

## **Visibility Triangles**

### **River Wilderness Criteria/Interpretations:**

The attached section of Manatee County Land Development Codes describing Visibility Triangles must be enforced within River Wilderness on both homeowner property and common property.

A clear Visibility Triangle must be maintained at all street corners and at all driveway intersections.

No fence, wall, hedge, landscaping, or other material or structure that will obstruct the view of automobile drivers between a height of 30 inches and eight (8) feet shall be erected, placed or maintained on any corner lot within a triangular area formed by the street right-of-way lines and a line connecting them at a point thirty feet from the intersection of the street right-of-ways.

No fence, wall, hedge, landscaping, or other material or structure that will obstruct the view of automobile drivers between a height of 30 inches and eight (8) feet shall be erected, placed or maintained within a triangular area formed by the intersection of a driveway line and the street right-of-way and a line connecting them at a point 15 feet from their point of intersection.

The homeowner or common property owner is responsible for maintaining this clear Visibility Triangle on their property.

Any shrubbery within a Visibility triangle must be trimmed to 30 inches or less, and any tree branches that overhang into the Visibility Triangle must be no lower than 8 feet.

As shown on the diagram, measurements of the 30 ft. Visibility Triangle for street corners, and the 15 foot Visibility Triangle for driveways begins at the home side of the sidewalk (or equivalent if there is no sidewalk). This is where the street right-of-way ends and residential property begins.



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## Section 713. - Visibility Triangles.



713.1. *Applicability.* In order to provide a clear view of intersecting streets and travel lanes to the motorist, there shall be a triangular area of clear visibility. On every corner lot, at every driveway intersection with streets, and in parking areas, there shall be a visibility triangle clear of any structure, fence, obstruction planting, or parking, unless exempted by Section 713.3 below. The area formed by the visibility triangle constitutes an important horizontal and vertical sight distance for vehicular traffic.

### 713.2. *Location.*

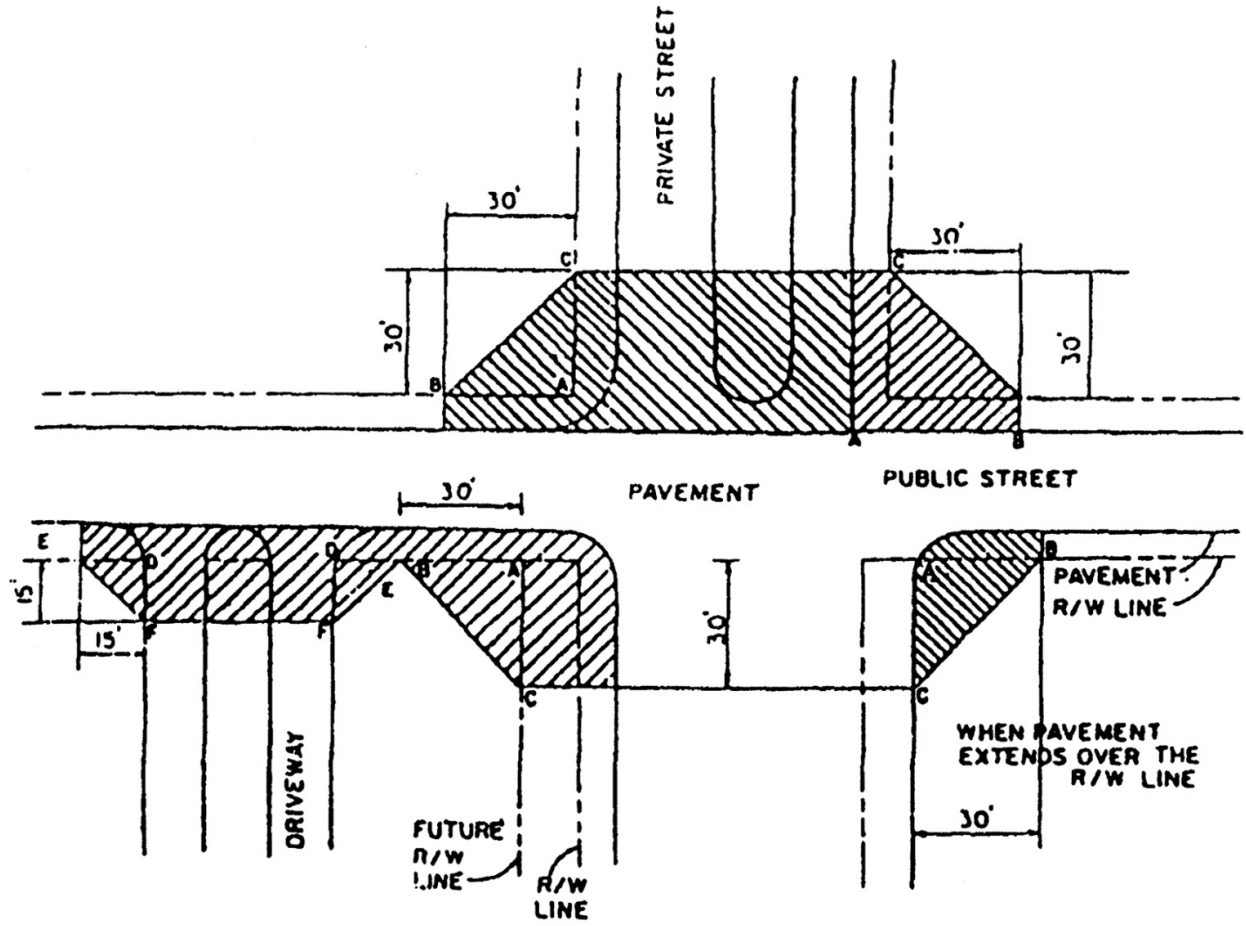
713.2.1. *For a Corner Lot.* The visibility triangle shall be formed by extending the rights-of-way lines of any corner lot to a point where the lines intersect each other designated as point (A); and from that intersecting point (A), measuring to a point thirty (30) feet along both rights-of-way lines points (B and C); and then, connecting those same two points (B and C), forming a line which measures 42.43 feet.

