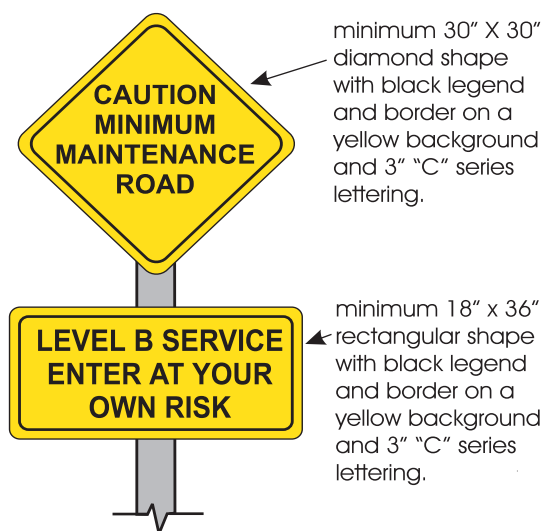


Reduced Maintenance Level Roads

Section 309.57 of the Iowa Code provides counties with options to establish reduced maintenance levels on little-used area service roads using a system of three service levels:

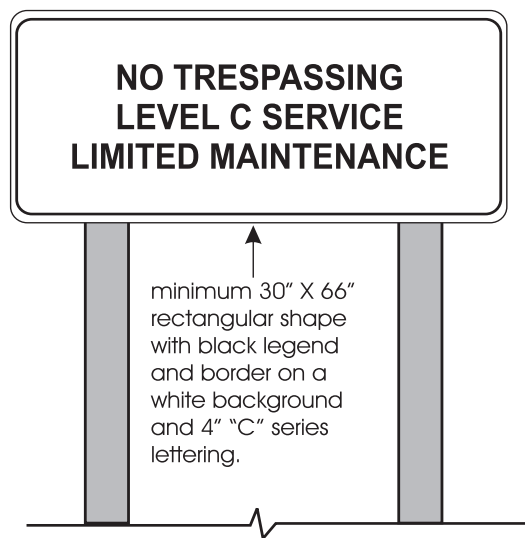
1. Area Service A—maintained in conformity with applicable statutes.
2. Area Service B—maintained at a lower level with standards determined by county ordinance.
3. Area Service C—maintained to a minimum level as determined by the county; restricted access.

Area Service B roads must be established by ordinance or resolution. Appropriate warning signs must be erected and maintained by the county at all access points from other public roads. An example of the appropriate warning sign is shown in the following illustration.



Signs required at all access points of Level B roads

Area Service C roads must also be established by ordinance or resolution upon petition by all land owners adjacent to the road. Roads that are designated as Area Service C shall have appropriate warning and regulatory signs erected and maintained by the county, and access shall be restricted by means of a gate or other barrier. An example of recommended signing is shown in the following illustration.



Signs required at all access points of Level C roads

For additional information, please refer to Iowa Code Section 309.57 and the County Engineers Instructional Memorandum 2.22.

In addition, situations may be encountered where it is desirable to advise the public that maintenance responsibilities of a local jurisdiction have terminated. Roadways occasionally continue onto private property beyond public control and appropriate signing to advise unfamiliar drivers may be considered. Failure to warn motorists could result in liability exposure to local governments.

Local jurisdictions may also wish to advise drivers of a change in maintenance responsibilities from city to county or vice versa. County or City Maintenance Ends signs, such as that shown on the following page, have been developed to advise the public of a termination in maintenance responsibilities along a roadway.

Appropriate advance warning of this situation at the last turnaround point should also be considered, such as an End County or City Maintenance sign with X Feet advisory plate mounted as a supplementary sign.

The actual end of county (city) maintenance should be marked to guide drivers and help them avoid accidental trespass on private property. An appropriate advisory plate should be placed beneath the County or City Maintenance Ends sign. Examples include Private Lane, Road Closed, or Private Property.



minimum 30" x 30"



minimum 24" x 18"

End of maintenance sign with advisory plate