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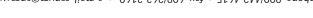
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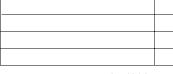
University of Wisconsin–Madison

1910 TRANSPORTANION Information Center

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Crossroads

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Cracks must be at least 1/4" for sealant to work.

Apply the sealant and squeegee the material to force it into the crack, level the surface, and remove the excess. It is important to form an overband that is less than 1/8 inch thick or snowplows will peal the sealant right out. Blotting is the next important

moisture before you fill it. Hot air lances like those from Linear Dynamics, Cimline and Seal-All, are excellent crack-cleaning tools.

winter-widened cracks require more sealant. Rout or cut narrow cracks at least 1/4 to 3/4 inch wide to make room for the sealant, Nelson says. Remove dust and

Roadway Maintenance workshop. Spring and fall have the best weather for asphalt pavement crack sealing. Temperatures between 45° and 65° F put the cracks at the middle of their working ranges. In summer when pavement expansion narrows the cracks you may not be able to get enough sealant into the crack, while

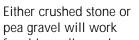
seals the key is stone quality, says UW-Platteville Civil Engineering Professor Tom Nelson who taught the T.I.C.'s Spring

Crack-sealing and seal-coating tips

you must be sure to Sealing cracks and applying chip seals make pavements last use low quality toilet longer. But it has to be done well or the money is wasted. paper that is only one Key issues in cracksealing are methods and timing. For chip thickness or ply.

Chip seals need dry, dust-free stone

step. Sand or toilet paper works well, but





Single-ply toilet paper is a good blotter.

as it is free of dust and moisture. Dusty, wet gravel won't stick in the asphalt cement. Pea gravel has better skid resistence and holds under traffic better. Crushed stone is more readily available and resists pull-out by snow plows. "Look at the performance of past chip seals," says

Nelson. "They should last about five years, so if you are

a year or two, switch to a more rounded material."

the stone, cuts dust, and keeps stone out of lawns."

getting crushed gravel pulling out from snowplows within

"Many operations use vacuums because it lets them reuse

If you would like copies of tables showing equipment, typical

the T.I.C. by phone, e-mail, fax or mail. Watch Crossroads for

sealant configurations, properties and types of sealants, contact

info on the next T.I.C. Spring Roadway Maintenance Workshop.

It is important to remove the excess stone, Nelson says.

for chip sealing as long