

No. 121, A.]

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CHAPTER 70.

AN ACT to amend 80.01 (3) and 84.07 (1) of the statutes, relating to maintenance of highways.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 80.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

80.01 (3) No lands abutting on any highway, and acquired or held for highway purposes, shall be deemed discontinued for such purpose so long as they abut on any highway. All lands acquired for highway purposes after June 23, 1931 may be used for any purpose that the public authorities in control of such highway shall deem to conduce to the public use and enjoyment thereof. Such authorities may improve such lands by suitable planting, to prevent the erosion of the soil or to beautify the highway. The right to protect and to plant vegetation in any highway laid out prior to said date may be acquired in any manner that lands may be acquired for highway purposes. It shall be unlawful for any person to injure any tree or shrub, or cut or trim any vegetation, or make any excavation in any highway laid out after said date or where the right to protect vegetation has been acquired, without the consent of the highway authorities and under their direction *but such authorities shall remove, cut or trim or consent to the removing, cutting or removal of any tree, shrub or vegetation in order to provide safety to users of the highway.*

SECTION 2. 84.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.07 (1) The state trunk highway system shall be maintained by the state at state expense. The commission shall prescribe regulations and specifications for such maintenance. The commission may arrange with any county highway committee to have all or certain parts of the work of maintaining the state trunk highways within its county performed by the county. Maintenance of state trunk highways includes the operations, activities and continuing processes for their repair, preservation, restoration and reinforcement, the removal and control of snow and the *removal, treatment and sanding of ice*, and all measures deemed necessary to provide adequate traffic service. It also includes the care and protection of trees and other roadside vegetation and suitable planting to prevent soil erosion or to beautify highways pursuant to section 80.01 (3).

Approved April 28, 1949.