

Will County DOT
Removal of Out of Service Utilities
01/13/2022

The County Engineer requires out of service utilities, regardless of conflict status, be removed from the right-of-way. Utilities not removed are owned by the utility in perpetuity; abandoned utilities are not allowed.

The Will County Ordinance (Permit and Access Control Regulations) Paragraph 3.1.5-8 states in part, “The County Engineer, in his opinion, may require that utility facilities (underground and above ground) being placed out of service as part of the permit work be removed from the right-of-way.”

The following requirements are set forth:

1. Out of service utilities under existing pavement (including within 2 FT outside existing pavement):
 - a. If the out of service utility is above proposed subgrade (in the cut), the utility owner is responsible for removing and properly disposing of it. Coordinate with the Resident Engineer and contractor to remove during road construction.
 - b. If the out of service utility is below proposed subgrade (below the cut), the utility owner is responsible for removing it in its entirety and properly disposing of it. Backfill to the top of subgrade, see “Utility Trench backfill FINAL.pdf” Coordinate with the Resident Engineer and contractor to remove during road construction.
2. Out of service utilities outside existing pavement and within proposed pavement (including within 2 FT outside proposed pavement):
 - a. If the out of service utility is above proposed subgrade (in the cut), the utility owner is responsible for removing and properly disposing of it, prior to construction. Backfill to the existing elevation, see “Utility Trench backfill FINAL.pdf”
 - b. If the out of service utility is below proposed subgrade (below the cut), the utility owner is responsible for removing and properly disposing of it, prior to construction. Backfill to the proposed top of subgrade, see “Utility Trench backfill FINAL.pdf”.
3. Out of service utilities outside existing and proposed pavement - remove utility prior to construction and backfill to the existing elevation, see “Utility Trench backfill FINAL.pdf”.
4. Exceptions on case by case basis:
 - a. Out of service conduit/pipeline under active pavement or in environmentally sensitive areas can be filled with grout, in accordance with IDOT procedures. Cut retired conduit/pipeline at right-of-way line(s) or the end of the line(s) within the ROW, fill with grout, cap all ends after filling with grout. Consult the Resident or Permit Engineer before making any new pavement cuts for pressure relief during the grouting process.
 - b. Out of service direct bury cables (no conduit) can remain in place.