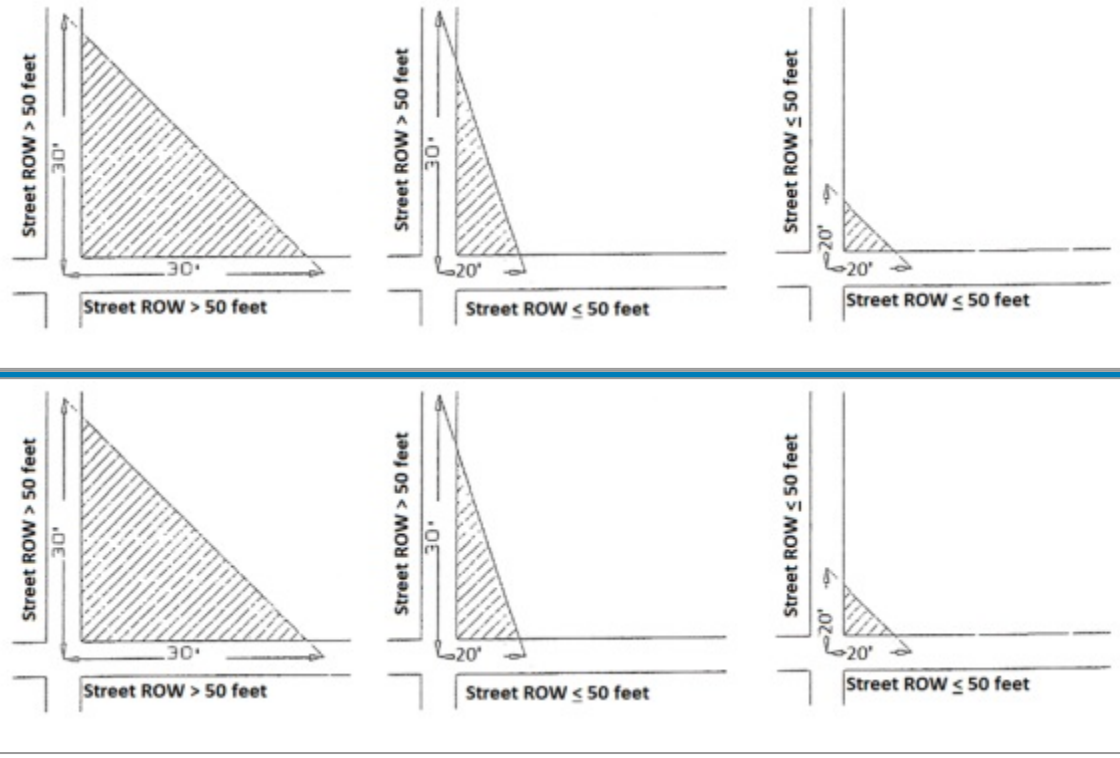
9.5. Visibility at street intersections and driveways; sight triangle.

A. On corner lots in all districts, no planting shall be placed or maintained and no closed fence, building, wall or other structure shall be constructed if such planting or structure thereby obstructs vision at any point between a height of two-and-a-half and ten feet above the upper face of the nearest curb (or street centerline if no curb exists) and within the sight triangle area bounded on two sides by the two street right-of-way lines and on the third side by a straight line connecting points on the street right-of-way lines measured as follows:

1. On streets having a right-of-way width of 50 feet or less, a point located 20 feet from the intersection of the right-of-way lines.

2. On streets having a right-of-way width of more than 50 feet, a point located 30 feet from the intersection of the right-of-way lines.

