

Glossary

AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.
aesthetic planting	Plantings that enhance the visual quality of the corridor.
allelopathic	Capable of secreting a toxin from the roots into the surrounding soil which impedes growth of other plants. Examples of allelopathic plants are black walnut, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, and spotted knapweed.
ASLA	American Society of Landscape Architects. The purpose of the Society shall be the advancement of knowledge, education, and skill in the art and science of landscape architecture as an instrument of service in the public welfare.
average daily traffic volume	The total traffic volume during a given period of time, expressed in full days, where the time period being measured is greater than one day and less than one year, divided by the number of days in the period.
clear zone	The area immediately bordering the roadway beginning at the outer edge of the pavement. The purpose of the clear zone is to provide an area free of obstructions where errant vehicles may safely come to a stop (see FDM 11-15-1 of this manual and Section 74.40 of the Highway Maintenance Manual).
CDR	The Concept Definition Report (see FDM 3-5-1)
cultural features	Typical cultural features include: villages, towns or cities, commercial facilities, industrial facilities, residential buildings, agricultural buildings, institutional buildings, agricultural buildings, community buildings, exercise or sports facilities, local, state, national or recreational parks, historic or archeological features, billboards, signs, bridges, dams, docks or piers, salvage yards, landfills, cemeteries, utilities, fences, walls, airports, railroads, recreational paths, parking areas or structures and roadside sites.
delineate alignment	The use of vegetation to show a road's direction even though the actual roadway cannot be seen. This technique is useful where the roadway disappears from a driver's line of sight (around a curve or near the crest of a hill).
design speed	The maximum safe speed that drivers can maintain over a particular stretch of roadway when weather and other conditions are favorable for driving.
estimate	A list of bid items, quantities and anticipated unit prices. See FDM 19-5-1 .
Facilities Development Process Forbs	The process of designing and constructing transportation facilities.
functional planting	Broadleaf (non-grasslike) herbaceous plants. The DOT primarily uses this term to refer to wildflowers.
functional planting	Plantings that have a specific purpose, such as blocking headlight glare or defining the end of a road. These plantings are designed to be aesthetically pleasing as well as functional.
highway alignment	The actual path followed by the highway through the landscape.
highway corridor	A broad strip of land that is evaluated for transportation purposes.
impact attenuation	Providing a cushion or barrier to slow or stop errant vehicles before they crash into a permanent structure.

integrated roadside vegetation management	<p>A decision-making and quality management process for maintaining roadside vegetation that integrates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • needs of local communities and highway users • knowledge of plant ecology (and natural processes) • design, construction, and maintenance considerations • monitoring and evaluation procedures • government statutes and regulations • technology <p>with cultural, biological, mechanical, and chemical pest control methods to economically manage roadsides for safety plus environmental and visual quality. (National Roadside Vegetation Management Association)</p>
invasive weeds	<p>Plants that invade an area and out-compete more desirable plants, eliminating them from the species mix. As defined by the ASLA, invasive plants are often allelopathic. Examples of invasive plants are garlic mustard, phragmites, spotted knapweed and tansy.</p>
key features	<p>Key features consist of landforms, water, vegetation or cultural features of visual importance.</p>
key views	<p>Significant views of panoramic scenes. These may be visually pleasing or displeasing views from locations along the roadway or of the roadway from adjacent lands.</p>
LAC	<p>Landscape Architect Contact. The landscape architect in the Bureau of Highway Operations (BHO) who has the liaison responsibility for the specific district.</p>
landforms	<p>Landforms in Wisconsin include: steep hills or ridges, rolling hills, plains or flatland, valleys or basins, cliffs or bluffs, beaches, ravines and rock outcrops.</p>
landscape architecture	<p>The application of “artistic and scientific principles to the research, planning, design and management of both the natural and built environments.</p>
Landscape features	<p>Landscape features fall into four categories: landforms, water, vegetation and cultural features.</p>
maintenance commitment	<p>Willingness to expend the funds and dedicate the time necessary to maintain roadside vegetation.</p>
match lines	<p>Lines put on a plan that indicate where the actual plan stops on one sheet and continues on the next sheet.</p>
mitigate	<p>To provide landscape elements that make an unacceptable part of the highway environment acceptable to the user.</p>
mitigation methods	<p>Methods of moderating adverse effects on the landscape. There are many mitigation techniques. These techniques include but are not limited to minimizing the clearing of vegetation along the right-of-way, grading interchange areas to produce natural-appearing contours, screening unpleasant views, installing vegetation to soften construction lines or structures, etc.</p>
multi-lane highway	<p>A highway having two or more lanes serving each direction of travel. Travel directions may be separated by a paved or vegetated median.</p>
native species	<p>Species existing in an area prior to settlement, ca 1848. Cultivars (named cultivated varieties generally propagated vegetatively) of native species will normally be considered native for roadside planting purposes.</p>
naturalized species	<p>Species that are not native, but have escaped cultivation or been accidentally introduced to an area and adapted to the local environment where they occur abundantly in non-cultivated situations. Some may be considered noxious or non-noxious weeds.</p>

