

# VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

# NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

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Lawrence, Michigan

2021-06

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DATE: November 24, 2021 CONTACT: Dan Bishop  
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## Obstacles in the Road Right-of-Way

### ***THE ROAD COMMISSION WANTS YOU TO KNOW . . .***

It's the end of November and Michigan's first snowflakes have already fallen. The County Road Commission reminds all residents that obstacles in the road right-of-way which could be hidden by snow and struck by snow removal equipment should be removed as soon as possible. These encroachments include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Basketball hoops
- ▶ Holiday decorations
- ▶ Fencing
- ▶ Signs
- ▶ Landscaping rocks, timbers or bricks

Other encroachments include temporarily parking or placing items in the road right-of-way, such as:

- ▶ Boat lifts
- ▶ Garbage dumpsters
- ▶ Vehicles

These encroachment obstacles can cause injury to people and/or damage to equipment for which a property owner can be held responsible. If the Road Commission discovers an obstruction and determines that there is not a permit on file, we will require the responsible individual(s) to pay for any damage costs.

Mailboxes are the only object allowed in the road right-of-way without a permit. Mailboxes must conform to Guidelines established by the US Postal Service and the Van Buren County Road Commission. The mailbox must be constructed of light steel, aluminum or plastic that meets the USPS Postmaster General's seal of approval. The post must be a 4"x4" wooden support, or a 2" diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe imbedded no more than 24" in the ground. Mailbox posts should not be set in concrete, or fitted with a bottom anchor plate, but the mailbox should be attached to the post well enough to prevent separation.

If you have a question regarding encroachments, or your mailbox or post, please contact the Van Buren County Road Commission at 269-674-8011.

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