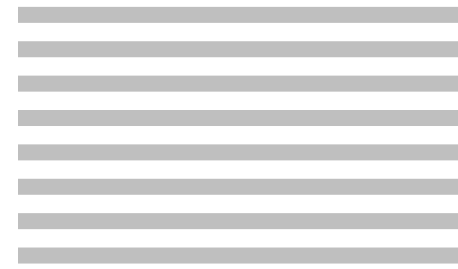


NEBRASKA AIRPORT REMINDERS

NDOT DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS | JULY 2023 | EDGE DAMS



EDGE DAMS

Pavement maintenance is an obligation of airports for safety and pavement preservation. The edges of the pavement are no exception.

ITEM 1: *What are edge dams?* An edge dam (also known as a high shoulder) is caused by an overgrowth of weeds, turf, and sod along the edge of the pavement. The edge dam creates a secondary ditch on the pavement.



Definitions:

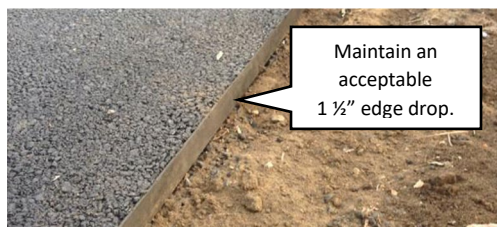
Shoulders: provide lateral pavement support and a recovery area when an aircraft wheel leaves the pavement.

Pavement Edge Drop: vertical elevation difference between the pavement and the adjacent shoulder surfaces.

ITEM 2: *Problems due to edge dams.* Edge dams due to vegetation growth on the

shoulder prevent water from running off the pavement, saturating the pavement base and causing safety problems such as ponded water (and icy conditions in the winter) and damage to the pavement. Damage from water saturation includes pavement cracking and destabilization of base material under the pavement.

ITEM 3: *Pavement edge maintenance.* Regular mowing and spraying of weeds are vital to managing the growth of weeds and turf. Grading may be necessary to maintain an acceptable 1 ½" pavement edge drop.



ITEM 1

What are edge dams?

ITEM 2

Problems due to edge dams.

ITEM 3

Pavement edge maintenance.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Call the NDOT Division of
Aeronautics office at
402.471.2371