

	ROADSIDE MEMORIALS		<i>Issued: SEPT 2004</i>
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			<i>Page 1 of 2</i>
RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	MISCELLANEOUS SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION	TEMPORARY	

General

A roadside memorial is an object (typically ornamental) constructed, erected, or placed in the highway right-of-way to memorialize a person fatally injured in a motor vehicle related accident.

Memorial displays can cause safety concerns as they may distract drivers or become a hazard for errant vehicles. For this reason, the erection of roadside memorials is discouraged.

Instead, individuals may consider enrolling in the Adopt-A-Highway program. The program provides an opportunity to display a tab sign stating "In Memory Of..." under a Caring for Alberta Highways sign. More information can be obtained about this program on the department's website at:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType34/Production/hwycleanup.pdf>

Guidelines for Use

Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation follows a policy of maintaining a safe roadside and discourages memorial displays within the highway right-of-way.

Existing memorials which do not pose safety or operational concerns (such as smaller objects or plaques placed at the ground level) will be allowed to remain for a short time (usually one to two months). It is the responsibility of the person erecting a roadside memorial to remove it after this time period has elapsed.

No roadside memorials will be allowed to remain permanently.

When a roadside memorial poses a hazard to the travelling public, a district representative will contact the person who placed the display, if his or her identify is known, and negotiate relocation to the fence line, installation of a smaller display or removal of the display. All relocated memorials should be removed after a period of approximately one to two months.

The department reserves the right to relocate or remove a memorial display if that display or object poses an immediate danger to the public. Efforts will be made to contact the owner before relocating or removing a display.

The following objects will not be allowed within the highway right-of-way:

- objects placed on the roadway surface
- memorials constructed from heavy materials or any large object that has a solid base or is secured in such manner that creates a hazard to an errant vehicle
- memorials that hinder or impede maintenance operations, restrict driver's sight lines, create a distraction to the travelling public or interfere with or obstruct traffic control devices.
- memorials made of reflective material or illuminated by any means
- memorials placed in the median, on bridges or overpasses, around power poles, culverts, street lighting fixtures, signs or other roadway appurtenances
- memorials that pose concerns for landowners of adjacent properties.

Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation is not responsible for the maintenance of memorials, and can not be held liable for any loss or damage of roadside memorials that may occur due to road maintenance, construction or other activities.

Persons attending to memorial display will be advised to obey traffic and parking regulations at all times to ensure the safety of themselves, as well as the motoring public.