

ROLL-OFF BOXES AND PORTABLE DUMPSTERS

**Public Works Agency
Transportation Department**
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1620



WHAT IS A ROLL-OFF AND PORTABLE DUMPSTER?

The Public Works Agency – Transportation Department (PWATD) considers a [roll-off box](#) to be any receptacle with or without wheels of such size that it cannot be moved by human power. Such roll-offs are large, always delivered by truck, and may be used to collect trash, recycling, construction or yard waste. The PWATD considers a [portable dumpster](#) to be any receptacle, other than a barrel, with wheels of such size that it can be moved by human power (e.g. it is portable).

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

Yes, a permit is required. Any object placed in the road right-of-way must be approved by the PWATD.

An Encroachment Permit (EP) is required to temporarily place roll-off boxes or portable dumpsters in the right-of-way (ROW) of a county-maintained road.

The PWATD does not allow roll-offs or portable dumpsters to remain indefinitely in the right-of-way on a county-maintained road. Permits, if granted, are generally for 30 days. Extensions may be approved with justification for the extension request.

ARE THERE ANY EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMIT REQUIREMENT?

An EP is not required for small barrel-shaped receptacles generally 96 gallons or smaller in size or for portable dumpsters that are moved from private property to the right-of-way and back to private property on collection days. Barrels and portable dumpsters cannot be placed or remain in the right-of-way for more than 24 hours prior to or after collection. Placement of receptacles should not interfere with pedestrian or bicycle access.

WHAT IF I DO NOT HAVE A PERMIT?

Any person who places a roll-off or portable dumpster in the right-of-way of a county-maintained road without an EP is subject to fines and penalties. Encroachment Ordinance 2041 authorizes the PWATD to charge double fees for the permit. If the container is encroaching on the travel way or blocking sight visibility, then the PWATD may order that the Hauler remove the container and charge the offending party for its removal.

WHAT ITEMS ARE REQUIRED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT?

Applicants should provide an application with a sketch showing the location and dimensions of the container. The container should be located as close to the right-of-way as physically possible. The sketch should include measurements of the lot width, driveway width, distance between lots and driveways, depth of the private driveway, width of the pavement fronting the parcel, and width of the right-of-way, if known.

The following items will be considered:

- **Travel Way.** Placement of the container in the right-of-way must not encroach on the travel way. Two-way travel must be maintained.
- **Sight Distance.** Adequate sight distance and visibility is required for bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular traffic. The speed of traffic determines adequate sight distance. General rules for sight distance are shown in the table here below.

ROADWAY DESIGN SPEED	SITE DISTANCE
20 mph	200 feet
30 mph	300 feet
40 mph	400 feet
50 mph	500 feet
60 mph	600 feet

The PWATD encourages residents to place the containers on private property. A container cannot block sight distance. A container cannot be placed at corners of intersections or within the travel way of a road.

- **Traffic Control Devices.** To aid visibility at night, the PWATD may require that type-II barricades with flashing lights be placed on the traffic side to the front and rear of the box.
- **Traffic Volumes.** Containers may not be allowed on higher volume roadways.
- **Fees.** Fees must be paid before the permit can be issued. Fee schedules may be found here: <http://vcpublishworks.org/transportation-department/road-encroachment-permit>

DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR A PORTABLE ON-DEMAND STORAGE UNIT (POD)?

Yes, a permit is required. Requirements for placing a POD is the same as a roll-off box. The PWATD encourages residents to place PODs on private property.

WHERE CAN I OBTAIN A PERMIT APPLICATION?

The permit application can be found at:

<http://vcpublishworks.org/transportation-department/road-encroachment-permit>

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, contact the Permits Section.

Phone: (805) 654-2055

Email: PWA.TransPermits@ventura.org.

[PWATD Home](#)