

# COUNTY ROAD NEWS

## IONIA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

### WHAT'S NEW

-Our crews are currently scraping gravel roads and preparing for the winter season.

-October 24 was Michigan's first "Shake Your Mailbox Day". Michigan's county road commissions and the United States Postal Service along with Governor Granholm encouraged residents to give their mailbox an aggressive shaking to see if the post and hardware are secure. Taking time to inspect your mailbox may help prevent it from being damaged over the winter. If the mailbox and/or post is not tightly secured it may not endure the standard snow removal process. Residents who have custom or expensive mailboxes want to consider switching to a less costly mailbox for the winter months to avoid damage to them.

-Help us, help you. We encourage you to contact your state legislature at 888-719-3087 regarding the conditions and lack of funding for Michigan roads. The more voices that are heard on this topic, the better chance we have for improvements being made. For more information you can also visit the Drive Michigan website at [www.drivemi.org](http://www.drivemi.org).

As always you may contact us with any questions or concerns you may have by: Calling the office (616) 527-1700, email us at [info@ioniacountyroads.org](mailto:info@ioniacountyroads.org), or visit our website [www.ioniacountyroads.org](http://www.ioniacountyroads.org)

### WHEN PLOWING YOUR DRIVEWAY



As winter approaches, the Ionia County Road Commission would appreciate your help when plowing, shoveling or blowing snow from your driveway. Public Act 300 of 1949, as amended by P.A. 82 of 1978 prohibits anyone from pushing or placing snow across county roads. Inevitably snow gets built up on the opposite shoulder and creates a hazard for our drivers and the motoring public.

Helpful Hint: If you place the snow from your driveway on the right-hand side when facing the road, our plow trucks won't throw as much snow back into your freshly cleaned drive as they plow the shoulders. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2009

- Hastings Road Bridge over Tyler Creek: Removal and construction of a new 40' x 34' concrete bridge and approaches with State/Federal Bridge, Campbell Township and Road Commission funding - \$380,000
- Fish Road, Otisco Township: Approximately 700' of gravel road widening and upgrading including tree removal, excavation and embankment and gravel with Otisco Township and Road Commission funding - \$19,000
- Jefferson/Parmeter Roads: Approximately 2.5 miles of asphalt road rehabilitation and intersection reconstruction with Federal Safety, Ionia Township and Road Commission funding - \$800,000
- Guardrail Upgrading: Removal and upgrading at seven (7) bridge locations county-wide with Federal Safety and Road Commission funding - \$204,000
- Beardsley Road and East Main Street: Approximately 1.2 miles of double chip seal and pavement markings from M-21 south and west to Stevenson Place with City of Ionia and Road Commission funding - \$75,000
- SE Quadrant Pavement Marking: Centerline and edgeline painting with Road Commission funding - \$34,000

### DON'T VEER FOR DEER!

It's that time of year – keep an eye open for deer while driving. Statistics show that most deaths and injuries occur when drivers swerve to avoid hitting the deer and strike another fixed object. Striking the deer is often the safest course of action to take –

Remember:

- Don't swerve
- Brake firmly
- Hold on to the steering wheel
- Stay in your lane
- Bring your vehicle to a controlled stop

### PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY

Remember road safety begins with you...the driver. Keep these tips in mind anytime you are at the wheel:

- Stay alert
- Please do not use cell phones or text while driving
- Make sure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition
- Adjust your driving habits according to conditions of the road
- Stay at least 200 feet behind plowtrucks
- Plan ahead for inclement weather
- Make sure windows, headlights and taillights are clear of snow or dirt
- Drive with headlights on lowbeam (not parking lights) during rain, snow and fog
- Please exercise common sense and courtesy at all times

### 2009 ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Frederick Chapman, Chairman  
Herbert Cusack, Vice-Chairman  
Earl Strater, Member

The County Board of Commissioners appoints the Road Commissioners to six year terms. The Road Commissioners will meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Road Commission office, unless posted differently. The public is always welcome.

The Ionia County Road Commission office is located at 170 E. Riverside Drive in Ionia, MI. Our office hours are 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

### 2009 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

November 25  
December 16 @ 7pm – 2010 Budget Hearing  
December 30

Brought to you by your local road professionals at the Ionia County Road Commission.

170 E. Riverside Dr., Ionia, MI 48846

Phone: (616) 527-1700

[www.ioniacountyroads.org](http://www.ioniacountyroads.org)

