



Clear the Intersection Sight Triangles

Removal of overgrown foliage or other objects (e.g., signs, vehicular parking, utility poles, fences) obstructing the sight triangle without involving major construction.



Source: Lee Engineering, LLC



Source: Lee Engineering, LLC

In both images, sight triangles were improved by creating a buffer area between the approaching through lane and near edge of roadway.



Source: VHB

Site distance could be improved at this intersection by trimming the vegetation.

Targeted Crash Types

- Right-angle
- Rear-end (major road)

Problems Addressed

- Inadequate intersection sight distance
- Inadequate visibility of intersection or intersection traffic control devices

Conditions Addressed

- Inadequate sight distance at intersection due to obstructions in the sight triangle (in the median or on the roadside).
- Crash history or observed conflicts due to inadequate sight distance.

Considerations

- Removal of obstructions on private property will require coordination with property owners.
- Agency policy or local ordinances regarding planting and landscaping features on property corners should be reviewed, revised as necessary, and enforced.
- The position of the minor road stop line may be adjusted to improve visibility from the minor road approach.
- If adequate sight distance cannot be maintained, consider appropriateness of an all-way stop condition.

Industry Standard

AASHTO Green Book
Section 9.5.2: Sight Triangles

Other Resources

[NCHRP 500 Volume 5: A Guide for Addressing Unsignalized Intersections](#)
[Intersection Safety: A Manual for Local Rural Road Owners, FHWA](#)