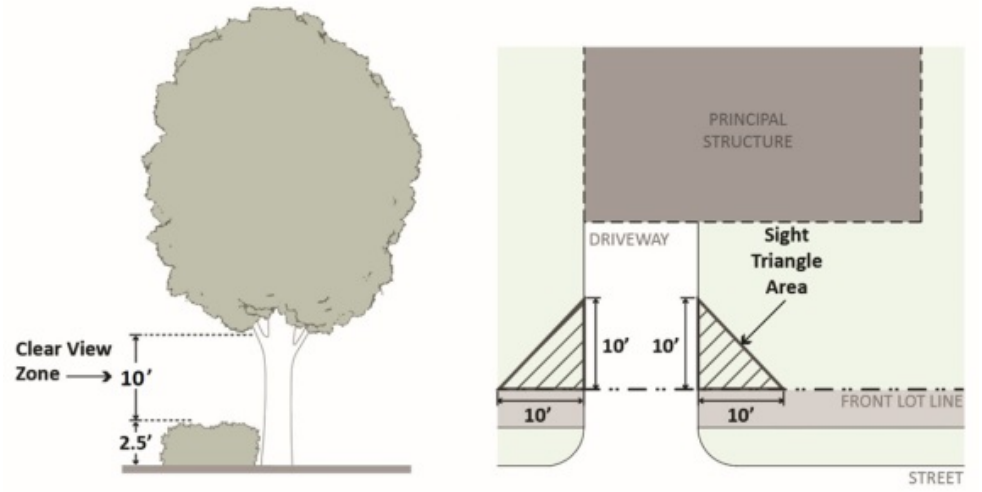
FIGURE 9.5-A: SIGHT TRIANGLES AT RIGHT-OF-WAY INTERSECTIONS

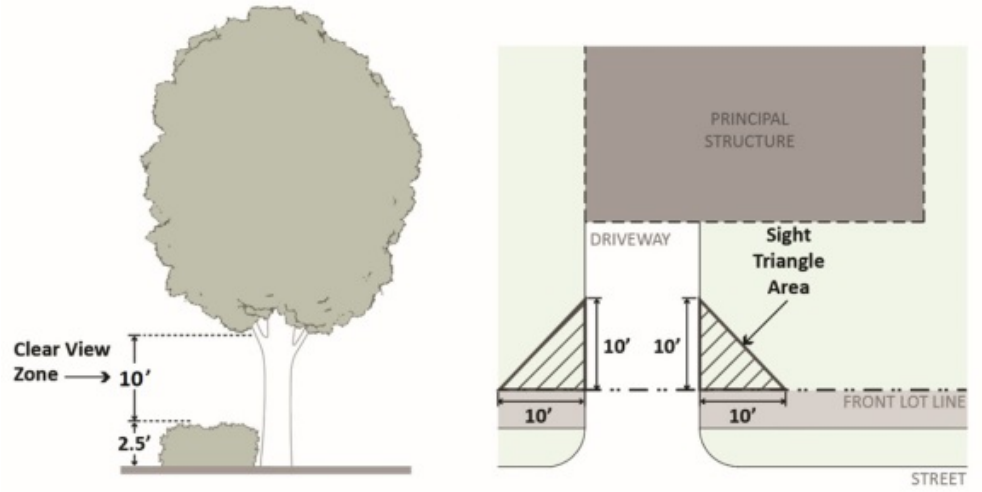


B. At the intersection of any private drive, entrance or exit with a public street, no closed fence, wall, hedge, or other planting or sign forming a material impediment to visibility over

a height of two-and-a-half feet shall be erected, planted, placed or maintained within the sight triangle area bounded by the street right-of-way, the edge of the private driveway, and a straight line connecting points ten feet from the intersection of the right-of-way and driveway.

FIGURE 9.5-B: OTHER SIGHT TRIANGLE DIMENSIONS





C. Required sight distances for driveway connections along state-maintained roadways shall be approved by NCDOT. Where the NCDOT Driveway Manual conflicts with these standards, the stricter of the two standards shall prevail.

19.3 Definitions

Sight triangle: The area that establishes a clear line of sight for a waiting vehicle to see oncoming traffic and make turning movements into or out of a street or driveway connection safely or for traffic to see entering or waiting vehicles.

Other references to “sight triangle”

- 2.8.C.3 – Fences
- 8.6.C – Parking lot screening
- 8.9.C.10 – Landscaping installation standards
- 12.6.A – Prohibited signs
- 12.8.1.A.5 – Temporary signs
- 16.8.E.3.f.i(B)(1) – Guiding principles for variances