

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the criteria for eligibility?
Eligibility requirements are shown on inside of this brochure.

Who can request a sign?
The applicant must be an immediate family member of the individual to be memorialized. Or a non-family sponsor may apply for a sign with written concurrence from an immediate family member.

What happens if someone objects to the sign?
Only immediate family members may object. The objection needs to be in writing, and then the sign will not be installed.

How much does it cost?
There is no fee for this program.

How long does the sign remain up?
A sign will remain in place for three years from initial placement. Within three years of the Board's resolution authorizing placement, the applicant may request a one-time extension of an additional three years.

How do I apply?
Contact the Lancaster County Engineering Department by phone or web to obtain an application.

How soon can the sign be installed?
Once a completed application has been submitted, it can take up to 30 days for review. Upon approval, sign ordering, fabrication, and installation can take up to an additional 60 days.

What types of roads are eligible for a sign?
Only accident locations along section line County roads are eligible. Signs will not be placed on local or private roads. Requests for signs on State Highways should be addressed to the State of Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Can I have the sign installed where I want?
The specific location of the sign is determined by County staff and is based upon a number of items including local, state, and federal regulations. If you have a specific request, County staff will work with you to accommodate your preference to the extent possible.

What happens if the sign gets vandalized, stolen or knocked down?
The sign will be replaced one time.

What happens to the sign at the end of the three (or six with extension) year period?
The sign will be removed and may be sold as surplus County property.

Additional information, program specifics, and applications for a memorial sign are available by contacting:

Lancaster County
Engineering Department
444 Cherrycreek Rd Bldg. B
Lincoln, Ne 68522
402-441-7797
www.lancaster.ne.gov/engineer

Roadside Memorial Signs

A Lancaster County Warning Sign Program In Memory Of Those Who Died In Fatal Crashes



Purpose

This program allows for installing warning signs at the sites of crash fatalities on Lancaster County section line roads through the placement of memorial roadside signs.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for a roadside sign, the following criteria must be met:

- The accident must have occurred within six years of application;
- The accident occurred on a County maintained section line roadway;
- The accident resulted in the death of the individual to be memorialized;
- There is no written opposition to the installation of a memorial sign from any immediate family member;
- In the case where application is made for an intoxicated driver (alcohol or any other controlled substance) who was fatally injured, the name plaque shall read "Sponsored by (family name or applicant)" and will not include the driver's name.

Sign Specifics

The signs are 24" x 36" blue rectangles with one of the following messages to be chosen by the applicant:

- Please Drive Safely
- Seat Belts Save Lives
- Please Watch for Bicyclists
- Don't Drink and Drive

An additional plaque bearing the words "In Memory Of (Name of Fatality)" or "Sponsored By (Name)" will be installed beneath the rectangular panel. In the event of multiple fatalities, additional names can be placed on the plaque.

Requesting a Sign

An immediate family member (*) of the individual to be memorialized may request a memorial sign by submitting a completed application form.

** An immediate family member is a spouse, child, stepchild, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, mother stepmother, father or stepfather.*

Alternatively, a non-family member sponsor may request a memorial sign by submitting a completed application form together with written concurrence of at least one member of the deceased's immediate family.

Process and Procedures

The applicant submits to the Engineer a completed application form.

The Engineer will review the application and accident report within 30 days and submit recommendations to the Board. (If necessary for verification purposes, the applicant may be asked to provide a copy of the death certificate).

Upon approval by the Board, the sign will be ordered, fabricated, delivered and installed within 60 days.

Sign Location and Maintenance

- Signs will only be installed on Lancaster County section line roadways.
- The specific location of the sign is at the discretion of Lancaster County. One sign designating the site of a fatal crash will be installed in one direction of travel on the right side of the road in close proximity to the crash location.
- The County will replace the sign one time should it be vandalized or otherwise damaged.

Sign Removal

- The sign will remain in place for three years from the date of initial placement (or six years with the one-time extension), after which time period the sign will be removed.
- The applicant may request removal in writing to the Engineer at any time.
- Following removal the sign may be sold as surplus County property.

Additional program details are available from Lancaster County staff upon request.