












NCDOT Pavement Preservation Bulletin Materials and Tests Unit

Pavement Preservation Law and Guidance

In This Issue

-  **Our Mission**
-  **Origins of PP Law**
-  **Eligible/Ineligible Activities**
-  **Outsourcing Law**
-  **Resources**
-  **Stipulations of Chip Seals**
-  **Thin Lift Asphalt Overlays**
-  **Pavement Markings**
-  **M&T's Role**

Our Mission

The Pavement Preservation Team:

- attends preconstruction meetings
- provides on-site field assistance
- monitors & updates specifications
- interfaces with industry partners
- investigates new treatments
- hosts workshops for Maintenance & Construction offices.

Origins of Pavement Preservation Law

In 2014, the North Carolina General Assembly officially established a Pavement Preservation Program for NCDOT, defining eligible and ineligible activities, as well as mandatory outsourcing requirements.

Eligible Asphalt Pavement Preservation Treatments

- Chip Seal, Scrub Seal and Fog Seal
- Microsurfacing, Slurry Seal and Cape Seal
- Asphalt Crack Seal
- Thin Lift and Sand Asphalt Overlay
- Partial or Full Depth Repairs
- Overlays less than 1000 feet
- Asphalt Rejuvenator

Activities **Ineligible** for Pavement Preservation Funding

- Contract resurfacing
- Profile milling or chip seals used in conjunction with contract resurfacing
- Pothole patching and asphalt rut filling
- Ditch cleanout and shoulder maintenance
- Bridge or culvert maintenance/preservation
- Positive guidance or signal maintenance program functions

Outsourcing Law

By 2018, 80% of NCDOT Pavement Preservation funds had to be outsourced to private contractors.

Eligible Concrete Pavement Preservation Treatments

- Diamond Grinding
- Joint Sealing
- Dowel Bar Retrofit
- Ultra-thin Whitetopping
- Partial or Full Depth Repairs

Resources

Click on the text below to view each resource.

[Chapter 136 \(NCDOT Law\)](#)

[Updated Pavement Preservation Legislative Guidance \(October 2023\)](#)

[Pavement Preservation Connect Website](#)





Pavement Preservation Legislative Guidance

The General Statute does not clarify all pertinent Pavement Preservation details. State Materials Engineer Todd Whittington issued updated [Legislative Guidance](#) in October 2023 to the Division Engineers for clarity.

Chip Seal Stipulations in the Law

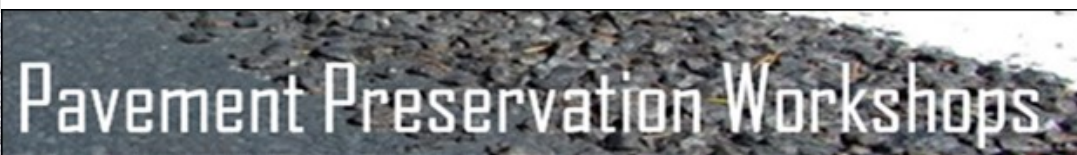
- Chip Seals in Subdivisions **must be** Fog Sealed.
- Subdivision streets are defined in NCAC 19A ([click for full definition](#))
- Double and Triple Seals can be placed on roads with 15,000 AADT or less.
- Single Seals must be capped with
 - sand or material of equivalent size to create a smooth surface **or**
 - a Microsurfacing, Slurry Seal or Resurfacing treatment.

Thin Lift Asphalt Overlays

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Pavement Markings and Markers

Paint, thermoplastic, or polyurea lines, words or symbols, markers and vertical delineators or removal thereof that are **not** done in conjunction with another Pavement Preservation treatment **are** eligible for Pavement Preservation funding.



Materials and Tests' Role in the Pavement Preservation Program

As directed in the Pavement Preservation Guidance, the Materials and Tests Unit will provide [classroom trainings](#) and [on site troubleshooting](#) to NCDOT personnel and contractors. Manuals, videos, contract reviews, attendance to preconstruction meetings, and more are available upon request, free of charge to the 14 Divisions.



Pictured above: Fog Seal in Division 13


Pictured below: Microsurfacing on US 74



Pictured below: Thin Lift Overlay in Delaware




NCDOT's Pavement Preservation Team

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