

## THE MILE MARKER

JUNE 30, 2016

## FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

Summer in Michigan....it's a love-hate relationship for most Michigan residents. The love of the sun, the warm weather, spending time outdoors and hitting the roads to go "up north". Wait....that may also be the hate side of summer too. This is the time of the year, when we all hear the grumbling about the orange barrels, the work zones and the detour routes. Yeah...we get it. But for the Road Commission, this is an exciting time of the year for our industry. It is the time that we see change.....improvements.....our future! We refer to it as "Construction Season!"

We have several projects that have already kicked off this season. Our seasonal maintenance has also started with the grading of gravel roads, gravel placement, brining of gravel roads and chip sealing. The chip sealing operation is a process that utilizes the majority of our workforce and it is amazing to see. The employees make it look so easy as they get in their trucks and maneuver around effortlessly, however, we all know that they are strategically trained and have a detailed game plan for each move they make. They have great communication and teamwork that helps to

make this process as quick and painless to the traveling public, as possible.

During this busy construction season, we ask that you use caution when driving through construction zones. Always slow down to the posted speed limit and use extra caution when road crews are present. These workers put their lives on the line everyday in order to construct a road system that makes your traveling easier. Please give them the courtesy and respect they deserve while they are working, so they are able to go home to their loved ones every night.

I would like to thank the SCRC Team for their dedication and hard work through construction season and the entire year.

Great Job Team!

Dennis



## SCRC Expands Workforce by 3

On May 2, 2016, the Saginaw County Road Commission expanded its workforce by 3 employees. Richard Irish, Anthony Jurek & Kenneth Wendling, Jr. were hired as Group 3 truck drivers. All three began their working relationship with the Road Commission in November when they were hired as Winter Temporary Employees. They worked full time assisting with snow plowing, along with other everyday maintenance items. Each one of them proved themselves to be a dedicated, hard working employee who earned their spot as a permanent employee on the SCRC Team.

They all will work in the Fixed Maintenance Department performing countywide duties such as sweeping & tile jetting. All three of these employees will be a huge asset to the Road Commission.

We are very excited to have them as a part of the Saginaw County Road Commission Family!

## New Faces at SCRC

- Follow us on Facebook to find out what our crews are doing and where they are working each day.

## Welcome 2016 Summer Temps

Each year the Saginaw County Road Commission hires college students to work during their summer break. The program is set up for full-time, college students who are registered for at least 12 credit hours in the upcoming fall semester. This program is aimed to help the students earn money to assist in covering the ever-rising costs of college.

The Saginaw County Road Commission summer temps help with such jobs as: mowing right-of-ways and flagging during chip sealing projects, as well as other maintenance activities. With their help, we are able to provide extra maintenance services to the 27 townships in Saginaw County.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our 2016 summer temps: Devon Baldwin, Dalton Brissonnette, Jordan Borchard, Tyler Childs, Zachary Chludil, Jason Homan, Benjamin Lehman, Adam Reese, Sean Reinig, Bryann (Bre) Riblett, John Robinson III & Dalton Vollmer.

Welcome to all of the summer temps. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to the Road Commission over the summer months.



## MAINTENANCE UPDATE

The 2016 maintenance season started in high gear and hasn't let off yet. Many projects have been completed from cleaning & repairing storm drains, updating signs, grading gravel shoulders and roads, patching roads, removing dead and safety-hazard trees from within the right-of-way, sweeping curbs to digging ditches; and that's only a handful of our maintenance projects.

Some of our larger tasks include our first spring brining of our gravel roads and our spring tailgate gravel placement that amounted to 30+ miles this season. Both of these activities were completed prior to the Memorial Day.

We have been getting some requests from some of our Townships to consider trying another product (other than 23A Limestone) for our gravel placement (lifts) in the future. We've agreed to try 2 different products in test areas this year to see how they perform compared to the 23A limestone.

One product will be asphalt millings which have been placed on Oakley Rd. north of Schroeder Rd. and on Schroeder Rd. from Oakley Rd. west to Fordney Rd. in Brant Twp.

The second product will be natural gravel. The natural gravel will be placed on two locations. The first will be on Chapin Rd. between Schroeder Rd. & Ithaca Rd. in Marion Twp. and on Dice Rd. between Fordney Rd. & Rauchholz Rd. in Richland Twp.

