

Missoula County Media Release

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Feb. 11, 2019



Missoula County Invites Residents to Apply for Dust Abatement Program

Missoula County Public Works invites residents who live on gravel roads throughout the county to take part in its annual dust abatement share program.

The program allows county residents to buy dust palliative, an agent applied to unpaved roads in the summer to prevent dust clouds and the resulting environmental impacts, at a discounted rate by adding their individual quantities to the county's annual purchase. Residents are then only responsible for the cost of their order; the county covers the costs of preparation and application.

In addition to curbing environmental concerns, the county's dust abatement program also serves as an effective maintenance method, as applying palliative to roads can help prevent future concerns, such as washboards and potholes.

The program has grown in popularity since its inception in 2007, with 67 residents participating in the program in 2018. Public Works crews applied around 300,000 gallons of magnesium chloride palliative to roads last year.

To be included in the share program, residents must submit a commitment letter to Public Works by Friday, March 8, then complete an application and pay for the palliative by Friday, May 17. The required forms are available online at www.missoulacounty.us/dustabatement, by calling Public Works Operations Coordinator Kris Blank at 406-258-3710 or at the Public Works office, located at 6089 Training Drive west of Missoula.

Application of the palliative is tentatively scheduled to start on Monday, June 24, and should take three weeks to complete, depending on weather and contractor availability.

For more information, call Erik Dickson, Public Works engineer, at 406-258-3772 or email edickson@missoulacounty.us.

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