natural regeneration	The re-establishment of vegetation in a disturbed area through natural processes such as self-seeding of existing plants or the growth of root stock remaining in the soil. Disturbance must be prevented in the future to ensure long-term success of the plant community.
natural roadsides	Roadsides where the landscape has been preserved or restored such that the topography, geology, hydrology and vegetation appear to have been produced by nature, blending into the character of the surrounding landscape. This is achieved by preservation, natural regeneration or revegetation.
neighbors	Those outside the highway right-of-way who are affected by the highway. They may occupy adjacent land, be located where the highway is within their viewshed, be affected by noise from highway traffic, etc.
non-native species	Species and cultivars of species that did not exist in an area prior to settlement, ca 1848.
noxious weeds	Plants which are declared by state statute to be noxious weeds are Canada thistle, leafy spurge and field bindweed. They may not be propagated or sold in the state and existing plants are required to be destroyed.
nuisance weeds	Plants which are declared by state statute to nuisance weeds are purple loosestrife and multiflora rose. They may not be propagated or sold in the state but are <u>not</u> required to be destroyed.
plant establishment period (PEP)	The time following installation of plants during which the contractor is responsible for performing the necessary maintenance to keep the plants in a healthy, viable condition.
prairie	An open area, dominated by grasses and forbs with less than one mature tree per acre.
preservation	Various processes used to maintain plants or plant communities in an existing condition.
P. S. & E.	Plans, Specifications and Estimates. This is the final product, consisting of the plans, an estimate, special provisions, and necessary exhibits.
regeneration	See Natural Regeneration
Remnant	An intact (or fairly undisturbed) plant community that was present before settlement. In Wisconsin, the term is usually applied to undisturbed prairie or savannah communities.
restoration	Re-introducing native plants or plant communities by artificial processes (such as seeding or planting) into an area where they once existed.
revegetation	Introducing plants or seeds of native or non-native species into areas disturbed by construction.
roadside	The area between the outside edges of the shoulders and the right-of-way boundaries, unpaved median areas between inside shoulders of divided highways and areas within interchanges.
roadside sites	Developed areas within the highway right-of-way, such as rest areas and waysides, that offer travelers a place to rest and be refreshed.
roadside vegetation	Trees, shrubs, vines, forbs and grasses (both desirable and undesirable) growing in the highway right-of-way.
rural highway	A highway traversing a rural area featuring agricultural, open or forested areas with minimal residential, commercial or industrial development.
savanna	A grassland characterized by scattered trees, having more than one tree per acre but less than 50% total tree canopy.