We will be keeping a close eye on these locations to see how these products are performing. We'll seek input from both the Township and residents who reside within these roadways or drive these roads on a regular basis. If we agree that one of these options, or alternatives, perform better than the 23A Limestone, we will further discuss these options for future use.

The estimated amount of crack sealing is set at approximately 100 miles of roadway this season. We have 1,200 ton of seal blend available to use countywide. Seal blend is a patching product that works like asphalt when filling low, rutted areas or large holes. The difference, or advantage, of using this seal blend material is that it is very user friendly. You don't have to keep the material warm or be concerned with the product "setting up" before it is applied.

We have completed the necessary drainage work at both our Townline Rd. & Pretzer Rd. project locations. They are scheduled for the road surfacing

phase to be completed in the next couple of months.

Throughout all the maintenance activities and seasonal projects that we address, our mechanics preparation of equipment for coming projects and addressing daily mishaps in a timely manner, is exceptional. They are an extremely important part of our team—keeping us operating. Their work, as well as all maintenance employees work & dedication, is to be commended.

It comes as no surprise that our big summer project is chip sealing. Our 2016 chip seal program will consist of a total of 30 primary road miles in District-4 (the northwest portion of the county) and 65 local road miles across the county; for a total of 95 chip sealed miles. The plan is to start the week of June 20, 2016, beginning in District-4 and following with districts 6, 2, 3; rotating clockwise around the county.

We also have an intensive wall removal and reinstallation project to complete in our Saginaw Maintenance Garage facility. The wall has been reinforced over the years to assist in stabilizing a continuously deteriorating situation. Additional drainage will also be included in this project.

As previously mentioned in the last newsletter, we had 5 temporary workers this past 6 months. The addition of these employees was a big help in addressing many of our maintenance needs in a timely manner. Prior to the completion of these temporary employees' terms, 3 of these employees applied for, interviewed and accepted full-time positions with the Road Commission. I would like to thank these employees for their time, dedication and services. Thank you to Brandon Pierce and David Andres who worked in temporary positions over the winter. Thank you and welcome to Ken Wendling, Anthony Jurek and Rick Irish, who worked as winter temporary employees and were hired as full time employees as part of the Saginaw County Road Commission Team.

Please visit our website at [www.ssrc-mi.org](http://www.ssrc-mi.org) to view the map of our 2016 chip seal projects and visit us on Facebook where we will continue to keep up-to-date information on all our daily maintenance activities.

*Dan Medina, Director of Maintenance*

## TECHNICAL CORNER: Do's & Don'ts of Social Media

- **DO** set privacy settings to the most secure setting available. Most social networking sites offer ways to restrict access to make sure information is being shared only with friends and not the Internet at large.
- **DO** make a unique password for every social media site. Consider making the passwords stronger by adding numbers or special characters. Having strong, unique passwords for each site helps prevent hackers from taking over social media accounts to send spam to other users, scam friends or use information against the owner of the account.
- **DO** remember that employers, school and university administrators and others often check Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites for information posted online.
- **DO** be selective about who is accepted as a "friend" or "follower" on a social media account. Identity thieves can easily create fake profiles in order to obtain personal information that might otherwise have been private.
- **DO** assume that status updates, photos and videos posted on social networks are permanent. Just because a profile is deleted or information is removed, anyone on a computer has the ability to print text or photos or save items to a computer.
- **DON'T** post any information that would let someone know about a vacation or whether the house is empty. Posting about being out of town for a few days could make someone a likely target for thieves. Children should never mention whether they are home alone.
- **DON'T** post anything online that would cause problems if made public. Follow the "front page rule," which reminds social media users not to put anything on a social media site they would not want to see on the front page of a local newspaper.
- **DON'T** click on links that may appear to be unusual or suspicious, even if they look like they are sent by friends. Much like links sent through spam email, these could lead to schemes to solicit personal information or could launch malicious software or viruses that could damage a computer.
- **DON'T** post any information that can lead hackers to passwords for online banking or other accounts. For example, common questions for those who have forgotten their passwords for financial or other sites include "What's your mother's maiden name?" or "What's your favorite pet?" Criminals may be able to find those answers easily on social networking sites.

