WORD

ON THE STREET



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KEEPING TRAFFIC FLOWING SAFELY AND SMOOTHLY



In this issue, we're highlighting our dedicated electrician, Roger Clauss, who has spent more than two decades keeping our community's traffic systems running safely and efficiently.

He began his career with an electrical contractor, gaining valuable hands-on experience while traveling throughout the state. After several years on the road, he decided to work closer to home — and for the past 21 years, he's been an essential part of the SCRC team.

A typical day starts with checking in with our Engineer to review priorities and address any urgent issues. From there, his focus shifts to preventative maintenance, ensuring all systems and equipment continue to operate efficiently and reliably. Throughout the day, he also responds to service requests, troubleshooting and resolving electrical issues to keep operations running smoothly.

Roger maintains around 100 traffic control devices across the area — including traffic signals, school zone flashers, radar speed signs, and 4-way stop flashers. Some of the



most common issues include controller malfunctions and burned-out LED modules. Weather can also be a major challenge, as extreme heat, cold, and storms often impact signal performance. Having the right tools and safety gear, such as a harness and bucket truck, is essential for tackling these challenges safely.

"Our work helps keep people safe by making sure signals run smoothly and are timed correctly," he explains. "When signals are working properly, traffic flows better, and there's less chance of accidents at intersections."

Occasionally, the team faces larger issues, such as damage to a pole or traffic cabinet. In those cases, the detailed setup work behind the scenes really pays off — using file backups, they can restore a controller quickly. Coordinating these repairs often involves multiple parties, including township officials, the school district, our foreman, the sign shop, police, and our engineer. At high-volume intersections, the team has even partnered with local radio stations to help manage traffic and keep the public informed.

"There's a surprising amount of technology involved in an intersection," he says. "Many components and complex formulas work together to keep traffic flowing efficiently."

He finds great satisfaction in seeing how well-coordinated signals improve traffic flow. Having supportive coworkers also makes a big difference — teamwork is essential when responding to service calls or large-scale repairs.

For those considering a similar career, Roger offers this advice:

"Working in this field lets you be part of the trades while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. It's challenging, rewarding, and makes a real difference in the community."

After 21 years at SCRC, his dedication continues to help keep our roads safe and our community moving every day.

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK



This year marks one of the most significant in the history of the Saginaw County Road Commission (SCRC). We've reached three major milestones that will shape the future of our roads, our communities, and our county for years to come.

1. Six-Year Local Road Millage Passed

In 2024, we successfully passed a six-year local road millage, generating an additional $10,287,977 per year across our 27 townships. This vital funding allows us to continue improving and maintaining local roads that have a direct impact on our residents' daily lives. Prior to this millage, our Townships have faced issues that made matching the allocation challenging at times. The millage has now allowed the Townships to start planning further ahead as it is now a dedicated funding source for six years.

2. $1.9 Billion State Road Funding Package Approved

The State of Michigan passed a $1.9 billion road funding package, providing a long-term, sustainable solution for city and county roads and bridges throughout the state.

This initiative will make a significant difference for the residents and businesses of Saginaw County, ensuring safer, smoother, and more reliable transportation infrastructure for years to come.

3. $1.2 Million State Appropriation for SCRC Facilities

Thanks to Representative Amos O'Neal and state leaders, SCRC received a $1.2 million state appropriation to improve the salt shed building at our Saginaw location.

This funding will support the addition of new lean-tos and a carport, thereby protecting our equipment and assets and extending their longevity, which is another key step toward strengthening our operation.

As I complete my 35th year with the Saginaw County Road Commission, I'm filled with pride and gratitude.

This year, we've seen record progress: increased funding for our townships, more local roads being paved, roundabouts placed at Sheridan and Curtis road as well as Tittabawassee and River road, and over 200 miles of chip seal completed across the county.



We now offer two chip seal options—one for primary roads and a microchip seal followed by a fog seal for subdivision and residential areas—delivering some of the best output in the state.



I've always believed in a TEAM approach in everything we do at SCRC.

Whether it's collaborating with township leaders, county and state officials, or engaging directly with our residents, our success comes from communication, commitment, and teamwork.

The men and women of SCRC demonstrate an unparalleled work ethic—both in the field and in the office. Their dedication makes all the difference.

I'm incredibly proud to be part of this team and this community.

As we close out this milestone year, I encourage everyone to take time to enjoy the holidays with their families and friends.

