

**135.08 BURNING PROHIBITED.** No person shall burn any trash, leaves, rubbish, or other combustible material in any curb and gutter or on any paved or surfaced street or alley.

**135.09 EXCAVATIONS.** No person shall dig, excavate, or in any manner disturb any street, parking or alley except in accordance with the following:

1. Permit Required. No excavation shall be commenced without first obtaining a permit. A written application for such permit shall be filed with the City and shall contain the following:

A. An exact description of the property, by lot and street number, in front of or along which it is desired to excavate;

B. A statement of the purpose, for whom and by whom the excavation is to be made;

C. The person responsible for the refilling of said excavation and restoration of the street or alley surface; and

D. Date of commencement of the work and estimated completion date.

2. Public Convenience. Streets and alleys shall be opened in the manner that will cause the least inconvenience to the public and admit the uninterrupted passage of water along the gutter on the street.

3. Barricades, Fencing and Lighting. Adequate barricades, fencing and warning lights meeting standards specified by the City shall be so placed as to protect the public from hazard. Any costs incurred by the City in providing or maintaining adequate barricades, fencing or warning lights shall be paid to the City by the permit holder/property owner.

4. Bond Required. The applicant shall post with the City a penal bond in the minimum sum of \$1,000.00 issued by a surety company authorized to issue such bonds in the State. The bond shall guarantee the permittee's payment for any damage done to the City or to public property, and payment of all costs incurred by the City in the course of administration of this section. In lieu of a surety bond, a cash deposit of \$1,000.00 may be filed with the City.

5. Insurance Required. Each applicant shall also file a certificate of insurance indicating that the applicant is carrying public liability insurance in effect for the duration of the permit covering the applicant and all agents and employees for the following minimum amounts:

A. Bodily Injury - \$100,000.00 per person; \$200,000.00 per accident.

B. Property Damage - \$1,000,000.00 per accident.

6. Restoration of Public Property. Streets, sidewalks, alleys and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored to the condition of the property prior to the commencement of the work, or in a manner satisfactory to the City. All excavation shall be mechanically compacted in lifts not to exceed 12 inches. All excavation that requires pavement removal shall, before replacing, include sawing all paving edges and the paving will be replaced with six inches of 3,500psi concrete. In the event that the excavation is under a street, driveway, sidewalk or any other paving, the paving shall be replaced within 72 hours after the completion of the excavation. The City has the right to finish any improper or unfinished work to protect the public from harm. The permit holder/property owner will bear any expenses incurred. The City

will be held harmless by the permit holder/property owner in regard to any and all claims or injury or damage arising from acts or omissions of the authority of the permit. It is the permit holder/property owner's responsibility to protect the public. All barricades and safety fence are the permit holder/property owner's responsibility.

7. Inspection. All work shall be subject to inspection by the City. Backfill shall not be deemed completed, and no resurfacing of any improved street or alley surface shall begin, until such backfill is inspected and approved by the City. The permit holder/property owner shall provide the City with notice at least 24 hours prior to the time when inspection of backfill is desired.

8. Completion by the City. Should any excavation in any street or alley be discontinued or left open and unfinished for a period of 24 hours after the approved completion date, or in the event the work is improperly done, the City has the right to finish or correct the excavation work and charge any expenses for such work to the permit holder/property owner.

9. Responsibility for Costs. All costs and expenses incident to the excavation shall be borne by the permit holder and/or property owner. The permit holder and owner shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by such excavation.

10. Notification. At least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the excavation, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, the person performing the excavation shall contact the Statewide Notification Center and provide the center with the information required under Section 480.4 of the *Code of Iowa*.

11. Permit Fee. A permit fee in an amount established by motion of the Council shall be payable at the time of filing the application with the City. A separate permit shall be required for each excavation.

12. Permit Issued. Upon approval of the application, filing of bond and insurance certificate, and payment of any required fees, a permit shall be issued.

**135.10 PROPERTY OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE.** The abutting property owner shall maintain all property outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines upon public streets and shall keep such area in a safe condition, free from nuisances, obstructions, and hazards. In the absence of a curb, such property shall extend from the property line to that portion of the public street used or improved for vehicular purposes. The abutting property owner shall not be required to remove diseased trees or dead wood on the publicly owned property or right-of-way. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, timely mowing, trimming trees and shrubs, and picking up litter and debris. The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to maintain the publicly owned property or right-of-way.<sup>†</sup>

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2c])*

**135.11 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN.** If the abutting property owner does not perform an action required under the above section within a reasonable time, the City may perform the required action and assess the cost against the abutting property for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2e])*

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<sup>†</sup> **EDITOR'S NOTE:** See also Section 136.04 relating to property owner's responsibility for maintenance of sidewalks.