



2860 E. Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Berrien County Road Department

The Berrien County Road Department

The Berrien County Road Department is governed by twelve County Commissioners who are elected officials.

Your current Commissioners are:

Dave Vollrath, John Hinkelman, Don Meeks, Mammie Yarbrough, Bill Chikering, Jeanette Leahey, Deb Panozzo, Teri Freehling, Ezra Scott, Mac Elliott, Jim Curran, Michael Majerek

Louis Csokasy - Managing Director
Brian Berndt - County Highway Engineer
Michael Juengling - Traffic Safety Supervisor

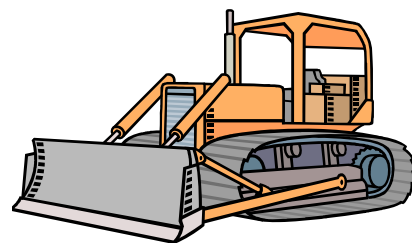
Board meetings are held by Commissioners every Thursday (excluding holidays, night meetings and the 5th Thursday). With the exception of night meetings, the regular location for their meetings is at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main St., St. Joseph, Michigan.

The Berrien County Road Department is dedicated to meeting your needs and addressing your concerns. We welcome your calls about road related issues.

(269) 925-1196

or email at traffic@bcroad.org

Our normal business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Spring 2017

Inside this issue:

<i>Important Safety Tips</i>	1, 2
<i>New Members</i>	2
<i>Meth Lab Trash</i>	3
<i>25 year anniversary</i>	3



Special points of interest:

- Plan to do your clean up in the next few months.
- Review Safety Tips.
- Call if bags and vests are needed.
- Call Mike Juengling after cleaning roads to have your trash picked up.
- Call if you no longer wish to participate.

Berrien County Road Department



It's Spring Cleanup Time!

Dear Volunteers:

It's Spring in Berrien County and it's a good time to get out and do your first road cleanup. The days are getting warmer and longer so you may want to plan your cleanup before your summer activities begin. The grass will be getting long soon and may make trash hard to spot so please plan accordingly. Your efforts as Adopt-A-Road volunteers play a key role in preserving the natural beauty of this area. This program gets you directly involved with your community and demonstrates your

commitment and pride for the area in which you live and work. We hope your efforts will inspire others to become involved and take interest in the preservation of our environment. Your efforts are working! According to recent surveys, Michigan has seen a 30% reduction in litter since the inception of the Adopt-A-Road program in 1992. This is in addition to the 40% reduction due to Michigan's bottle law introduced in 1978. As a spokesman for the Berrien County Road Department and as a Berrien County resident, I

sincerely appreciate your efforts and want to thank you again for your participation and commitment.

Michael Juengling



Please learn to identify Poison Ivy and avoid it!

Important Safety Tips

When you received your original information packets, there was a list of safety tips and guidelines to help your group have a successful cleanup. If you still have this information it would be a good idea to review it with

your group, especially if you have new participants. If you would like another copy of this material, contact me and I will see that you receive a new copy.

Remember to **face on-**

coming traffic whenever possible as this will help you anticipate a potential emergency situation. Also, try to park your vehicles out of the way of traffic and be careful not to obstruct the vision of passing motorists

Important Safety Tips! (Cont'd)



Do NOT handle medical waste!

near intersections and drive-ways. Please car-pool to your destination to limit the number of parked vehicles.

Another problem you may encounter on your cleanup is "road kill". **Please do not handle dead animals.**

Also, **avoid any hazardous materials.** Do not pick up discarded syringes, hypodermic needles, or any other medical waste. If you find any of these materials, please contact our office.

Remember to **wear appropriate clothing** during your cleanup. There may be hidden dangers in ditches, brush and with handling debris. Please urge your participants to wear sturdy footwear (such as boots) and gloves. Cans can be rusty, bottles can be broken and mown brush can be sharp. Also, beware of holes that animals may have dug. You don't want a twisted ankle to end your trash cleanup.

A question we often get concerns the age of participants. While we advise you to keep your minimum age to 16, we have made exceptions down to age 12, providing that there is parental or adult supervision for the children. This does not mean 1 adult for 10 children. We prefer you have 1 adult for every 4 children. This will help to insure safe practices for all involved.

Try to **avoid cleanups in bad weather.** Remember, most accidents occur in bad weather, so there is no reason to expose your members to this increased risk. Also, try to avoid extreme weather conditions such as intense heat or cold. In hot weather, avoid over exertion and drink plenty of fluids. In cold weather, wear sufficient layers of clothing and protect extremities from direct exposure.

Do not use headphones to listen to music!

You must be aware of traffic and warnings from other members.

Wear your safety vests! Please try to keep track of these vests and save them for your next cleanup. This helps us reduce costs. If you need more vests, please let us know.

