

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Act 200 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1969, any activity or use of county road right-of-way other than for highway travel purposes and maintaining natural vegetation requires a right-of-way permit from the Road Commission. A completed right-of-way permit may be required before the Township will issue a land use permit. Please allow five to ten days for processing a permit. The contractor performing the work may be required to have a valid certificate of insurance on file with the Road Commission before a permit will be issued. The Road Commission fee schedule for driveway and overweight permits is available at the Road Commission office, or on the web at www.benziecrc.org to access our permit applications online.

Right-of-way Permits Are Required To:

- Build a new drive
- Upgrade an existing field drive to residential use
- Upgrade an existing residential drive to commercial use
- Reconstruct, pave or place concrete on an existing driveway

Permitted Activities Include:

- Utility installations
- Seismographic exploration
- Overweight transport
- Oversize transport

Standard mailboxes are allowed in the road right-of-way without individual written permits. The face of the mailbox shall be placed a minimum of six (6) feet off the edge of the blacktop or one (1) foot behind the road shoulder, whichever is farthest from the centerline. Mailboxes should be installed on 4" x 4" or 4.5" diameter wood posts or steel posts less than 3 lb/ft. These supports should be embedded with no more than 24" in the ground. Multiple mailbox installations must be placed on individual supports. Oversized and decorative boxes and posts are placed at the owner's risk and are maintained and/or replaced at the owner's sole expense. The Road Commission will not be responsible for damage to mailboxes caused by snow removal operations. The Road Commission will replace a box/post that has been **physically struck** by Road Commission equipment with a standard box and post. The Road Commission is not responsible for damage by snow striking the box or post.

Permit applications, mailbox installation instructions and right-of-way standards are available at the Road Commission office at 11318 Main Street, Honor, MI 49640.

Activities in Road Rights-of-Way, Road Ends and Lake Access Sites which are NOT permitted

The following activities are not allowed in the right of way when they would pose a safety hazard, obstruct vision or hinder maintenance work, or prevent public usage:

- * Filling of roadside ditches or right of ways with dirt, leaves, debris or anything that may block drainage paths
- * Planting of trees, shrubs, seedlings or bushes of any kind
- * Construction of a retaining wall or culvert head wall along the side of a driveway
- * Placement of any type of fence
- * Placement of rocks, boulders or earth berms
- * Placement of political, real estate, garage sale or other unauthorized signs particularly at intersections, railroad crossings, driveways or locations where visibility may be obstructed or a driver's attention distracted. Contact your township for setback from right-of-way and other requirements for signs
- * Any other encroachment considered potentially hazardous by the Road Commission

Lawn Watering Sprinkler Systems

The Road Commission will not issue a permit for the placement of an underground sprinkler system within the road right-of-way. If they are placed within the road right-of-way, the following shall apply:

- * The property owner is responsible for any damage or removal caused by Road Commission activities or activities permitted by the Road Commission. These activities may consist of ditch line reconstruction, roadside mowing, sign installation or grading of the extended road shoulder.
- * Sprinklers shall not water curbs, saturate the road grade or discharge flow onto the traveled portion of the road.
- * Any contractor or individual installing a sprinkler system in county road right-of-way will assume all liability for any incident arising from the installation for the operation of the system.

Roadside Maintenance

The Road Commission will continue to maintain the public right-of-way using efficient and cost-effective methods as necessary to ensure public safety and to protect Benzie County's investment in our road system. Property owners wishing to maintain their portion of the public right-of-way for aesthetics should contact the Road Commission to discuss potential options and associated requirements. In no case will options (if agreed to) be funded by the Benzie County Road Commission.

Your cooperation will help keep our roadways safe for vehicle traffic and reduce the future maintenance costs of our county road system. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding permitted activities in the road right-of-way, please contact the Road Commission at (231) 325-3051.

BENZIE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

11318 Main Street
Honor, MI 49640