

South Carolina Department of Transportation  
Traffic Engineering Guidelines

**NUMBER:** TG-3

**SUBJECT:** Warning Signs for Water on Road

**BACKGROUND:** At certain locations across the state, water collects on or flows across the roadway during periods of heavy rain or possibly under other circumstances. Historically, warning signs have been installed at these locations temporarily or permanently with various messages. Some resident engineers have erected temporary warning signs at these locations when the road remained passable; however, the message on such signs has not been consistent. This guideline has been developed to maintain sign uniformity since temporary signing for this situation is not addressed in the MUTCD. In certain areas where flooding occurs more frequently that makes a road impassable, signs have been erected stating that the road is subject to flooding. This is addressed in Section 2C.35 of the MUTCD. However the message used has not been consistent.

**GUIDELINE:** Temporary signs should be erected to warn motorists of water standing or flowing on the roadway when the roadway remains passable.

These signs should be erected as soon as the problem is known to exist and removed as soon as the water subsides. They should be located in accordance with standard practice for signs warning of a condition requiring a high degree of judgment. If the road is impassable or its use inadvisable, these signs should not be used and the road should be closed using standard procedure.

When used, these signs shall have the message, "Water on Road", and shall be fabricated as depicted on the layout for W8-45-36.

If an area is subject to flooding on a more consistent basis, a permanent sign may be erected. The message should read, "Road May Flood" (W8-18-36). The sign shall be fabricated as depicted on the layout for W8-18-36. Sheeting type shall be as specified by Engineering Directive Memorandum number 4.

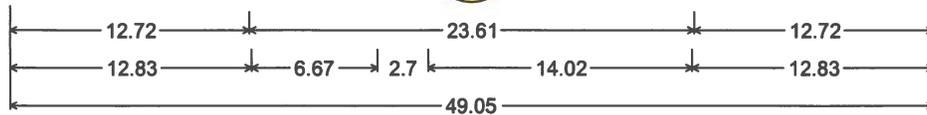


Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Traffic Engineering

12-20-2018  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



TRAFFIC ENGINEERING



W8-45-36; 36.00" across sides 2.25" Radius, 0.88" Border, 0.63" Indent, Black on Yellow;  
 [WATER] C; [ON] C; [ROAD] C;

Table of distances between letter and object lefts.

12.72	W	A	T	E	R	12.72	
	5.65	4.77	4.68	4.68	3.83		
12.83	O	N	R	O	A	D	12.83
	3.94	5.43	3.58	3.74	3.97	2.73	

SIGN NO.: W8-45-36

*John D. Boyer* 12-18-18  
 STATE TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEER DATE



W8-18-36;

36.00" across sides 2.25" Radius, 0.88" Border, 0.63" Indent, Black on Yellow;  
[ROAD] C; [MAY] C; [FLOOD] C;

Table of distances between letter and object lefts.

16.11	R	O	A	D	16.12
	4.30	4.48	4.76	3.28	

18.15	M	A	Y	18.15
	4.91	4.09	3.75	

14.51	F	L	O	O	D	14.02
	4.02	4.01	4.48	4.73	3.28	

**SIGN NO.:** W8-18-36

**DATE:** June 10, 2013