scenic highway	A highway located such that travelers are exposed to scenic views and/or pleasurable experiences.
scoping	A communications process that investigates major issues and options (see FDM 3-1-10).
six-year highway improvement program	A WisDOT program published every two years that lists upcoming WisDOT state highway projects (improvements or new construction) over the next six years.
slope aspect	The direction towards which the slope faces.
special details	Construction details which are unique to the project and for which no standard details exist.
special plantings	Plantings (trees, shrubs, vines, herbaceous plants and special seeding) installed by a contractor or by county forces. Seeding for erosion control is not included.
Special provisions	See FDM 19-15-1 .
Statewide Landscape Planting Spending Authority	The annual maximum limit that may be spent on landscape planting. This limit applies only to projects using State Transportation Funds.
Stationing	See FDM 15-1-1 and FDM 15-1-35 .
reference lines	See FDM 9-50-1 , FDM 9-50-5 and FDM 11-10-5 .
transitional highway	A highway traversing a moderately developed area between a rural area and an urban area.
transportation facility	Any of four key elements: highways, railroads, airways and waterways.
urban highway	A highway traversing an urban area, which may be a city, town, community or other highly developed, heavily populated concentration of residences, commerce and industry.
user groups	Recreational travelers, commuters, haulers or other groups of people using the highway right-of-way.
vegetation management	Activities affecting the quality and quantity of roadside vegetation, from the initial design through long-term maintenance.
viewer awareness	The level of attention the viewer is paying to the landscape. It can be affected by internal factors and external factors.
viewer groups	Viewer groups are those who use the roadway. They consist of neighbors, who are local (such as residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational and civic subgroups) or who are travelers in the area (commuting, hauling, touring or exercising subgroups).
viewer sensitivity	The interaction between viewers and the landscape they see. Viewer sensitivity is affected by a number of factors, both internal and external. Internal factors include the viewer's values, the activity they are involved in when they see the landscape, and their level of awareness when they see the landscape (e.g. are they distracted or focused, etc.). External values include the volume of traffic, the roadway use type (e.g. commuter or scenic route), the roadway design speed, and the roadway designer's perception of viewer sensitivity for a specific roadway.
viewer sensitivity levels	A subjective measure of viewer sensitivity local management contacts who know the population in question can determine viewer sensitivity. Levels for a particular stretch of roadway by using the viewer sensitivity categories above.

viewshed	The surface visible from the roadway out to surrounding lands and of the roadway from adjacent lands.
vision triangle	A triangular area located at at-grade intersections which must remain free of visual obstructions so drivers can see approaching traffic.
visual character	The visual character of an area is created by the blend of landscape features present on the site. See 'landscape features'.
visual environment	Usually determined by the viewshed of the facility (see 'viewshed').
visual impact	The positive or negative visual effect that the roadway will (or does) have upon the surrounding natural and built environment. The extent of the projected affects can be calculated by examining the average daily traffic volume of the area, the design speed, the facility use type, the types and sizes of user groups and the peak season/time of day use of the facility. Projected changes in the visual character and visual quality of the area should be a major focus when gauging what the effects will be.
visual impact assessment	A process whereby the projected effects of a new highway corridor upon the surrounding landscape are assessed, a project alternative is chosen and mitigation methods are implemented.
visual quality	The overall impression (positive or negative) that is retained after viewing a landscape.
visual quality rating system	The VQRS establishes a system whereby visual quality levels are quantified so trained assessors can evaluate landscapes for visual quality. The baseline measurement of a landscape can then be used to determine the degree to which a new or expanded roadway could visually impact the area.
visual resources	Views of hills, lakes, forests, cliffs, valleys, cultural features, etc.
visually sensitive resource	Any object with a pleasing view that could loose its aesthetic qualities by the introduction of man-made features into its surroundings. This quality applies to either the view <u>of</u> the object or the view <u>from</u> the object. Examples are lakes, forests, hills, etc.
volunteer plants	Plants growing in an area as a result of natural processes such as wind-blown, water-borne or animal-transported seeds.
weeds	Plants growing where they are not wanted.