

MAINTENANCE PLANNING GUIDELINES

2006

ACTIVITY: Bridge Preventative Maintenance (R322)
MAJOR & MINOR

ACTION: Bridge Seal Coats (SY)

DEFINITION: The time and expenses incurred for the application of preventative maintenance treatments to bridges. Examples include bridge seal coats and linseed oil and in-deck seals.

PURPOSE: To seal bridge decks with excessive cracking to prevent intrusion of water and chlorides into the bridge deck.

SCHEDULING: Seals should be scheduled after surface repairs are completed. Work should be performed in July and August

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
A	E	A	P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	E
N	B	R	R	Y	N	L	G	P	T	V	C

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT:

- Dump Trucks
- Truck Distributor
- Power Roller/Pneumatic Roller
- Aggregate Spreader
- Broom
- Traffic Control Equipment;
(See EPG [616.23 Traffic Control for Field Operations](#))

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE:

1. Deck should be cleaned, flushed, and allowed to dry prior to sealing.
2. Place traffic control devices as needed.
3. Cover expansion devices and other features that are not to be sealed over with felt paper.
4. Chip seals are to extend a minimum of 30 feet beyond each bridge end.
5. Apply liquid asphalt at a rate of 0.3 to 0.5 gal./SY, depending on size of cover aggregate and slope of bridge deck.
6. Spread cover aggregate, at a rate of 25 to 30 lbs./SY, immediately following application of liquid asphalt. Adequate cover aggregate must be applied to prevent tracking. Do not place cover aggregate within 2 ft. of curb.
7. Roll immediately after placing cover aggregate.
8. Lightly broom excess chips after seal is properly cured (when chips are securely held).
9. Repeat for adjacent lanes.
10. Remove traffic control devices. Leave “Loose Gravel” signs in place as needed.
11. Return the next day or two to again thoroughly sweep bridge deck to remove loose aggregate. Remove aggregate on lower chords and substructure caps.

RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:

- Liquid Asphalt (EA90P, CRS-2P)
- Cover Aggregate (Iron Mountain trap rock, Joplin chat, or other approved material)

SAFETY: Watch for flying rocks and traffic in adjacent lanes. Wear all appropriate PPE. Refer to the [Safety Policies, Rules & Regulations – Employee Handbook](#).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: May install “Loose Gravel” signs until the loose aggregate is removed from the bridge deck.

REFERENCES: EPG [771.15 Chip Seal to Entire Deck](#).