

# Road Maintenance & Deer Stands



Each year Deltic Timber Corporation spends hundreds of thousands of dollars to ensure that our road system is in the best shape possible. This regular maintenance primarily consists of utilizing a motor-grader to pull the ditches and also to crown and smooth the road. While both of these activities are important, the cleaning out of ditches is the higher priority. Among other things, it prevents ponding of water, helps reduce flooding, and prevents erosion.


One problem we are currently experiencing company-wide is that in many instances clubs have placed deer stands right on the sides of our roads and therefore directly on top of the ditches. **Needless to say, with a deer stand existing right on top of a ditch, it is impossible for the ditch to be maintained properly.** What inevitably happens is that our

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contractor is forced to pull his blade up and go around a stand. In doing so, he basically has to leave a "dam" (non-maintained spot) in the ditch which prevents adequate water flow. Just one instance is bad enough, but when you may have multiple stands on one road, water flow can be substantially inhibited.

After large rains, these roads are damaged. Excessive water can't flow, ponds up, floods and erodes the road, and therefore leads to the road

either being rendered impassable or excessively rutted. This bad condition not only impacts our forestry work, but also directly impacts the travelling ability of club members.

We are simply reminding clubs to please make sure **all deer stands placed along company roads are on the back slope of the ditch** so our road contractors aren't hindered. Any existing stands sitting on the top of ditches also need to be moved as quickly as possible. Deltic Timber Corporation cannot be responsible for damage caused to stands during our road maintenance operations. As mentioned before, having well-maintained roads is a benefit to our company, the numerous individual hunting clubs, and the water quality of our environment. 



*As you can see from these two examples, road maintenance was hindered by the legs of these stands. Consequently, the ditches weren't able to be pulled properly and water can now pond up underneath the stand and run over the road.*