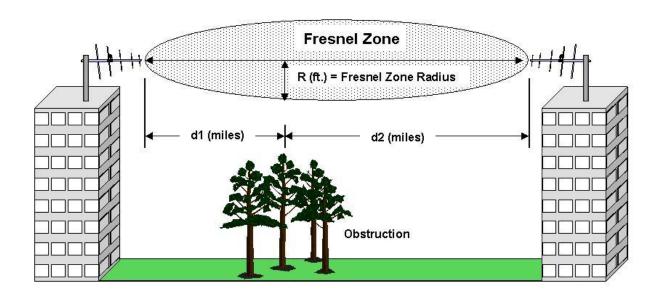


Technical Bulletin Fresnel Zone



The Fresnel zone shows the ellipsoid spread of the radio waves around the visual line-of-sight after they leave the antenna (see figure above). This area must be clear of obstructions or the signal strength will be reduced due to signal blockage. Typically, 20% Fresnel Zone blockage introduces little signal loss to the link. Beyond 40% blockage, signal loss will become significant. This calculation is based on a *flat earth*. It does not take into account the curvature of the earth. It is recommended for RF path links greater than 7 miles to have a microwave path analysis done that takes the curvature of the earth and the topography of the terrain into account.

Fresnel Zone Radius = 72.1 SQRT [(d1d2) / (F(d1 + d2))]

Units

Fresnel Zone Radius in ft. d1 and d2 in statue miles F in GHz