

# Life on a gravel road

As Johnson County continues to experience rapid growth, many residents are seeking to live the “country life” in the more rural parts of the county, many of which are accessed by gravel roads.



About 135 miles of gravel roads remain in the county, much of which was intended for low-volume farm use. As residential areas continue to spread across the county, many are now living on these gravel roads.

If you have not previously lived on a gravel road, you may not be aware of the issues that come with living on an unpaved road. You will most likely encounter:

- Road dust everywhere – in the air, on your vehicle and in your house
- Mud and loose material – after it rains, surface material may be thrown off tires and stick to vehicles
- Quickly changing conditions and frequent pot holes, rutting, and washboarding
- Snow and ice cannot be treated the way it can on asphalt roads

# JOHNSON COUNTY KANSAS

## Public Works



## Contact Public Works

Customer Service: 913-715-8300  
[jocogov.org/public-works](http://jocogov.org/public-works)

1800 W. Old Highway 56  
Olathe, KS 66061

Office Hours  
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

# Dust Control Cost Share Program

*What to expect when living on a gravel road and information on the dust control program offered to Johnson County residents.*



# JOHNSON COUNTY KANSAS

## Public Works



# How does dust control work?

Johnson County uses a magnesium chloride dust control treatment. The product is sprayed onto the road, creating a cement-like surface. While the road will still look like a gravel road, the dust created by traffic will be significantly reduced.

Effectiveness and duration of the magnesium chloride treatment varies with traffic and weather conditions. It is our hope that the treatment will last through the dry summer months.



## Program details

Johnson County already provides dust control treatments to its rural residents, but in 2020 we will begin subsidizing our current dust control program with an approximate 50% cost share opportunity. This will be a one year trial period to assess the program's effectiveness and cost.

To be eligible for this program, you must be living on a gravel road in the unincorporated area of Johnson County.

The cost share program covers a 400' treatment placed in front of your house. Additional footage must be paid by the resident at 100%.

### Before application

Application of the dust control treatment will be planned for May or June, depending on the weather and demand for the program. Public Works crews will prepare the road in front of your house a few days prior to application.

### After application

After application and during periods of rain, the road will briefly be a little wet and sticky. During this time, drive slowly to reduce the amount of material kicked up onto your vehicle.

There are no guarantees as to the effectiveness and longevity of the dust control treatment. Annual reapplication is recommended.

Public Works will attempt to minimize maintenance of the dust control areas to maximize its life and effectiveness. However, if road conditions require maintenance, Public Works will maintain the road as required which can affect the performance of the dust control. Neither refund nor re-treatment will be made.

**Application and payment must be received by March 31, 2020.** For pricing, see the Dust Control Cost Share Application form at [jocogov.org/dust-control](http://jocogov.org/dust-control).