Thank you for your hard work, your commitment, and your passion for making Saginaw County stronger mile by mile.

Warm regards,

Dennis Borchard,
Managing Director

MAINTENANCE

On behalf of the entire SCRC, I would like to express my sincere admiration for the outstanding effort and dedication this TEAM has demonstrated. I truly appreciate everything each of you has contributed over the years since joining the SCRC family.

The countless hours you've devoted and the professionalism you've shown continue to motivate the entire TEAM. We take great pride in your hard work and commitment to making every project a success. Our goals are ambitious, and your willingness to go the extra mile ensures we continue to achieve them together.

Superintendents & Foremen

You have done an exceptional job training your team members in both routine and new road repair activities. I deeply appreciate the leadership and effort you've shown in managing your current projects. Many employees have expressed their gratitude for the one-on-one guidance and support you provide, especially when mentoring new team members and teaching proper procedures and techniques for maintenance work.

Your willingness to step up during times when fellow foremen are on leave, all while managing your own full workloads, does not go unnoticed. It's employees like you who volunteer to take on extra





responsibilities—that keep our operations intact and run smoothly with minimal delays.

I am proud and privileged to work alongside such a passionate group of leaders. There is no doubt in my mind that we operate as one TEAM. Your efforts have placed the SCRC among the top performers statewide. You deserve recognition and appreciation for stepping up whenever challenges arise. Thank you for your dedication, your work truly makes a difference.

All Employees

Thank you all for helping make this year such a success. We have received numerous positive comments from our customers about your dedication and the quality of your work.

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for you being you. Your positive energy and good spirits, whether in the garage, office, or on the road—brightens everyone's day. Your great attitudes motivate the entire TEAM, and we are fortunate to have you. Your enthusiasm and teamwork make SCRC a place we all look forward to coming to each day.

The positive impression you've left with both customers and TEAMMATES speaks volumes. I'm proud to see your hard work and professionalism paying off. You continue to help this Road Commission run smoothly while inspiring others to achieve our shared goals. Your passion for the job makes each of you an incredible person to work with.

New Employees

Although you've only been with us for a few months, your impact is already evident. You've excelled in training, quickly mastering your responsibilities and contributing to the TEAM's success.

Beyond your work performance, your positive attitude and ability to connect with the team have been exceptional. It's great to see fellow new employees turning to you for guidance—proof of the trust and respect you've earned in such a short time.

If there is anything I can do to assist you as you continue to grow here, please don't hesitate to reach out. We have plenty of work ahead, and I'm confident that together we'll continue to uphold our standard of excellence. Our goal is to support each of you so that you can succeed and thrive in your role. Thank you for your commitment and valuable contributions toward helping the Road Commission reach its full potential.