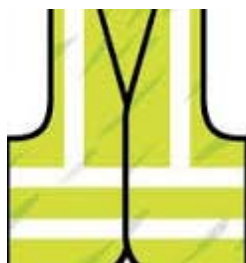
Please stay out of the roadway and remain on the shoulder area to do your cleanup. Avoid tunnels, bridges and overpasses as these areas are especially dangerous.

Following these simple guidelines will allow you to have a successful and safe cleanup!

IF YOUR SIGNS ARE OLD AND NEED REPLACED, PLEASE CALL!!

IF CAN NO LONGER CLEAN YOUR ROAD, PLEASE CALL!!

Bags & Vests are available if needed. Contact Michael now so you'll be ready for your Spring pick up!



Wear your Safety Vest

Welcome New Members!!

ADVENTIST FRONTIER MISSIONS

2 miles of SHAWNEE ROAD

STANIS WOODS

0.5 mile of BEAVER DAM ROAD

JOKER'S ROAD

1 mile of ROCKEY WEED ROAD

4 SEASONS LAWN CARE

0.5 mile of STARR ROAD

25 years of Service!!

BRIDGMAN HIGH SCHOOL NHS

2 miles of RED ARROW HWY

EAU CLAIRE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1 mile of EAST MAIN STREET

BURBACH FARMS

1 mile of PIPESTONE ROAD

BRIDGMAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2 miles of SHAWNEE ROAD

Meth Lab Trash

Methamphetamine is made in illegal laboratories and has a high potential for abuse and addiction. Methamphetamine is closely related chemically to amphetamine, but the central nervous system effects of methamphetamine are greater. Street methamphetamine is referred to by many names, such as "speed," "meth," and "chalk." Methamphetamine hydrochloride, clear chunky crystals resembling ice, which can be inhaled by smoking, is referred to as "ice," "crystal," "glass," and "tina."

Over 300 different chemicals can be used in the production of the drug depending on the procedure used. The waste can be disposed of in many different ways, sometimes on the side of the road. The following reviews some of the waste generated by Methamphetamine Labs.

- Plastic pop/juice/water bottles with tubing coming out of the top.
- Propane cylinders (typical of gas grills) used to transport anhydrous ammonia. This ammonia can burn your skin and cause very severe respiratory damage. These tanks, when used with the brass fitting, can explode when moved. The ammonia degrades the brass to the point where it can blow the fitting out of the tank, endanger-

ing individuals in the area. The brass fittings on the tanks will turn a blue to blue green color. Some tanks have been modified with other fittings. If you find cylinders, **DO NOT TOUCH** but note location and report it to the nearest law enforcement agency.

- Coffee filters with red stains/powder or white residue.
- Empty medicine boxes and blister packs for over the counter cold and asthma medicines (products that contain ephedrine or pseudoephedrine).
- Lithium batteries that appear to be unrolled.
- Bags containing a reddish/white powder.
- Respirator masks.
- Rubber gloves.
- Plastic or rubber tubing, hoses, and clamps.
- Pyrex glass, Corning ware, or other glass cookware.
- Bed sheets or pillow cases stained red or containing a white powdery residue.
- Engine starting fluid cans (punctured and drained of ethyl ether).

- Empty drain cleaner containers (lye).
- Kitty litter.
- Empty bottles of 'rubbing' alcohol, acetone, toluene, or paint thinner.
- Empty cans of Coleman/Camping fuel (naphtha).
- Empty containers of sulfuric, muriatic, or phosphoric acid.

If you come across what appears to be meth lab waste, do not touch it, and report the location to your supervisor and local law enforcement agency.



Adopt-A-Road program reaches 25th year!!

The Berrien County Road Department (BCRD) Adopt-A-Road (AAR) program will begin its 25th year when volunteers head out to pick up litter this Spring.

- 456 groups have been in the program since 1992. Of the 369 groups currently in the program, 342 have been participating for at least 20 years.
- 372 miles of roadway are currently adopted.

"We appreciate each and every one of the Adopt-A-Road volunteers who head out to the roadsides every year," said Program Director Michael Juengling. "Adopt-A-Road crews give a huge financial boost to the County, by doing an important job that we otherwise couldn't fund." Volunteers wear high-visibility, yellow-green safety vests required by federal regulations when working within a road right of way. BCRD provides the vests and trash bags for free, and arranges to haul away the trash.

Current volunteers include members of various civic groups, businesses and families. Crew members have to be at least 12 years old and each group must number at least two people.

AAR's 25th anniversary is an event well worth celebrating. Here are just a few of the accomplishments the dedicated AAR volunteers have racked up:

Sections of roadway are still available for adoption. Groups are asked to adopt a section for at least two years. Adopt-A-Road signs bearing a group's name are posted along the stretch of adopted highway. There is no fee to participate.

For more info, go to www.bcroad.org/Adopt A Road.html