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Issue
ONE

An Insight into the Dickinson County Road Commission

2nd Quarter Newsletter

New Summer Hours

Summer Hours of Operations
began on Monday, April 18, 2022.

Monday through Thursday
6:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Upcoming Closures:

Monday, May 30th is observation of
Memorial Day

Monday, July 4th in observation of the
4th of July



2022 Maintenance Season

The crew at the Dickinson County Road Commission is gearing up for the 2022 Road Maintenance season. For this summer, the improvements that are set consist of primary roads, local roads and bridge maintenance and repairs.

Primary Roads:

- Resurfacing of East Breitung Avenue from Hydraulic Falls Road to US-141.
- Shaping and resurfacing of approximately 1 mile of County Road 581 from Wickman's March Road to south of the Sturgeon River.

Local Roads:

- Sagola Township – Crush, shape, pave and culvert replacement of Herzog Road from 1 mile east of Old M-69, then going east 1 mile to the end of the road.
- Waucedah Township – Crush, shape, pave, and culvert replacement of Swede Settlement Road from .75 miles east of County Road 573, then going east for .75 miles.
- Norway Township – Crush, shape, pave and culvert replacement of River Meadows Lane from US 8 on Old 8 to the end of road on River Meadows Lane.

Bridges:

- Rehabilitation of structure #2200, which carries County Road 577 over the Sturgeon River in Norway Township. The project includes concrete approach, deck joint replacement and patching, beam repairs, guardrails and coating of structural steel. This bridge was constructed in 1969 and is preventative maintenance.
- Rehabilitation of structure #2194, built in 1945, which carries County Road 573 over the Sturgeon River in Waucedah Township. The project includes removing and replacing asphalt, deck patching, replacing deck drains, coating structural steel, anchoring of steel beams and guardrail, curb and gutter work. This project is the first of its kind in Michigan and only one other of its kind has been done in Texas.
- Removal and replacement of structure #2207 which carries Cheese Factory Road over the East Branch of the Sturgeon River in Breen Township. Work for the project includes steel beams, treated deck panels, abutment, reconstruction of approaches and guardrails.

The Birth of a Pothole

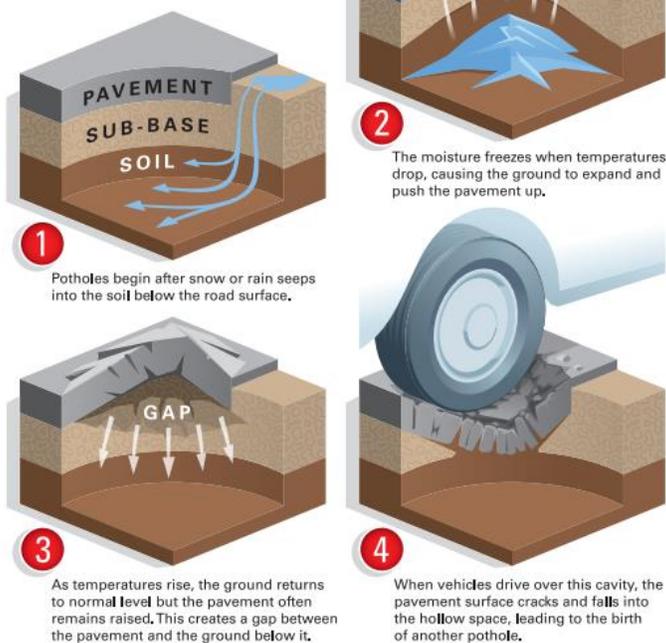
Warmer temperatures are coming to Michigan and with them, the arrival of pesky potholes. Potholes are formed when water beneath the pavement thaws, then freezes, which expands the pavement and makes it more susceptible to damage. Potholes are an unfortunate reality in the state of Michigan. With frost coming out of the ground, they're popping up more and more each day. Our crews are making temporary fixes to the more hazardous holes until we can apply a more permanent solution once the weather warms up.

Questions or concerns regarding potholes please call our office at 906-774-1588.



Grading Sink Hole Road – September 17, 1915

The Birth of a Pothole



Credit: County Road Association of Michigan

Adopt-A-Road Program

The 2022 Adopt-A-Road program for Dickinson County Road Commission kicks off in May. All the groups who volunteer their time and hard work helps keep our community and roadsides clean. It is a big job and we couldn't do it without our volunteers hardwork! 2022 permits are still available at no charge and can be obtained by contacting our office. Permits are done on a 5-year renewable timeframe and the Road Commission provides trash bags and safety vests to all participants.



During the first round of pick up, it was reported 50 bags of trash was picked up.

This years goal for the Adopt-A-Road program is to get all groups involved in reporting the amount of trash and hours invested in keeping Dickinson County roads clean. Numbers will then be broken down by Township. We all need to do our part in keeping the roads clean!

2022 Pick-Up Dates: May 7 – 15
July 16 – 24
September 24 – October 2

Current Trainings for the Crew

- CPR/First Aid
- Chainsaw Safety
- Mine Safety
- Work Zone Harrassment
- New Employee Training
- Bucket Truck/Forklift Training

Michigan's Move Over Law

Michigan's Move Over law requires motorists to slow down and move over for stationary authorized vehicles with flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights activated.