At an intersection and where two adjacent corner lots exist or are planned, the visibility triangle requirements shall include the segment of the rights-of-way thirty (30) feet from the rights-of-way line of the intersecting rights-of-way line. See visibility triangle illustration [713](#).

If a future rights-of-way line has been established by the Transportation Department, the thirty (30) foot line of the triangle shall be measured along the future rights-of-way line, as indicated in the visibility triangle illustration [713](#). 713.2.2. *For a Driveway.* The driveway visibility triangle is the triangle formed by extending the edge of driveway and extending the adjacent rights-of-way line to a point where the lines intersect each other, designated as point (D); and from that intersecting point (D), measuring to a point fifteen (15) feet along the rights-of-way line to a point designated as (E); and measuring from point (D) fifteen (15) feet along the edge of the driveway to a point designated as (F); and then, connecting points (E) and (F) to form a line which measures 21.21 feet. The visibility triangle requirements shall include the segment of the driveway fifteen (15) feet from the intersecting street line, as indicated in the visibility triangle illustration [713](#).

713.2.2. *For a Driveway.* The driveway visibility triangle is the triangle formed by extending the edge of driveway and extending the adjacent rights-of-way line to a point where the lines intersect each other, designated as point (D); and from that intersecting point (D), measuring to a point fifteen (15) feet along the rights-of-way line to a point designated as (E); and measuring from point (D) fifteen (15) feet along the edge of the driveway to a point designated as (F); and then, connecting points (E) and (F) to form a line which measures 21.21 feet. The visibility triangle requirements shall include the segment of the driveway fifteen (15) feet from the intersecting street line, as indicated in the visibility triangle illustration [713](#).

ILLUSTRATION 713. VISIBILITY TRIANGLE



.3. *Exemptions.* The following items are exempt from the visibility triangle requirement.

713.3.1. All structures and plantings not within a vision clearance area between thirty (30) inches and eight (8) feet above the average elevation of the existing pavement surface of both streets measured along the high point of the street pavement surface, adjacent to the rights-of-way line.

713.3.2. The visibility triangle requirement shall not apply at existing visibility triangle locations to the trunk of an existing, established tree. However, the branches or foliage shall meet the vision clearance area required of paragraph 713.3.1.

713.3.3. A single post or column or similar structure other than signs or sign structures, which is no greater than twelve (12) inches in cross section or diameter.

713.3.4. Non-opaque fences such as chain link are exempt from these requirements.

713.3.5. Fire hydrants, public utility poles, street markers, governmental signs, traffic control devices and public bus benches and U.S. Post Office authorized mailboxes are exempt from these requirements.

The exemption of governmental signs from the visibility triangle requirement is based upon the function served by governmental signs.

713.3.6. Directional signs, as permitted by [Section 724—Signs](#).

713.3.7. In RSMH, CRV and PDRV zones, driveway visibility triangles to individual lots are not required.

.4. Telephone booths, parking areas, bicycle racks, signs and like structures are not exempted from the visibility triangle requirements.

.5. *Illustration.*

713.5.1. The visibility triangle is identified as illustration number 713.

.6. *Responsibility.*

713.6.1. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the visibility triangle horizontal and vertical clearances at all times.

.7. *Safety Hazards Within the Visibility Triangle.*

713.7.1. Any safety hazard violation of the Visibility Triangle shall be subject to immediate removal, without prior notification to violator, by the Transportation Department, at the expense of the property