

SPECIAL NOTE LANDSCAPING WEED CONTROL MAT (WCM)

This Special Note will apply where indicated on the plans or in the proposal. Section references herein are to the Department's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, current edition.

1.0 DESCRIPTION. Install weed control mat (WCM) at locations specified in the Contract or as the Engineer directs.

2.0 MATERIALS.

2.1 Weed Control Mat. WCM shall be a commercial weed control product. The mat shall be plastic, rubber composite or polyester fiber and shall prevent sunlight from reaching the soil. The mat shall have a minimum thickness of 0.2 inches. The mat shall contain no herbicides but shall resist ultraviolet light, mildew and algae. The mat shall be self-extinguishing when removed from flame. The WCM shall be provided with pre punched opening for posts when required.

2.2 Weed Control Mat Collar. Collar prefabricated by the manufacturer shall be the same material and same thickness as the WCM and shall fit snugly around the post without gaps. If the weed control mat collar is necessary it shall be specified on the project plans.

2.3 Joiner Strip. A joiner strip shall be a strip of WCM that is a minimum of 4 inches in width and be the same thickness.

2.4 Staples. Staples shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Staples will be able to secure the WCM to another section of WCM and be able to penetrate two thicknesses of material.

2.5 Caulking. Caulking material used to seal the WCM material to guardrail posts shall be as specified by the manufacturer. If the manufacturer does not specify use standard silicone sealant.

2.6 Stakes. All stakes required to anchor the product to the ground shall be specified by the manufacturer.

3.0 CONSTRUCTION. Install according to the Manufacturer's recommendations. When requested by the Engineer, provide a Manufacturer's Representative on-site to oversee and approve the initial installation of the mat. When requested by the Engineer, provide a letter from the Manufacturer approving the installation.

3.1 Site Preparation. Areas to receive WCM shall be cleared of trash and debris. Vegetation shall be removed to the ground. Cleared trash, debris and removed vegetation shall be disposed outside of the right of way in accordance with section 202 of the standard specifications. If necessary areas to receive the WCM shall be tamped flat to achieve a smooth surface that will allow the mat to lay as flat as possible without bulges, voids, or wrinkles.

3.2 Installation. WCM shall be placed as shown on the plans, beneath and adjacent to guardrail and sign posts. Mats shall be secured in place using materials and spacing specified by the manufacturer and spaced per the manufacturer's specifications. Under no circumstances will

abutted joints be allowed in the WCM. All joints must be overlapped or have a joiner strip that beneath the top surface.

- A) **Installation under Guardrail:** WCM in guardrail areas shall be placed immediately following installation of the guardrail posts, prior to the installation of the rail sections. WCM shall be placed over guardrail posts using the prepunched opening, allowing the mat to be lowered to the ground. Collars shall be placed over guardrail post openings, covering all gaps.

Joints between the guardrail posts, WCM, and mat collars shall be caulked according to manufacturer requirements. The filler material shall be applied around all posts per the manufacturer’s recommendations.

WCM shall overlap adjacent paving or dikes by a minimum of 2 inches and trimmed to a straight line. Butt joints between the WCM and adjacent paving will not be allowed. Weed control mat shall be fastened to the adjacent pavement or dike according to manufacturers specifications.

Following completion of the placement of the WCM, collars, staples, stakes, and caulking, the mat surface shall be flat, smooth, and in uniform contact with the soil surface, free of bulges, voids, and wrinkles.

- B) **Installation around sign posts:** The WCM will be installed around sign posts according to the manufacturer specifications. The WCM will be sealed around the posts in the same manner as the guardrail. The WCM shall extend at least two feet beyond each post and be three foot in width.

4.0 MEASUREMENT. The Department will measure the quantity of WCM by the square foot of area to be covered. The Department will not measure ground preparation for payment and will consider it incidental to the mat. The Department will consider caulking, crack sealant, staples, mat collars, and staking incidental to the WCM and will not measure them for payment.

5.0 PAYMENT. The Department will make payment for the completed and accepted quantities under the following:

<u>Code</u>	<u>Pay Item</u>	<u>Pay Unit</u>
23962EN11H	Weed Control Mat	Square Foot

The Department will consider payment as full compensation for all work required under this note.

June 15, 2012