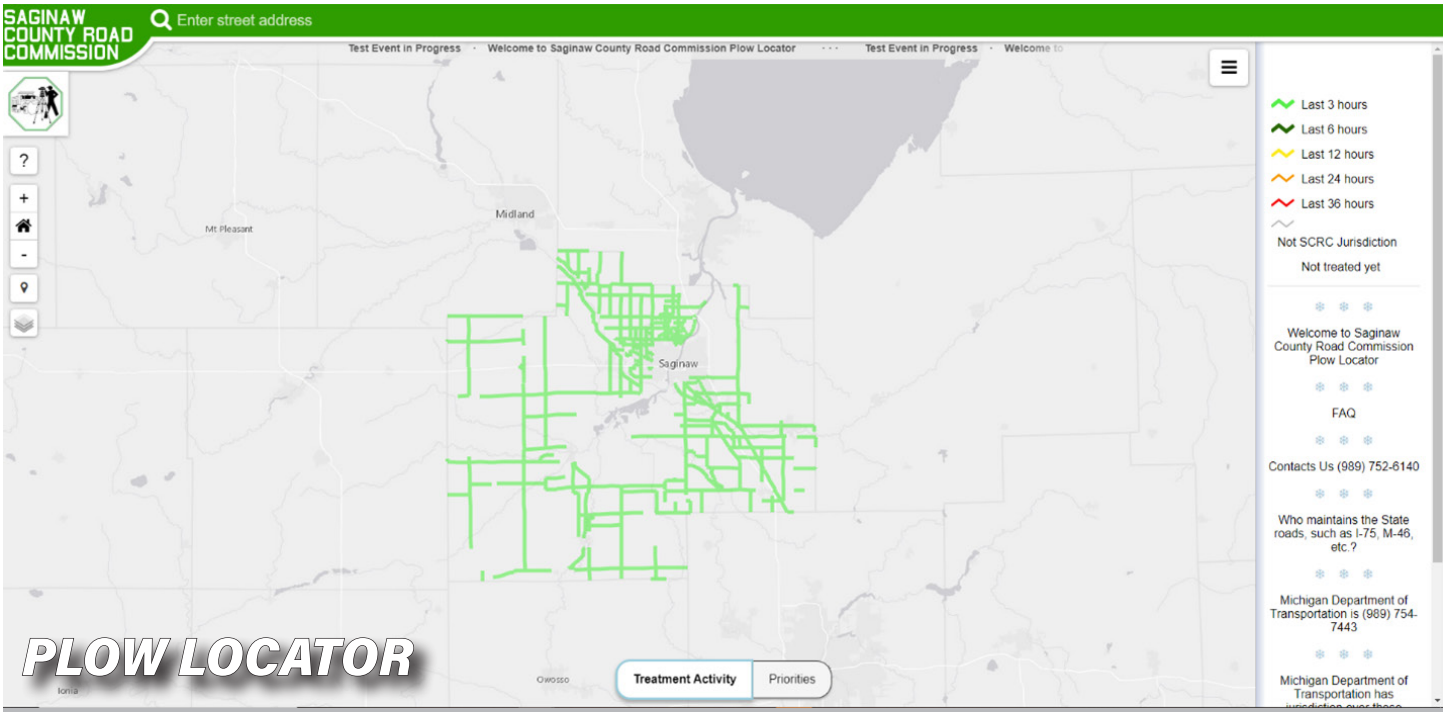
As we close out the year, I want to wish each of you a wonderful Holiday Season and a New Year filled with success, happiness, and good health.

I truly appreciate each one of you.

Thank you,

Dan Medina,
Director of Maintenance

TECH COMMUNICATION



Hi Everyone

First, I would like to offer a quick apology for the SCRC Bids/Proposals email that was sent out a few weeks ago. I was attempting to add vendors and contractors who had previously signed up on the SCRC-MI.ORG website to our notification list, but inadvertently sent the email to a broader audience.

That said, I received many emails and calls of two types, both with positive outcomes.

The first ones were from vendors who had fallen off the notification list due to staffing changes and appreciated the notice and chance to bid for our 2026 maintenance needs.

The second type was from users who did not expect that email and called to verify its authenticity. This proved the effectiveness of your knowledge, training, and the SPAM warnings that we've all seen. Kudos to you and your IT staff!

Now on to my regularly planned newsletter article.

This year, we will be using our Plow Locator application again on our website, located at https://saginaw.etch.app/snow

This tool allows you to browse or search for roads under the SCRC jurisdiction. You will then see the most recent time one of our trucks has visited that location. This will enable you to select the best roads for your family to travel to work, school, and holiday destinations.

Steve Gradowski
I.T. Manager /
Communication Director

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



PAINT-A-PLOW

SCRC participated in the Paint-A-Plow Program for the second year in a row and had 3 plows from Hemlock Schools, Saginaw ISD, and Thomas White Elementary School. Our theme this year was "Snow Means Slow" to encourage people to drive carefully on the winter roads and safely around our plow trucks. They all did a fantastic job, and we are proud to display them across the street from our administration building until we need to use them this winter.

Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works partnered with us to host a Talent Tour. It was a great opportunity to speak with a group of individuals about the various career paths available within the Road Commission. We shared insights into the day-to-day responsibilities of different roles, as well as the qualifications, training, and experience required to pursue those careers. We're proud to support career exploration and workforce development in our community, and we look forward to future collaborations that help connect talent with opportunity.

This year we also attended several Touch-A-Truck Events including:

- Birch Run Speedway Trunk-or-Treat
- Martin Atkins Elementary School Safety Day
- Thomas Township Library
- National Night Out
- Saginaw Children's Museum



TALENT TOUR



TOUCH-A-TRUCK

ENGINEERING

The 2025 construction season brought substantial upgrades to roads throughout Saginaw County. The Engineering Department oversaw approximately **$8 million** in countywide paving work, resulting in the placement of more than **51,000 tons of asphalt** on township-funded and special assessment projects. In addition, concrete sections and curbed areas within the county's urban boundary saw **$800 thousand** worth of upgrades. Federally funded construction activity accounted for an additional **$5 million** in improvements.

