Private driveways are access roads that provide vehicular access to structures on no more than three (3) parcels. They must be constructed in substantial conformance with the following standards developed and recommended by the Spokane County Fire Prevention Committee. Driveway approaches are subject to conformance with the Spokane County Road Standards and requirements are outlined in Brochure E-3 *Rural Residential Approaches* and E-4 *Urban Residential Approaches*.

- **Max Grade:** 12% - 14% maximum (outside right-of-way).
- **Approaches:** Private driveway approaches within the right-of-way shall maintain a 2-8% declination downward, and away from the County roadway. Contact the Spokane County Division of Engineering and Roads.
- **Width:** 12’ clear travel way with all-weather surface.
- **Turnouts:** One approximately every 400 feet. All-weather surface 20’ in total width for 50’ in length.
- **Turnaround:** Required for driveways over 150’ in length. “Hammerhead” or 50’ minimum radius cul-de-sac needs to be within 150’ of dwelling.
- **Permits:** Approach permits are required from the Division of Engineering and Roads to connect to any county public road. Private driveways constructed prior to obtaining building permits may require a grading permit.
- **Inspections:** Installation inspection and acceptance of the driveway is required prior to dwelling occupancy (i.e., road surfacing, width, vertical clearance and drainage).
- **Curves:** No curve radius shall be less than 100’ measured from the road center line unless approved by the local fire district and the Department of Building and Planning.
- **Drainage:** Corrugated metal pipe (CMP) or approved alternate: Driveway cross pipes at private road approaches to the Fire Apparatus Access Roads shall be a minimum of 12” in diameter. At public road approaches to Fire Apparatus Access Roads, a minimum (12” x 24’) galvanized 16 gauge culvert, with beveled ends no steeper than 1 1/2 to 1, will be required.
- **Maintenance:** A recorded road maintenance agreement with financial provisions is recommended. Please note that Spokane County is not responsible for building, improving, maintaining, surveying, constructing, repairing, providing drainage or snow removal on any private driveway.
Other brochures that may be helpful
BP-19  Erosion & Sediment Control
BP-19a Erosion & Sediment Control Techniques
BP-46  Grading and Parking Lot Permits
BP-46a Typical Grading Permits

For more information or an appointment contact:
Spokane County Public Works
Department of Building and Planning
1026 W. Broadway, Spokane, WA 99260-0050
(509) 477-3675  bp@spokanecounty.org
http://www.spokanecounty.org/bp