

# U.S. PAVEMENT SERVICES, INC.



Serving New England Since 1985

## RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY SEALCOATING - FAQ GUIDE

### Why Sealcoat my Driveway?

Sealcoating your driveway will extend the life of the pavement structure. Sealcoating acts as a waterproofing agent, minimizing the rate at which water enters the asphalt. The intrusion of moisture into asphalt accelerates its deterioration and is strongly related to asphalt failure. Sealcoating asphalt prevents the seepage of water and moisture from rain and snow, thus preventing damage from freeze thaw cycles which is a common reason your driveway begins forming cracks or even worse, pot holes.

Sealcoating leaves a smooth, clean surface and gives your entrance a fresh and new look. Sealcoating fills surface voids, and help hide small cracks, patches and rough spots and sealcoating costs pennies per square foot compared to the dollars needed to repair or replace aging asphalt pavement structures.

### What the difference between sprayed versus squeegeed?

It is much easier to control the rate of application when sprayed. Squeegees are at the mercy of the pavement surface texture; the smoother the surface, the less material that will be applied. On rougher pavement, more material is applied to the low spots and less material is applied to the high spots. ***Unless specifically requested and noted on your proposal, U.S. Pavement Services sprays all driveways. Certain areas may be completed by hand (around edges or near structures) at the discretion of the crew.***

### What type of Sealcoat will be used?

We use government grade coal tar emulsion based sealer, which exceeds RP-355e specifications and contains 4 to 6 pounds of silica sand per gallon to ensure a very durable longer lasting application. A select mix of aggregates and clay shall be blended to improve durability.

### How long should I stay off my driveway?

Dry times for sealcoat depend greatly on the exposure to the sun and outside temperatures. **U.S. Pavement Services recommends waiting a minimum of 24 - 48 hours following application of your new sealcoat.** If you have any questions regarding this, please call us at 1-800-DRIVEWAY.

### How often should I sealcoat my driveway?

We recommend sealcoating every 2-3 years. For new asphalt, we recommend sealcoating the following year after installation.

**1-800-DRIVEWAY**

Corporate Headquarters: 39 Industrial Parkway, Woburn, MA 01801  
Telephone 781-932-4722 ■ Fax 781-932-4622

[uspavement.com](http://uspavement.com)

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## When should I pay?

U.S. Pavement Services accepts checks, money orders, and all major credit cards. Payment can be left the day of service or pre-payment can be made. **We typically recommend pre-payment to expedite scheduling.** Checks can be mailed directly to: U.S. Pavement Services, 39 Industrial Parkway, Woburn MA, 01801. **Please make your check payable to U.S. Pavement Services and be sure to note your RFP# on your check.** The RFP# is located on the top left of your proposal and begins with an "R". If paying by credit card, please scan your contract and credit card information to [driveways@uspavement.com](mailto:driveways@uspavement.com) or mail to the above address. **Payment must be paid in FULL to activate and validate your warranty.**

## What about the Oil Stains?

We will do our best to eliminate existing oil stains from your driveway. We apply an oil spot primer which is brushed onto the stain to prevent it from eating through the new layer of sealcoat.

Unfortunately, not all stains can be completely removed, but this primer usually eliminates normal oil stains.

**There is no guarantee on the treatment of oil stains following your sealcoat application.**

## When can you schedule my driveway?

U.S. Pavement Services operates sealcoat crews throughout New England. **Scheduling typically takes between 1—3 weeks once we receive your signed contract.** Please keep in mind that all schedule dates are weather permitting. **We are unable to provide you with an exact time the crews will be onsite to sealcoat your driveway.**



Typical damage from deterioration is caused by substances such as oil. Without sealcoat's protection, the oil is able to corrode the pavement.

## Expect a different texture around the edges?

The edges around the driveway and near structures are typically sealed by hand. **Light cut in marks around the edges are a normal part of the process and will fade with time.** This is not a service or warranty related item, just a natural part of the curing process. This is necessary to avoid getting any of the sealer on your property.

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## What are the Tire Marks?

When you begin using your driveway after sealing, you will notice for the first few weeks to a month, that it appears to be marking from the wheels of your car; **this is to be expected and is normal.** What's happening is that the sand in our sealant mix is loosening at the very top of the coating. This will go away and clean up with time.

Try not to turn your wheels in one place when not moving. This can result in what we call power steering marks. **This will also fade with time and is not a warranty issue.**



Power steering marks will fade with time and is not considered a warranty issue.

## Sprinklers?

Please make sure your sprinkler system is turned off 24 hours prior to sealcoating and a minimum of 48 hours after sealcoating. This can potentially wash away the sealer.



Alligatoring pavement and interconnected surface cracks will not be filled with our rubberized Asphalt Joint Compound. We will try and crackseal the edges to prevent further spreading of these types of cracks.

## Surface Cracks?

We will fill 1/4 inch to 1 inch straight line cracks in your driveway with rubberized Asphalt Joint Compound. **The crack sealer may not be smooth or flush to the asphalt, and may sink a bit based on outside temperatures. Asphalt Joint Compound will never become rock hard. This is normal and is not considered a warranty issue.**

**Surface cracks smaller than 1/4 inch wide and alligator cracks as shown on the picture to the left, will not be filled with our rubberized Asphalt Joint Compound.**

While the sealer will seep into the cracks and make them airtight, it will not fill or repair them. If you have alligator cracks, sealcoating will help save your driveway from further cracking and deterioration, but it will not make the existing cracks go away. You would need to have the asphalt cut out and repaired with new mix to solve this type problem. Currently, we do not perform this type of repair service for residential driveways.

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## What are signs of Fertilizer stains?

Do not let any lawn fertilizers get on your driveway surface after sealcoating! If it does happen, try and rinse immediately!

Lawn fertilizers can stain and discolor, causing the sealer to lose its luster and stain. This is not considered a warranty issue.



Staining on from chemicals such as fertilizer pellets.

## Why are there areas of sealcoat grayish in color?

Sealer needs sunlight to cure. Shaded areas (near your house or trees) may appear grayish in color but will darken and blend with the driveway in time, usually 2-3 weeks. This is normal.

## Will you clean my driveway prior to sealing?

We will use high powered blowers to remove sand, dirt, and free-floating debris. **We will treat existing oil stains, but we will not be able to clean other types of stains from the surface of your asphalt nor will we be able to remove moss or grass extending through the cracks.** Please make sure to do this prior to our arrival to ensure the best job possible.

## Are plow marks normal?

Anything that scrapes your driveway can damage it. Many scrapes and scratches look worse than they really are. Some snow removal companies use a rubber or polyurethane cutting edge on their plow blades to lessen the impact on your driveway, while others set the plow blade 1/2" above the surface to avoid damage. If possible, we recommend either option. Flat surfaces usually don't see any damage, it's uneven surfaces with high areas or sudden grade changes that are most susceptible to winter plow damage. **We offer no guarantee on damage that may be caused by a plow blade.**

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