A few of the major projects are highlighted below:

- Tittabawassee and River Road paving and roundabout project $2.5 million
- Sheridan & Curtis Road roundabout project $1 million
- Bell Road bridge over Birch Run Creek $1.4 million
- Westervelt Road from I-75 overpass to Kochville rubblize concrete and pave $600 thousand

Together, these efforts represent a major investment in the quality and durability of Saginaw County's road network, ensuring smoother travel and improved safety for all who live, work, and travel within the county.

We want to thank everyone who put their time and energy into our 2025 construction projects. From the design and inspections to the contractors and hardworking crews — we couldn't have done it without you!

SCRC's engineering team is already gearing up for the 2026 construction season. We're excited to continue making road improvements across the county and will be working closely with each township to set priorities and build a solid plan.

Here's a look at some of the projects coming up next year (see next page).

*We'll release the full list in our Spring 2026 newsletter

Dan Armentrout,
Deputy Managing Director/
Director of Engineering

Tim Brown,
Project Manager

Haley Christensen,
Permit / Safety Officer

Nick Hornak,
Engineering Assistant

2026 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Township	Road	Location
Albee	Bueche	South of Townline over Savage Drain
Blumfield	Wadsworth	East of Portsmouth over Uncle Henry Drain
Chapin	Chapin	North of Ridge Rd over Lamb Creek
Maple Grove	Chesaning	East of Bueche over Misteguay Creek
Taymouth	Morseville	North of Birch Run Rd over Pine Run
Thomas	S Thomas	South of M-46 over Willaims Creek





2026 PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Township	Road	Location
Bridgeport / Frankenmuth	Junction	Dixie to Reese
Jonesfield / Richland	Tittabawassee	Merrill to Hemlock
Kochville / Saginaw / Carrollton	Tittabawassee	Bay to Michigan
Tittabawassee	Freeland	Webster to Garfield
Tittabawassee	Garfield	M-47 to Freeland
Tittabawassee	Freeland & Garfield	Roundabout

SAFETY



Over the past few months, the Saginaw County Road Commission (SCRC) has been hard at work, not only maintaining our roads but also strengthening our commitment to safety and teamwork. From recognition at the state level to hands-on training events, SCRC continues to make safety our top priority.

In September, SCRC was honored at the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund (CRASIF) Annual Membership Meeting, where we received an award for having the lowest injury rate in our payroll classification. This achievement reflects the dedication of our employees and leadership in maintaining a safe work environment. We earned this recognition by keeping our experience modification factor below 1.00 for the 2024–25 coverage year, an impressive accomplishment that speaks to our team's commitment to safe work practices and continuous improvement.

SCRC also participated in the 2025 Truck Safety Focus and Roadeo Skills Course Training hosted by the Clinton County Road Commission. A group of new employees, along with one of our foremen, attended this valuable event. The training combines classroom learning with a hands-on obstacle course, giving drivers





PUMPKIN PARADE

the chance to sharpen their skills and navigate real-life scenarios they may face on the road. It's a fun, challenging, and educational experience that reinforces the importance of precision, awareness, and safety behind the wheel.

At the end of October, SCRC held its annual Pumpkin Parade truck inspection and winter safety training session. The Pumpkin Parade serves as a thorough pre-season inspection of each truck before winter operations begin. Our skilled mechanics use a detailed inspection checklist to identify and address any issues, ensuring every vehicle is safe, reliable, and ready for the snow season ahead.

During the winter safety portion of the day, Director of Maintenance Dan Medina kicked things off with an impactful presentation emphasizing TEAM and SAFETY—two values that guide everything we do at SCRC. Dan reminded everyone of the importance of working together, watching out for one another, and always ensuring we all go home safely to our families at the end of each day.

We were also fortunate to have three guest presenters who covered critical topics:

- Consumers Energy – Damage Prevention
- Michigan Trucking Safety – Load Securement
- Mike's Wrecker – Vehicle Recovery

Their insights added tremendous value to our safety discussions and helped reinforce best practices across our operations.

At SCRC, safety isn't just a policy, it's our culture. We're proud of the recognition we've received, but even more proud of the proactive steps our team continues to take to make every workday a safe one. We'll keep seeking new training opportunities, sharing knowledge, and supporting one another, because when it comes to safety, we're all in this together.

