



# THE MILE MARKER

## FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK



The one thing you can always count on with Michigan is change, and here at SCRC, there have been a lot of changes. We have FINALLY put the plows away and we are getting ready for construction season. Also, we have some new faces. Dave Adams has replaced Ron Sholtz on our Board of County Road Commissioners, and Marissa Irish, P.E. has replaced Joe Wisniewski as our new Director of Engineering.

Spring can be tricky for the maintenance department as they are trying to grade roads and handle all drainage issues as everything dries out. Maintenance is also gearing up for our summer maintenance season by planning and preparing for our brine, gravel and chip seal season. The seamless transition from season to season simply amazes me. This type of teamwork makes the transition smooth and seem almost effortless. We have a great team here at SCRC and I couldn't be prouder!

Don't forget to check out all of the different projects on one map by visiting our website at [www.scrmi.org](http://www.scrmi.org).

Great Job Team!

*Dennis*

## SAFETY CORNER

The permanent members of the Safety Committee for the Saginaw County Road Commission are Tim Brown, Rob Hudec, Brandon Kohnert, Benjamin Iliff, Mike Wysko, Mike Ecker, one rotating district foreman & Scott Hare.

This April our employees received hands on training for tree felling, which included the proper use of guide ropes, placement of rope, winch, wedge cut and back cut to insure their safety and provide positive control of trees all the way to the ground. The road commission has also instituted a new policy where our employees will only cut trees that are 20" or less in diameter and any trees larger than that will be contracted out. In addition to this, any tree that our employees feel they can not cut safely will be contracted out.

Also in April, Brandon Kohnert, Mike Wysko, & Scott Hare attended the annual Michigan Safety Conference in Grand Rapids. This conference is attended each year by over 2,200 safety professionals from various industries throughout the state. In addition to the training, there are 250 vendors displaying the latest safety equipment. This is a great conference and I want to thank the management at the road commission for their commitment to safety.

The Managing Director thought it was important to purchase safety (ANSI Class II) tee shirts for all employees of the Saginaw County Road Commission. In addition to this, we have changed our safety glasses to Bouton Optical "FogLess 3sixty" and employees have the choice of two styles; both in clear and tinted.

We have also changed the color of our hard hats, any new one issued will be a lime green color, this will help from our employees blending into the color of our equipment to improve their visibility, thereby preventing accidents.

If you have any item of concerns, please contact any one of the members of the safety committee, you can also contact me directly, my office phone is (989) 399-3754 and my cell phone is (989) 737-3226. All items brought to the safety committee will be kept in the strictest 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: **Your wife will spend your 401K, if you get killed at work today!**

*Scott A. Hare, Permit Enforcement/Safety Officer*

## RAILROAD CROSSINGS

2018 was a great year for the residents of Saginaw County and the Saginaw County Road Commission, as our efforts to reach out and work with the Rail Road Companies operating within the county have started to pay off. In April, we had a meeting with MDOT and Great Lakes Central Railroad concerning three rail crossings in the Chesaning area. These tracks are not used to move freight and are only used to store freight cars, all of these crossings were converted to "EXEMPT" crossings meaning that school busses no longer having to stop for these tracks. This greatly improves the safety of students riding busses to and from the Chesaning Union Schools.

In November we received notification from MDOT that five rail crossings in Saginaw County were selected to receive funding through the MDOT Local Grade Crossing Grant program. With this program, MDOT pays 60% of the costs with the railroad company picking up the remaining 40%. The Saginaw County Road Commission budgets \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 per crossing to insure there is a smooth transition for our roadway through the new crossing. Lake State Railway has two crossings with this program they are; **Hospital Rd** – between Tittabawassee and Kochville and **Hackett Rd** – between Kochville and Pierce. Huron & Eastern Railway, a division of Genesee and Wyoming Railway has three crossings for this year they are; **Shattuck Rd** – between N. Michigan and Shattuck, **Carrollton Rd** – between Weiss & Stoker, and **Bradley Rd** – between Beyer and Beyer.

In addition to these crossings, Huron & Eastern is planning to reconstruct the rail crossing on **Center Rd** between W. Michigan and Gratiot which is being done as part of our paving project for this section of roadway.

*Scott A. Hare, Permit Enforcement/Safety Officer*

## 2019 PROPOSED PUBLIC PROJECTS MAP

SCRC has a new map for you to visit to learn all about our proposed public projects for 2019.

