

Steps In Resurfacing A Street: A General Guide

Every street in Columbus is different, so all resurfacing projects are not exactly the same, and any work in the process will be delayed in the event of rain or extreme cold. Here is a general guide telling what to expect when a street is resurfaced.

1. **Several weeks before the resurfacing process begins**
 - As needed, crews will install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant curb ramps after demolishing the old ramps.
 - Previously existing curb ramps may be removed and rebuilt to meet current ADA requirements.
2. **About one week before the resurfacing process begins**
 - The project's contractor will deliver a letter to area residents describing the project and include contact information
3. **Three days before the resurfacing, which will start with milling (removing the top layer of old pavement)**
 - The contractor will post red and white "No Parking" signs that include dates and times of parking restrictions
4. **Step 1 of actual resurfacing: Milling**
 - The old, current pavement surface is milled or grinded away, which takes about one day, weather permitting
 - On-street parking will be prohibited during this work, but vehicles will still have access in and out of driveways
 - Contractors will, if needed, tow vehicles to a nearby street, so please do not park on a milled street that is about to be repaved
 - *Please contact the city of Columbus Division of Police Radio Room at 645-4545 if you find your car has been towed on a street that is being resurfaced, The Police Radio Room will be able to tell you to where your car was moved.*
5. **Deep pavement repair, only as needed, to repair segments of pavement deeper under the surface of the pavement.**
 - The repair is done in rectangular or square segments and will go down up to eight inches under the old pavement, much deeper than the most common resurfacing
 - Steps in the deep pavement repair process include:
 1. After the initial milling down of the pavement, crews mill deeper into the already milled pavement to make repairs
 2. A new layer of asphalt is applied to only the segment where pavement repair was done. It may look like resurfacing on the segment is done, but it is not.
 3. The new layer of asphalt where the pavement repair was done is milled down to lower the repaired section so it is level with the rest of the milled surface around it
 4. The street is then resurfaced with a new layer of asphalt that seals over the top of the repaired section of pavement so there are no seams or joints in the pavement at the edges of where the pavement repair was done
 - *Note: Pavement repair is not wastefully tearing up newly-applied asphalt and needlessly resurfacing the road a second time. It repairs a segment of the pavement deeper under the surface of the pavement, then seals it over the seams of the repaired segment of road with a smooth, safe final layer of new asphalt, all of which will lengthen the life of the pavement.*
6. **One to seven days after milling: New layer of pavement laid down (will follow any deeper pavement repair that is needed prior to resurfacing)**
 - Weather permitting, paving will occur within a few days after the milling. New pavement is laid in the following steps:
 - a. 1st layer: A sticky layer called the tack coat, which helps the asphalt adhere to the roadway, applied. Avoid driving or walking on tack coat
 - b. Next, a new layer of asphalt is laid down with paving and rolling machines

c. Resurfaced street can be driven on as soon as construction crews re-open the lane or street

7. After the Paving

- Some work may remain after the paving, including application of pavement markings, cleanup and replanting grass, if needed

Be Safe Around Resurfacing Projects

- Slow down when driving through or near any road construction site
- Be alert for construction workers and law enforcement officers
- The milled street before the new layer of asphalt is applied will have a rough surface. Drivers, cyclists and pedestrians should use caution, especially near protruding manhole covers

For More Information, Please Contact:

City of Columbus 311 Customer Service Center at 645-3111, or online at www.311.columbus.gov
Paving the Way Road-Construction Information Program: 645-PAVE, or online at www.pavingtheway.org
For a list of each year's paving projects: www.publicservice.columbus.gov