

The Board of Commissioners office released the following road related information:

COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY REPORT

May 17, 2002

CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

At a time when Road Department revenues are in decline, it becomes increasingly important to stretch limited resources as far as possible. One of the valuable resources the Road Department manages are existing public road rights-of-way. These consist of the entire width of land areas which are dedicated to public use by deed or other legal documents. They are usually wider than just the traveled roadway. Road rights-of-way provide space for features such as paved and gravel roads, road approaches off the roadway to access private property, drainage features like ditches and swales, and various overhead and under ground utility lines.

Unfortunately, each year the Road Department finds improvements such as over-grown landscaping, retaining walls, sprinkler systems, wells, small buildings and the like in the rights-of-way. These types of improvements are a hazard to motorists and increase the cost of maintenance.

All work in the right-of-way must be reviewed and approved by the Road Department. It is imperative that property owners contact the County Road Department for copies of respective ordinances or for answers to related questions before doing any work in the right-of-way. Please call 842-3419 with your questions.

County oversight of right-of-way activities makes it possible to better protect existing improvements (roads or other features) and allows for future use of the right-of-way for other appropriate uses. If properly reviewed, placed and constructed, maximum efficient use of the existing right-of-way is better insured.

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*(the above information was only a portion of the entire Weekly Report)*