



**Volume 4, Issue 6  
June 2015**

## CALENDAR

**June 1** **SUMMER HOURS** start for DPW Highway Operations. Crews will be working 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM Mon—Thurs and are closed Fri. PUBLIC WORKS offices will remain open Mon—Fri 7:00am to 3:30pm

**June 6** **JUNE 6 Volunteer Work Day** at White River County Park at 8 am to 12 noon

**June 15** **JUNE 15 Walworth County Public Works Committee Meeting** at 3:30 PM at the Government Center County Boardroom #114

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# WHAT'S IN THE WORKS

A monthly publication from the Walworth County Public Works Department.

Contact us at 262.741.3114; [kbrunner@co.walworth.wi.us](mailto:kbrunner@co.walworth.wi.us)

## Department of Public Works New Vehicle Maintenance Facility

The County Public Works Committee at its May meeting approved schematic plans for the new DPW Vehicle Maintenance Facility.



This 49,725 square foot building will house 12 vehicle repair bays; a welding shop; wash bay;

parts room; tire shop; bulk fluids room; service equipment room and meeting space, restrooms and offices for DPW vehicle maintenance staff. The County's 400+ vehicles and pieces of equipment will

be serviced from this new building, including all Sheriff's Office vehicles. The estimated cost is a little less than \$8 million.

Shown here is a rendering of the building looking northeast from the DPW drive-

way. Bidding of the project is scheduled for October of this year with a November bid award anticipated. Construction would begin early next year with completion scheduled for November 1, 2016.

## Adopt-A-Highway Litter Control Program

Now is the time of year for Adopt-A-Highway groups to pick up all the litter that has accumulated along the highways from over the winter and throughout the spring season, which is not so appealing to tourists and everyday motorists. While these clean-ups help to make our highway right-of-ways less cluttered, it is also helping our environment stay cleaner.



Walworth County's Adopt-A-Highway program allows groups the opportunity to make a contribution to our County while controlling the litter along state and county highways. Each

group picks up litter at least 3 times a year between April 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> or additional times if they so wish. Groups do not work in dangerous areas, such as medians, bridges or steep slopes. Safety vests, trash bags, two portable "people working" signs, a safety training video and two signs with the group's name placed at each end of the highway clean-up section are provided to each group as part of the program. All workers must be

at least 11 years old or in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Each group must provide one adult supervisor for every 5 or 6 workers. When clean-ups are completed, County workers will remove and dispose of the bags of trash. Since the Adopt-A-Highway clean-up sections are on a first come, first serve basis, groups may be placed on a waiting list for future opportunities.

If your group would like to join Adopt-A-Highway or if you have further questions about this program, please contact: Cheryl Bahr at the Public Works Department at 262-741-3103 or by email at [cbahr@co.walworth.wi.us](mailto:cbahr@co.walworth.wi.us).

## 70 MPH Speed Limit Passed I-43 Signs to be Installed Soon

WisDOT will oversee installation of about 470 new speed limited and related signs along 726 miles of rural Interstate in Wisconsin now that the 70 mph speed limit has been signed into law. The 70 mph speed limit will NOT take effect until a specific highway segment is posted at the higher speed. Drivers are asked to be alert, to slow down and move over for county highway crews as they install the new signs along rural Interstates beginning next month. WisDOT is reminding motorists:

- Posted speed limits apply when travel conditions are ideal. State law requires drivers to

adjust their speed to what is "reasonable and prudent" based on travel conditions. Factors such as snow, rain, construction or heavy traffic require reduced speeds.

- The state's Move Over Law requires drivers to slow down or move over any time they see highway maintenance vehicles, law enforcement, other emergency responders or tow trucks stopped along the highway with warning lights flashing. Violations can result in a \$263 citation.

County DPW will be installing new 70 mph speed limit signs from the Waukesha County line to the State line along I-43.

## EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

Christy Heinrich—24 years  
Harry Romie—24 years  
Keith Williams—15 years  
Vanessa Mann—8 years  
Shawn McCarthy—1 year  
Steve Messick—1 year

“Without change there is no innovation, creativity, or incentive for improvement.