*Tom Luck, Information Technology Manager*

## UPCOMING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Estimated Dates

JULY, 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2
3	4 HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	5 Chip Seal Pvmnt. Marking	6	7	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10	11 Cattail Spray	12	13	14	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30
31						

AUGUST, 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Chip Seal Pvmnt. Marking	2	3	4	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6
7	8 Brush Spray	9	10	11	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER, 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Pvmnt. Marking	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3
				Brush Spray		
4	5 HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	6	7	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 OFFICE CLOSED	



## 8th ANNUAL COLORING CONTEST

In January, Saginaw County Road Commission held its eighth annual coloring contest; proudly sponsored by Wirt Stone Dock. Children from the Saginaw County elementary schools were invited to participate in the contest. Pictures were available for download on the Saginaw County Road Commission website. The participation was overwhelming, with over 900 entries from 17 different schools in Saginaw County. It made choosing a winner very difficult for our SCRC Employee Judges: Thomas Luck, Michael Girard & Gerald Schmidt. The 2016 winners are:

### Pre-Kindergarten - Kindergarten

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Gabriella Frollo—St. Charles Elementary School — Ms. Skaryd's Kindergarten Class

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Ethan Heska—Hemmeter Elementary School — Ms. Kern's Kindergarten Class

### 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Lillyana Fila—Hemmeter Elementary School — Mrs. Moeller's 2nd Grade Class

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Abbie Johnson—St. Paul's Lutheran School - Mrs. Beyersdorf's 2nd Grade Class

### 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Jamie Maier—St. Charles Elementary School - Mrs. Pumford's 5th Grade Class

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Courtney Boss—Hemmeter Elementary School - Ms. Smith's 4th Grade Class

Wirt Stone Dock generously donated three \$100 first place gift certificates and three \$50 second place gift certificates, that were presented to the teacher of the winning student, for purchasing classroom supplies.

The winners of each age bracket and their teacher were invited to Saginaw County Board of Road Commissioners Meeting on April 12, 2016 where the students were presented with a certificate and a street sign with their name on it and their teacher was presented with their classroom gift certificate.

We would like to thank all of the schools, classrooms and children who participated in the coloring contest. Thanks to our judges who helped with the difficult decision of choosing our winners. A very special thank you to Wirt Stone Docks for providing prizes for the winning classrooms.

Please visit our website ( [www.scrc-mi.org](http://www.scrc-mi.org) ) to view the winning pictures.

## 2016 Proposed Construction Season

Listed below are SCRC budgeted projects that are contingent on State funding and right-of-way acquisition.

Township	Road	Location	Type of Improvement	Start of Construction	End of Construction
Maple Grove	Bishop Rd.	Volkmer Rd. to Chesaning Rd.	Road Surfacing	June 2016	September 2016
Birch Run	Birch Run Rd.	over The Briggs Drain	Box Culvert Replacement	June 2016	November 2016
Brady	Peet Rd.	over the Lamb Creek	Bridge Replacement	June 2016	November 2016
Bridgeport/Taymouth	Townline Rd.	Pettit Rd. to Blackmar Rd.	Road Surfacing	June 2016	September 2016
Chesaning	Gasper Rd.	over the Fairchild Creek	Box Culvert Replacement	June 2016	November 2016
Frankenmuth	Curtis Rd.	over the Dead Creek	Bridge Replacement	June 2016	October 2016
Frankenmuth	Tuscola Rd.	City Limits to Reese Rd.	Road Surfacing	June 2016	September 2016
Fremont	Pretzer Rd.	Swan Creek Rd. to Ederer Rd.	Road Surfacing	June 2016	September 2016
Jonesfield	Merrill Rd.	over the Handy Creek Drain	Box Culvert Replacement	June 2016	November 2016
Saginaw	Hemmeter Rd	Brockway Rd. to State St.	Road Reconstruction	June 2016	September 2016
Saginaw	Shattuckville Rd.	M-47 to Hospital Rd.	Road Surfacing	June 2016	July 2016
St. Charles & Chesaning	Gary Rd.	over the Shiawassee River	Bridge Replacement	January 2016	July, 2016
Taymouth	Morseville Rd.	over the Silver Creek	Bridge Replacement	June 2016	October 2016
Albee	Burt Rd.	East Rd. to Sheridan Rd.	Bridge Replacement	July 2016	September 2016
Tittabawassee	Hospital Rd.	Freeland Rd. to Buck Rd.	Road Rehabilitation	July 2016	September 2017

## SAGINAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

3020 Sheridan Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Phone: 989-752-6140  
Fax: 989-752-8934

**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:** Monday—Friday  
7:00 A.M.—3:30 P.M.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:** May 2nd — Sept. 30th  
Monday—Thursday 6:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.  
CLOSED FRIDAY

### COMMISSIONERS

Richard H. Crannell, P.E. - Chairperson

Deb Kestner - Vice-Chairperson

John D. Sangster—Member

Todd M. Hare - Member

Ronald L. Sholtz - Member

### MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dennis L. Borchard



## SCRC ANNIVERSARIES

### Service Years Based on Hire Date—Not Seniority Date

EMPLOYEE	JULY	YRS. OF SERVICE
Henry Wilson	6	17
Michele Knickerbocker	6	17
Joe Popp	7	22
Matt Duensing	9	26
Brandon Kohnert	21	2
Scott Carter	23	15
Denise Hutchinson	27	1
EMPLOYEE	AUGUST	YRS. OF SERVICE
Mike Girard	6	9
Mike Wysko	25	13
EMPLOYEE	SEPTEMBER	YRS. OF SERVICE
Fred Birchmeier	17	26

**Saginaw County Road Commission has over 1,848 miles of roads to maintain. Although local townships share in the cost of maintaining some of the roads, the Saginaw County Road Commission is responsible for most of the cost.**

**The extensive number of rivers and drains in Saginaw County means there are also over 200 bridges to maintain. Smaller tributaries and ditches add more than 2,800 culverts to the road system and the list continues to grow as new roads are built to meet the needs of our ever changing and expanding community.**

**As you can see, maintaining the county road system is no easy task; however, everyone at the Saginaw County Road Commission is committed to giving you the best road system for your money. We are proud to be a part of the Saginaw Community and are committed to building a quality road system which will last for many generations to come.**

## SAFETY CORNER

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the employees of the Saginaw County Road Commission on their safe work practices. 2015 showed our lowest number of lost days due to work related injuries with a total of 88 days. This is a fantastic number and the lowest I have seen since I have been involved with the Safety Department here at the Saginaw County Road Commission. Hats off to all of you!

On Monday, April 18-2016, all of our operators along with Tim Brown, our Engineering Staff Assistant, attended an excavation and trenching safety class sponsored by MIOSHA, taught by Eastern Michigan University and hosted by Great Lakes Safety Training. With completion of this class, all of these employees are certified as “Competent/Qualified Persons” as it relates to excavation and training. Congratulations to these employees. The Management Team received great reports from our operators for the above training and decided to have Eastern Michigan University train all of our remaining employees to also be “Competent/Qualified Persons”. This training was completed on June 7 & 8-2016; with half of the employees attending each day.

At our Safety Committee meeting in May, the committee members selected the following items to try which may improve the safety of all:

- 1) High noise reduction headphones for use with our radio system—two (2) pairs were obtained through Anderson Radio and have been testing them since May 31st; with great feedback from employees using them.
- 2) A camera system to be used on heavy trucks during shoveling operations, which may improve the employees’ ability to perform this work. The testing of this device will take place in District #4. This equipment was received on June 1<sup>st</sup> and we are awaiting installation.

The Annual Safety Training Day is scheduled for October 19, 2016. At this training, we are pleased to announce that MMR will be providing First Aid, CPR & AED training for our organization. Due to changes in the regulations governing these training items, the Saginaw County Road Commission will be shut down for the entire day, as all employees will be going through this very important training session. Our crews will be available to respond to emergencies, if contacted by Saginaw County Central Dispatch.

If you have any item of concern, please contact any one of the members of the safety committee. The permanent members of the safety committee for the Saginaw County Road Commission are Tim Brown, Rob Hudec, Benton Wenzel Jr., Mike Wysko, Mike Ecker & Scott Hare. You can also contact me directly, my office phone is (989) 399-3754, my cell phone is (989) 737-3226 and my radio call number is 704. All items brought to the safety committee will be kept in strict confidence.

Safety is the responsibility of each and every one of us, we need to look out for each other, and point out unsafe practices to our fellow employees so that we may all go home safe to be with our families.

**Remember: Safety Is as Simple as ABC...Always Be Careful.**