Safety Officer:
Haley Christensen

Safety Committee: *Mike Ecker, Glenn Hardy, Rob Hudec, Ben Iliff, Jason Windy, a rotating person from Chesaning Garage, a rotating person from Engineering and a rotating District Foreman.*

FINANCE

Millage Dollar Spending Year 1 Recap

A total of $10,287,977 was received from the 2024 Road Millage assessment for Saginaw County's 27 townships to be spent on local roads. Each township directed the Road Commission on where they wanted to spend their millage dollars. As of November 1st, 2025, $6,985,483 (68%) of the millage revenue has been spent on improving local roads.

Areas that townships chose to spend their millage dollars on are:

Hot Patch - $195,000
Gravel - $266,975
Chip Seal - $2,145,375
Brine - $67,905
Crack Seal - $5,111
Culverts & Drainage - $217,777
Structure Repairs - $57,411
Paving - $3,185,460
Concrete Repairs - $844,471

A few townships have chosen to save a portion of their millage dollars for larger projects in the coming years.

*There are still projects to be finalized that will utilize more millage dollars prior to 12/31/2025, all unspent funds will roll over from year to year until exhausted.

Lacey Ziola,
Director of Finance & Benefits

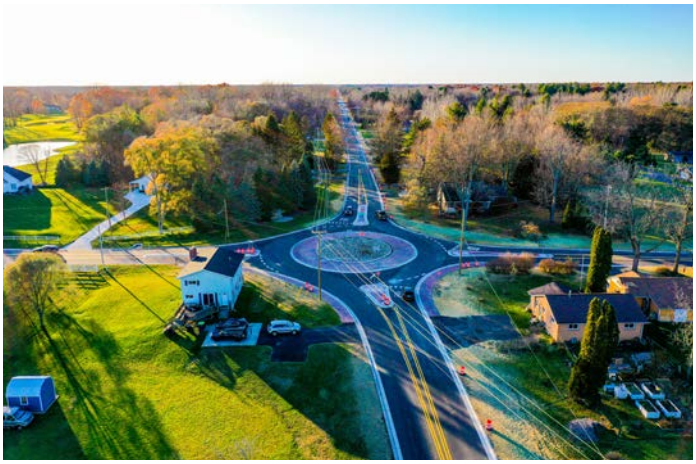


PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Amman Rd (Chesaning & Gasper) - Chesaning Twp

Chip Seal



Tittabawassee & River Rd - Tittabawassee Twp

Roundabout



Kennely Rd (Geddes & Frost) - Thomas Twp

Paving



Warnick Rd (Dehmel & Beyer) - Frankenmuth Twp

Grading



Curtis Rd - Spaulding Twp

Ditching



Century Dr (Center & Seidel) - Saginaw Twp

Concrete Repair

UPCOMING DATES

12/24 Christmas Eve**

12/25 Christmas Day**

12/31 New Years Eve**

1/1 New Years Day**

1/19 Martin Luther King Jr Day**

3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins

4/3 Good Friday**

4/5 Easter

5/10 Mother's Day

5/25 Memorial Day**

** SCRC offices and facilities are closed **

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

SCRC ANNIVERSARIES

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY DATES

EMPLOYEE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Dennis Borchard	35
Tim Reisterer	20
Dan Medina	15
Bob Miller	10
Scott Foye	5
Alex Schiefer	5
Jose Castillo	5
Derek Moulton	5
Dalton Bissonnette	1

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:
Monday—Thursday 6:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
CLOSED FRIDAY

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

COMMISSIONERS
Deb Kestner - Chairperson
John D. Sangster - Vice-Chairperson
Todd Hare - Member
Richard H. Crannell, P.E. - Member
Ed Wasmiller - Member

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Dennis L. Borchard

Saginaw County Road Commission maintains over 1,850+ miles of roads. While some local road projects are able to be done by cost-sharing with townships, the majority of the maintenance is the Saginaw County Road Commission's responsibility.

There are 205 bridges to maintain along with smaller tributaries and ditches adding more than 3,474 culverts to the road system. The list continues to grow as new roads are built to meet the needs of our ever changing and expanding community.

Maintaining the county road system is no easy task. However, every Saginaw County Road Commission employee is committed to building and maintaining a quality road system that will last for generations to come. We are proud to be a part of and to serve the Saginaw County Community.

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SAGINAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION