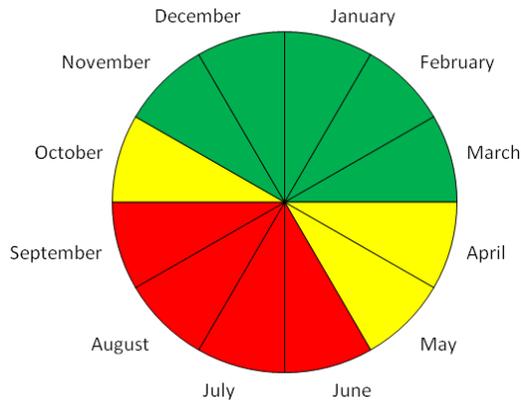


Best Time to Advertise: November through March

- During winter months, contractors will bid aggressively because they are looking to build their backlog for the following year.
- With less construction in the winter, contractors will have an increased number of people available to research innovations and prepare more competitive bids.

Advertising Calendar



Ideal Schedule for Advertising: By Size of Project

UDOT can get even better bids by making it easier for contractors to develop an orderly backlog. An orderly backlog gives contractors the ability to fit in more work, do more planning, and organize resources more efficiently...all of which lead to more aggressive bidding.

To assist contractors in organizing their backlog, look at the future year and schedule your big projects first, then fill in with descending order based on the size of project. This approach helps contractors place large rocks in their backlog jar first, then gravel, and end with the sand, resulting in better value for all UDOT projects.



Advertising Schedule Tips for UDOT Program and Project Managers

- Plan ahead to take advantage of prime bidding time of the year.
- Provide a preliminary advertising schedule so contractors can plan their bidding schedule.
- Minimize bid openings around holidays.
- Obligate funds before funding deadline.
- Advertise winter work (structural, irrigation, etc.) in the fall because contractors tend to bid aggressively for winter backlog.
- Stagger work through the prime bidding period.
- Stagger similar types of work and geographically similar work.

Value Adding Practice to Consider in Advertising

- Flexible start date:
 - Allows contractors to determine most efficient time to start a project within the planned UDOT construction window.
 - More efficient scheduling of resources allows for lower costs.
 - Allows contractors to bid on more projects, resulting in lower costs.
 - See *Guidelines for Prosecution and Progress, Price Flexible Start* for more information. www.udot.utah.gov / Inside UDOT / Project Development / Construction, Materials, and Civil Rights Division / Innovative Contracting / innovative Contracting Special Provisions and Guidelines / Price + Time Bidding (P+T)

Date Limitations to Remember

- HMA – April 15 to October 15
- SMA – April 15 to October 15
- Chip seal – May 15 to August 31
- Open graded surface course – May 1 to September 15
- Thin bonded polymer overlay – April 15 to September 30
- Irrigation – Verify with the irrigation company
- Seeding:

Elevation	Window
Below 4,000 ft	October 1 to December 31
4,000 to 6,000 ft	September 15 to December 1
Above 6,000 ft	September 1 to November 15
- Trees, shrubs, and groundcovers:

Elevation	Window
Below 4,000 ft	March 1 to December 1
4,000 to 6,000 ft	April 15 to October 15
Above 6,000 ft	May 1 to July 1

*No Planting July or August