★ REGIONAL ★
OUTER LOOP
IN DENTON COUNTY

RIGHT OF ENTRY FAQs

Denton County Outer Loop

Field technician performing field investigation on property

Following the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), the Denton County Outer Loop project team will study the potential effects of the proposed project on the human and natural environment. To complete these studies, project team members conduct field investigations to identify, measure, and understand all potential environmental impacts caused by the identified route options for the Denton County Outer Loop. For some properties, additional survey, subsurface utility research and geotechnical data collection is needed.

These field investigations often need to be peformed on private property. As a result, a "**Right of Entry**" is requested from property owners, which grants project team members permission to enter properties. Continue reading below for more information on the Right of Entry process.

WHAT IS A RIGHT OF ENTRY?

A "Right of Entry" is written permission from a property owner to allow the project team to enter onto their private property for a specific purpose. It is standard practice for the Denton County Outer Loop project team to request this written permission from property owners prior to entering their property.

WHO WILL BE ON MY PROPERTY?

Access may be needed by Denton County or the project team, including hired contractors and consultants, who specialize in the required investigations of the study. The County has contracts in place to ensure any contractors and consultants have a minimum amount of liability insurance before they are able to work on the property.

HOW IS PERMISSION OBTAINED?

A standard Right of Entry form is provided to property owners from whom Right of Entry is sought. The form contains information specific to the property, including:

- Parcel and property owner identification and contact information.
- Purpose(s) of the field investigations.
- A general timeframe for entering the property and when the entry permission expires.

The form also provides space for the property owner to specify unique requirements to enter the property such as identifying domestic animals or guard dogs, or providing gate entry instructions.

Property owners complete, sign, and return the form to the project team to grant access to the property.

Please contact info@DentonCountyOuterLoop.com with questions or concerns about the Right of Entry process.

Field technician taking GPS reading on a property

WHEN WILL MY PROPERTY BE ACCESSED?

The Right of Entry form provides a general timeframe for which permission is requested to enter the property. Denton County and its representatives aim to minimize visits and disruption, though in some cases it may take several different site visits spaced over multiple months to complete the field investigations. Depending on the size of the property, each site visit could also last multiple days.

WHAT INFORMATION IS BEING COLLECTED ON MY PROPERTY?

Typical field investigations include surveying and environmental assessments. For some properties, subsurface utility research and geotechnical data collection is required.

Regarding environmental assessments, federal and state regulations require the project team to identify whether certain environmental resources are present on a property and how the project could affect those resources.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR:

- Identification of Wetlands and Streams
- Measurement of Noise Levels
- Identification of Cultural Resources
- Identification of Hazardous Materials
- Identification of Threatened and Endangered Species
- Identification of Sensitive Habitats

NON-INVASIVE VS. INVASIVE INVESTIGATIONS

NON-INVASIVE: These field investigations and survey work do not cause significant disturbance to the property. Field technicians will walk the proposed route of the potential roadway to make observations and sometimes conduct minor tests using tools such as shovels and hand trowels. Any affected areas will be restored.

The vast majority of field investigations on properties are considered non-invasive.

INVASIVE: In rare cases, some field investigations may require the use of equipment like drills and excavators for detailed studies. Should these methods be necessary on your property, separate permission will be requested on a second Right of Entry form that will include:

- Detailed description of the invasive activities.
- Location on property where activities will take place.
- Routes for moving equipment to the investigation location.
- Safety measures that will be employed.
- Techniques that will be used to restore the property.
- Date and time the investigation will take place.

WHAT RIGHTS DO I HAVE?

Property owners have no obligation to allow access to their property, and granting access does not transfer any property rights or interests.

By signing the Right of Entry form, a property owner grants permission for the project team to enter their property from the effective date noted until the work is completed, permission is revoked, or the agreement expires.

Preliminary findings are not typically shared with property owners, but the gathered information might contribute to reports and studies, which could be shared after completion.

To learn more about the project, visit:
www.DentonCountyOuterLoop.com

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