The map initially is broken into Detours, Road Work, and Bridge Work. As you zoom you will notice different colors of lines appearing across the screen. These lines identify the type of work that is being performed. Purple lines are highlighting chip seal projects and pink lines are highlighting paving projects. Where detour routes will be present, they are highlighted in green. You may further investigate the projects by clicking on the yellow sign symbols on the map. These signs will display detailed information about the project describing project location limits, estimated start and end dates, and type of road closures to expect over the span of the project.



Hello Summer.

Township	Road	Limits	Project Scope
Albee	Fergus Road	Bridge over Fairchild Creek	Bridge Replacement
Birch Run	Burt Road	Maple to Elms	Grade Prep (2019) & HMA Paving (2020)
Blumfield	Beyer Road	Bridge over Blumfield Creek	Bridge Replacement
Blumfield	Mueller Road	Bridge over Blumfield Creek	Bridge Replacement
Brant	Dempsey Road	Ithaca to St. Charles Village Limits	Rehabilitation
Bridgeport	Dixie Highway	I-75 to Airport	Mill & Fill w/ Concrete Joint Repairs
Bridgeport	Williamson Road	Bridge over King Drain	Bridge Replacement
Bridgeport/Spaulding	Sheridan Road	Curtis to Williamson	Mill & Fill w/ FiberMat
Carrollton	N. Michigan Avenue	Tittabawassee to Schust	Mill & Fill
Carrollton/Kochville	Tittabawassee Road	at N. Michigan Avenue	Intersection Reconstruction
Frankenmuth	Baker Road	Reimer to Maple	Grade Prep (2019) & HMA Paving (2020)
Fremont/Swan Creek	Orr Road	Bridge over Marsh Creek	Bridge Replacement
James	Swan Creek Road	at River Road	Intersection Reconstruction
Jonesfield	Chapin Road	Bridge over Weeks Drain	Bridge Replacement
Jonesfield/Lakefield	Meridian Road	Swan Creek to Gratiot	HMA Paving
Maple Grove	Bishop Road	Chesaning to Alberts Drain	HMA Paving
Maple Grove	Briggs Road	Johnstone to Ditch	HMA Paving
Saginaw	Autumn Ridge Subdivision	Entire Subdivision	Mill & Fill (full depth)
Saginaw	Barnard Road	Greenway Blvd to Schust	Reconstruction
Saginaw	Cambridge Village Subdivision	Entire Subdivision	Reconstruction
Saginaw	S. Center Road	Tittabawassee River to Gratiot	Mill & Fill
Saginaw	W. Michigan Avenue	S. Center to City Limits	Mill & Fill
Saginaw	Shattuck Road	Hospital to Lawndale	Mill & Fill
Saginaw	Shattuck Road	N. Center to Lake State RR	Mill & Fill
Taymouth	Sheridan Road	Bridge over Flint River	Bridge Rehabilitation

## SIGN SHOP

The sign shop was able to get an early start on updating beginning the first week of March 2018 and ending in late November 2018. Updating 1,627 signs in Frankenmuth, Blumfield, and Bridgeport Townships (except for Bridgeport subdivisions which we will start in spring of 2019). Updating is done every 10 years in rotation to every sign in the county to meet the standards of reflectivity. The Saginaw County Road Commission has over 20,000 signs in its jurisdiction!

The sign shop installed and removed signs for the chip seal projects with record number of miles in 2018. We are already prepared for the 2019 season and expect the same number of miles if not more. The sign shop and its dedicated employees also performed in 2018:

- Maintenance to 1,063 signs countywide
- Trimmed trees due to low hanging limbs or vision obstructions totaling 21 jobs
- Assisted in 25 temporary traffic control situations
- Made 224 address signs and fixed 3 mailboxes from winter maintenance damage
- Installed 14 "Iron Belle Bike Route" signs in Carrollton and Zilwaukee Township
- Upgraded "Stop" and "Stop Ahead" signs to double post 36" signs with post reflectors where needed per our engineering department

The sign shop continues saving budget dollars by purchasing 3M products from MI-DEAL and refurbishing sign blanks and having shipped back with sign faces on them from MSI INDUSTRIES (Correctional Facility in Ionia, MI).

Mike Ecker (group leader) and the sign shop crew look forward to meeting goals in 2019, which are to finish updating Bridgeport and Buena Vista Twp, along with all the other duties we are called upon to perform throughout the year. On behalf of the Road Commission, I would like to thank Mike Ecker and crew members; Dan Deming, Jonathon Monroe and Ellis Richardson for the hard work and dedication they give the sign shop in making sure Saginaw County is serviced with pride.

*Rob Hudec, Maintenance Supt.*