Those who initiate change will have a better opportunity to manage the change that is inevitable”

- William Pollard

## PERSONNEL NOTES

Traci Roszkowiak is the County's new Purchasing Manager.

Roszkowiak is a Certified Purchasing Professional (CPP) who has over 15 years of private sector experience in purchasing and materials management.

She comes to the County from a position as supply chain analyst/planner at Vista International Packaging in Kenosha.

“Learning and innovation go hand in hand. The arrogance of success is to think what you did yesterday will be sufficient for tomorrow.”

- William Pollard

## SAVE THE DATE



**Saturday, June 6th**  
**8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

## White River County Park Volunteer Work Day



## Follow along as the “Low & Slow Across America's Infrastructure” tour highlights the critical conditions of U.S. infrastructure

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is proud to be the Platinum Sponsor for the Engineering News Record (ENR) month



-long “Low and Slow Across America's Infrastructure” tour. Dan McNichol has already started the Boston-to-Los Angeles road trip in his 1949 Hudson Commodore 8 to bring attention to the critical condi-

tion of our nation's infrastructure – and some of the solutions underway. Aileen Cho, ENR's Senior Transportation Editor, will be traveling with Dan, chronicling the trip with magazine articles, online stories, blogs, pictures, videos and social media.

With this important sponsorship, APWA will help bring awareness to the role of public works in maintaining and improving the crumbling state of America's infrastructure. Like the maintenance of our aging infrastructure, Dan McNichol's day-to-day struggle will be to maintain the mechanical conditions of the aging, rusted Hudson (nicknamed “Mrs. Martin”) during the trip.

**Follow along on this awesome public works journey by checking out the APWA website <http://www.apwa.net/media/LowSlowTour> for daily updates on Dan's progress. You can also follow the action on social media using the hashtag #ENRLowSlow.**

## P-CARD REBATE Program Interesting Facts

For Year Ending February 28, 2015

Total Consortium spend \$191.7M

Walworth County spent \$4.5M, with 7,144

Transactions, of which 6,345 were under \$1,000

- Top 3 Merchants were:

- North American Salt

- Patrick Engineering

- CDWG

Walworth County REBATE \$76,525 Increase of over \$14,000 from prior year.

## “Volunteer Work Day” White River County Park



The County DPW and Friends of White River County Park will be sponsoring a Volunteer Work Day at the White River County Park on Saturday, June 6th from 8 am to 12 noon.

Projects that have been identified for the day include:

- 1) Building a stone retaining wall near the barn
- 2) Removing a fence line south of the barn
- 3) Sealing picnic benches
- 4) Seeding or placing worn trail areas, and
- 5) General trail maintenance.

Some DPW staff will be on hand to direct and work with the volunteers at this event.

If you are able to join us, contact Colleen Lesniak, Volunteer Coordinator at 262.741.4223.

As always, we appreciate your contributions and support to the White River County Park. Please pass the word to family and friends.

## Message from WisDOT Secretary Mark Gottlieb

Safety is a primary concern for WisDOT and the department uses engineering, education and enforcement to support traffic safety throughout the state.

Calendar year 2014 saw the lowest number of traffic fatalities since 1943. Unfortunately, we're seeing a troubling trend in 2015 with traffic deaths up significantly from this same time last year.

If we all do our part, we can make progress toward our ultimate goal of reducing the number of preventable traffic deaths to Zero In Wisconsin.

As we enter another busy summer travel and road construction season, please buckle-up, drive sober and alert and be prepared to slow down and move over for roadside workers.

## Spring 2015 Safety Report

WisDOT recently released a report highlighting progress made toward safer Wisconsin roads.

The [Spring 2015 Safety Report](#) is one component of the quarterly MAPSS Performance Improvement Report which rates how well the department is doing in the five core goal areas of mobility, accountability, preservation, safety and service.

The report highlights WisDOT performance measures related to traffic fatalities, traffic crashes, traffic injuries and seat belt usage. The report shows Wisconsin's current seat belt use is at an all-time high of 84.7%.

The department has a goal to reach a compliance rate of 86% by 2016. Currently, Wisconsin lags behind Michigan and Illinois who boast a 90% usage rate.