



# What you **need** to **know** about...

## Dust Suppression

### *maintaining our roads*

There are approximately 5000 km of roads within the Southland District Council network: 2000 km sealed, 3000 km unsealed, including over 960 bridges, with 27 townships & a growing population (28,440 as per 2006 Census) who use these roads.

With an annual Roothing Budget of over \$23M it is our aim to keep the roads maintained to an acceptable standard and are always looking at ways to improve the network as an asset for the community while keeping to an ever tightening budget.

With a large portion of the roads in our network being unsealed, hot dry summers present a problem to the residents and users of those roads - DUST.

### **Do We Don't We**

Council does not water, oil or place dust suppressants on the roads as this would be a massive undertaking and at a considerable cost. The roads however are regularly monitored and maintained by Council, and when weather permits with a little rain, contractors endeavour to grade and carry out minor repair work.

Council does however allow oil or similar palliatives to be applied by residents to unsealed roadways to suppress dust. Dust suppressants (including oil) may be applied between October through March subject to gaining a permit.

### **Permit**

Permit applications must be approved prior to the dust suppressant being applied and include the following information:

- Address of property including RAPID number where dust suppressant is to be applied
- The length of the roadway to be treated
- The type of dust suppressant to be used
- Name of the company/person who will be applying the suppressant
- A proposed Temporary Traffic Management Plan for use by applicator during the application process.



### **Due Care and Diligence**

As the suppressant is to be applied by, or on behalf of, a private individual s/he, not Council, is liable for any damage or injury caused as a result of the application. Therefore evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the value of no less than \$1,000,000 must be supplied. When carrying out the application care should also be taken to ensure that:

- Suppressants are not applied to the surface when wet or when wet weather is pending
- Suppressants are not applied to rutted and potholed surfaces
- Care is taken to prevent excess oil escaping into drainage systems

Council endeavours to restrict grading of treated sections of roadway unless it becomes badly rutted or potholed. It will however be graded up during winter when reshaping is carried out.

**Contact our Customer Services  
on 0800 732 732 if you have a concern about the  
state of any of our roads, sealed or unsealed,  
or if you come across a mess.**

### *top tips*

#### **Three simple rules to remember when using Dust Suppressants:**

1. October to March only.
2. Treated surface must be clearly visible to approaching traffic from 150m.
3. If the oiled surface becomes dangerous or a hazard to drivers, either due to excessive oil or the road condition, the Council will arrange for it to be graded out.



**If you would like to learn more about Roadings other "Need to Know" sheets you can find them on our website: [www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz)**



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