



TOIRMA Update

By Jim Donelan

TOIRMA Executive Director

Summertime Responsibilities – Signs

THE SEASONS THIS YEAR seemed to go from winter to summer (cold to hot). Although there were a few “spring” days this year, they were few and far between. While driving throughout the state I noticed that IDOT highway projects are clearly underway, and counties, municipalities, and road districts have many road, highway, and street improvements being performed. As a driver, it’s always good to see roadwork being done, especially when the project is complete. With summer being in full force there are responsibilities for highway commissioners and employees to keep-in-mind.

Keep signs clear of brush

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation’s *Signing of Road District and Township Highways* manual: “All traffic signs should be kept in proper position, clean, legible, and should have adequate reflectivity at all times. Damaged or deteriorated signs should be replaced without delay.”

TOIRMA recommends that highway commissioners regularly inspect signs along their highways, and not only address any issues that may be present, but document the findings and action taken. This can easily be done by using TOIRMA’s *Highway Commissioners Diary*.” This publication is available at no cost to all TOIRMA members. Please contact Debbie Prentice (217) 444-1204, dprentice@cemsil.com, and she will be happy to send you a diary.

Please remember the following:

- The highway commissioner is responsible for keeping signs in good order.
- If a highway commissioner, other township officials, or employees are aware of a sign obstruction, damaged sign, or missing sign, then the problem should be addressed as soon as possible (this means immediately). This includes initially observing the problem, or being notified of the problem by a resident or another local government official such as the county sheriff’s office.
- If a highway commissioner should have been aware of a problem due to it being obvious or present for an extended period of time there may be liability.

Again, having a regular inspection process in-place and documentation will help address these issues.

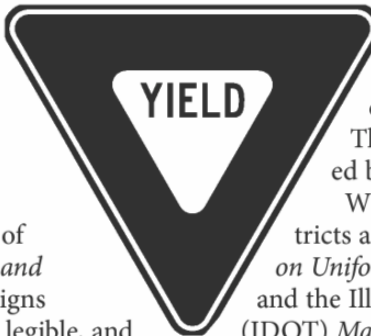
Placement of Traffic Control Devices Requires County Engineer Approval

The proper placement of traffic control signs on road district and township highways is a key part of having a safe and orderly traffic flow. When considering the installation of traffic control devices and signs, it is critical that traffic conditions and other technical considerations be evaluated/studied first. This evaluation/report should be conducted by a qualified engineer.

When placing signs, townships/road districts are required to conform with the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) and the Illinois Department of Transportation’s (IDOT) *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* and any supplement, and receive written approval of the county engineer or superintendent of highways **prior** to placement.

[625 ILCS 5/11-304] states:

“Local authorities in their respective maintenance jurisdiction shall place and maintain such traffic-control devices, including temporary stop signs placed as a substitute for missing or damaged permanent stop signs required by the State Manual, upon highways under their maintenance jurisdiction as are required to indicate and carry out the provisions of this Chapter, and local traffic ordinances or to regulate, warn, or guide traffic. All such traffic control devices shall conform to the State Manual and Specifications and shall be justified by traffic warrants stated in the Manual. Temporary stop signs shall be placed in a manner to provide adequate visibility and legibility, and shall be placed within duration recommendations in the State Manual, unless circumstances require longer placement. Placement of traffic-control devices on township or road district roads also shall be subject to the written approval of the county engineer or superintendent of highways.”



[605 ILCS 5/6-201 & 201.16 state]:

*“The highway commissioner of each road district shall ... **subject to the written approval** of the County Superintendent of Highways to place, erect, and maintain on township or road district roads, traffic-control devices and signs authorized by this Code or by “The Illinois Vehicle Code.”*

Please remember the following:

- Highway commissioners contact your County Engineer **prior** to installing a traffic control device and sign (highway commissioners must have written

approval before placing).

- Contact J.U.L.I.E, Illinois One-Call System at: 811 or (800) 8892-0123.
- Maintain the sign (ongoing responsibility).

We hope you find this information helpful. Have a safe summer and thank you for your attention to these matters.

As always, if you have questions, please feel free to contact me toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at jdanelan@toirma.org.

Think Safe ... Drive Safe ... Work Safe

As of June 22, 2018, the following TOIRMA members have not deposited their 2018 Dividend check. If your township/road district is on this list below, please deposit your dividend as soon as possible. Thank you!

TOWNSHIP	COUNTY
ANDALUSIA	ROCK ISLAND
ATLAS	PIKE
BIG ROCK	KANE
BRUSHY	SALINE
BUTTON	FORD
CAMP POINT	ADAMS
CHAMBERSBURG	PIKE
CHENOA	MCLEAN
CLYDE	WHITESIDE
COLUMBUS	ADAMS
COTTON HILL	SANGAMON
DEER CREEK	TAZEWELL
DERINDA	JO DAVIESS
ERIN	STEPHENSON
EWING	FRANKLIN

TOWNSHIP	COUNTY
FARMERS	FULTON
FENTON	WHITESIDE
FILLMORE CONS RD DIST	MONTGOMERY
FREDERICK	SCHUYLER
GENEVA	KANE
HALLOCK	PEORIA
IROQUOIS	IROQUOIS
ISABEL	FULTON
KASKASKIA	FAYETTE
KERR	CHAMPAIGN
LAMARD	WAYNE
LONE GROVE	FAYETTE
MARENGO	MCHENRY
MORGAN RD DIST 11	MORGAN
NEWTOWN	LIVINGSTON

TOWNSHIP	COUNTY
OTTER CREEK	LASALLE
RICHLAND	LASALLE
ROZETTA	HENDERSON
SERENA	LASALLE
SHERIDAN	LOGAN
SIGEL	SHELBY
SOUTH CROUCH	HAMILTON
SOUTH GROVE	DEKALB
STITES	ST. CLAIR
STONEFORT	SALINE
TOWANDA	MCLEAN
TRIVOLI	PEORIA
UNION	CUMBERLAND
VIRGIL	KANE
WEBBER	JEFFERSON



Libertyville Fire Protection President Honored by Township Board

AUGUST HOCK, Libertyville Fire Protection President, retired and was presented with a proclamation from the Libertyville Township Board at their May 24 town meeting. Mr. Hock has served as Trustee, Secretary and President of The Libertyville Fire Protection District with great honor and dedication. Libertyville Township Supervisor, Kathleen O'Connor presented Mr. Hock with the proclamation and thanked him for his faithful and selfless service.