are permitted to have a driveway width up to 6.0 metres wide from the front property line to the roadway. You are allowed a driveway width of up to 7.25 metres if you have an uninterrupted distance of 7.0 metres of frontage along your property.

In **Commercial & Industrial Districts**, the driveway width can be up to 9.0 metres at the front of the property line and up to 13 metres at the curb line.

No driveway shall be any closer than 20 metres to an intersection in commercial and industrial areas and 12 metres in residential.



DRIVEWAY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS & REGULATIONS

You are encouraged to sketch out the proposed driveway and meet with the Development Officer to discuss your options prior to developing to ensure that what is proposed is best suited to your property. The Development Officer will also ensure that site coverage is not exceeded.

WHEN IN DOUBT THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS HERE TO HELP!