When approaching a stationary authorized vehicle with flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights activated, carefully slow down to at least 10 mph below the posted speed limit and fully move over into an open lane. If this is not possible due to traffic, weather, or road conditions, slow down to at least 10 mph below the posted speed limit, and pass with caution allowing the authorized vehicle as much space as possible.

The law applies to these authorized emergency vehicles:

- Police
- Fire
- Rescue
- Ambulance
- Road service (*Road service vehicles include tow trucks and courtesy vehicles operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation.*)

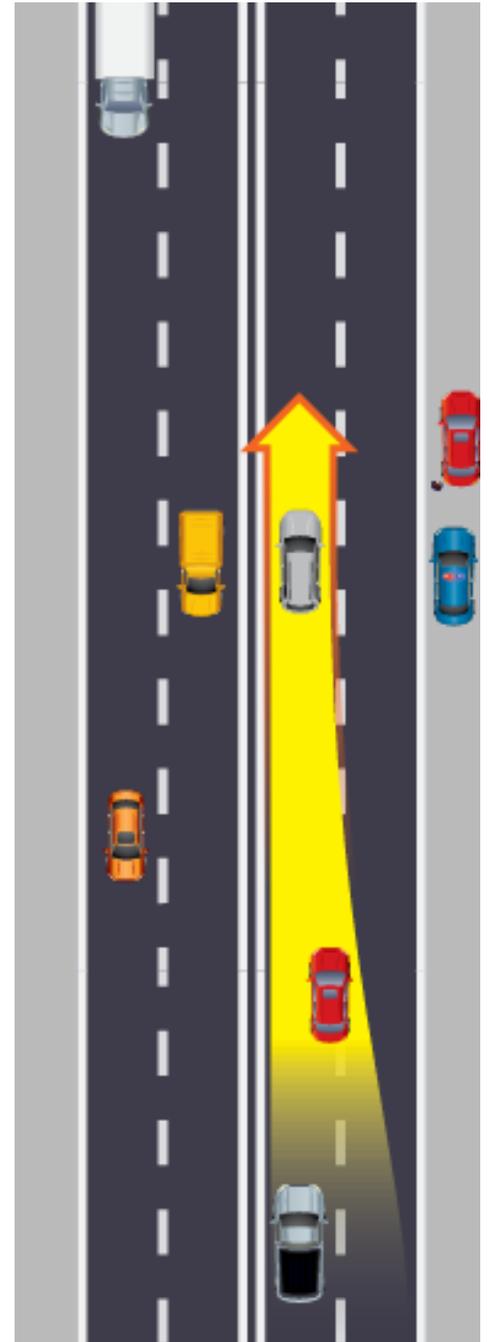
The Move Over law also applies to these other authorized vehicles with flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights activated: solid waste haulers, utility service vehicles, and road maintenance vehicles.

PENALTIES

A motorist violating the Move Over law for authorized emergency vehicles is responsible for a civil infraction and is subject to two points on their driver's license and a fine of \$400.

A motorist faces felony charges and enhanced penalties of up to 15 years in prison and/or a \$7,500 fine if the violation causes death to a police officer, firefighter, or other emergency response personnel. For injury to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel the motorist is guilty of a felony and the penalty is up to 2 years in prison and/or a \$1,000 fine.

Violation of the Move Over law for other authorized vehicles is punishable as a 90-day misdemeanor.



Your questions answered >>>

Q: Do I have to move over for a tow truck?

A: Yes, road service vehicles, including tow trucks, are considered to be emergency vehicles under that law.

Q: If I am on a two-lane road and see a police car on the shoulder and a car is traveling in the opposite direction, what am I supposed to do?

A: If it is not safe for you to move over into an adjacent lane, then you must slow down to at least 10 mph below the posted speed limit and pass with caution, giving the emergency vehicle as

Q: If I see an emergency vehicle on the side of the road and it doesn't have its emergency lights activated, do I have to move over?

A: No, you do not have to move over if the emergency vehicle doesn't have its emergency lights activated. However, you should always pass with caution, giving the

Happy Retirement! Thanks for all the years!



Todd Rowell, Superintendent of Roads, started at The Dickinson County Road Commission on January 11, 1999. At that time he was working as an Engineer Technician. In 2014, Todd became the Superintendent of Roads where he continued to work until he retired on March 31, 2022 with 23 years, 3 months of service.

Todd was a great asset to the road commission. He was a very reliable employee with a tremendous amount of knowledge with our road system. Todd will be greatly missed!

On this day in History...

59 years ago, April 1963 a bid was received for a new dump truck with one underbody scraper. Winning bid for underbody scraper was awarded for \$1,480. Winning bid for one Ford diesel dump truck was awarded for \$9,390.

Fast forward to April 2022, for a dump truck with underbody scraper meeting today's specifications are priced in excess of \$300,000.

Oh, how times have changed!!



Dickinson County Road Commission

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