

County Winter Operations

Michigan Traffic Safety Summit

Jerry Byrne, KCRC & Tim Little, MDOT

March 30, 2010

Michigan State University

Partners in Highway Safety

County Road Commissions



County Road Commissions

- Responsible for over 91,000 miles of roads
 - 75% of all public roads in Michigan
 - Receive only 39% of the MTF receipts
- MDOT responsible for 9,700 miles of roads
 - 8% of Michigan roads
 - Also receives 39% of MTF
- Cities/Villages have 20,600 miles of roads
 - 17% of Michigan roads
 - Receive 22% of MTF

Counties cannot provide same level of service as MDOT or cities/villages.

Priority Routes

Priority for winter maintenance operations:

1. State Trunkline (M routes or U.S. routes)
2. County Primary (higher traffic volumes)
3. County Local (lower volumes or density)

Priorities within each system shall depend on traffic and conditions.

Kent County Road System

4,144 Lane Miles
County Roads

1,139 Lane Miles
State Highways

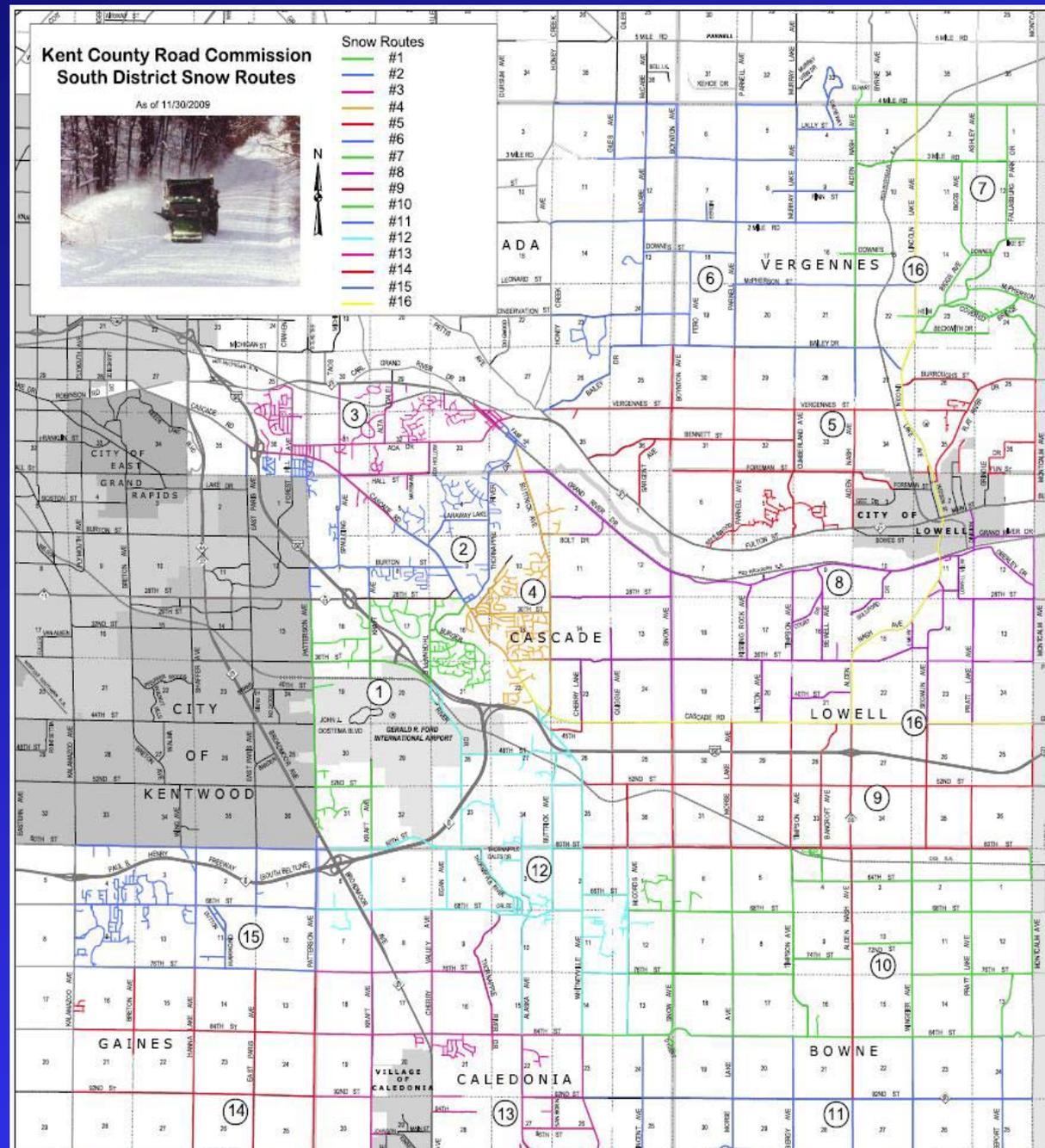
5,283 Total Lane Miles
w/ KCRC Maintenance

Snow Removal

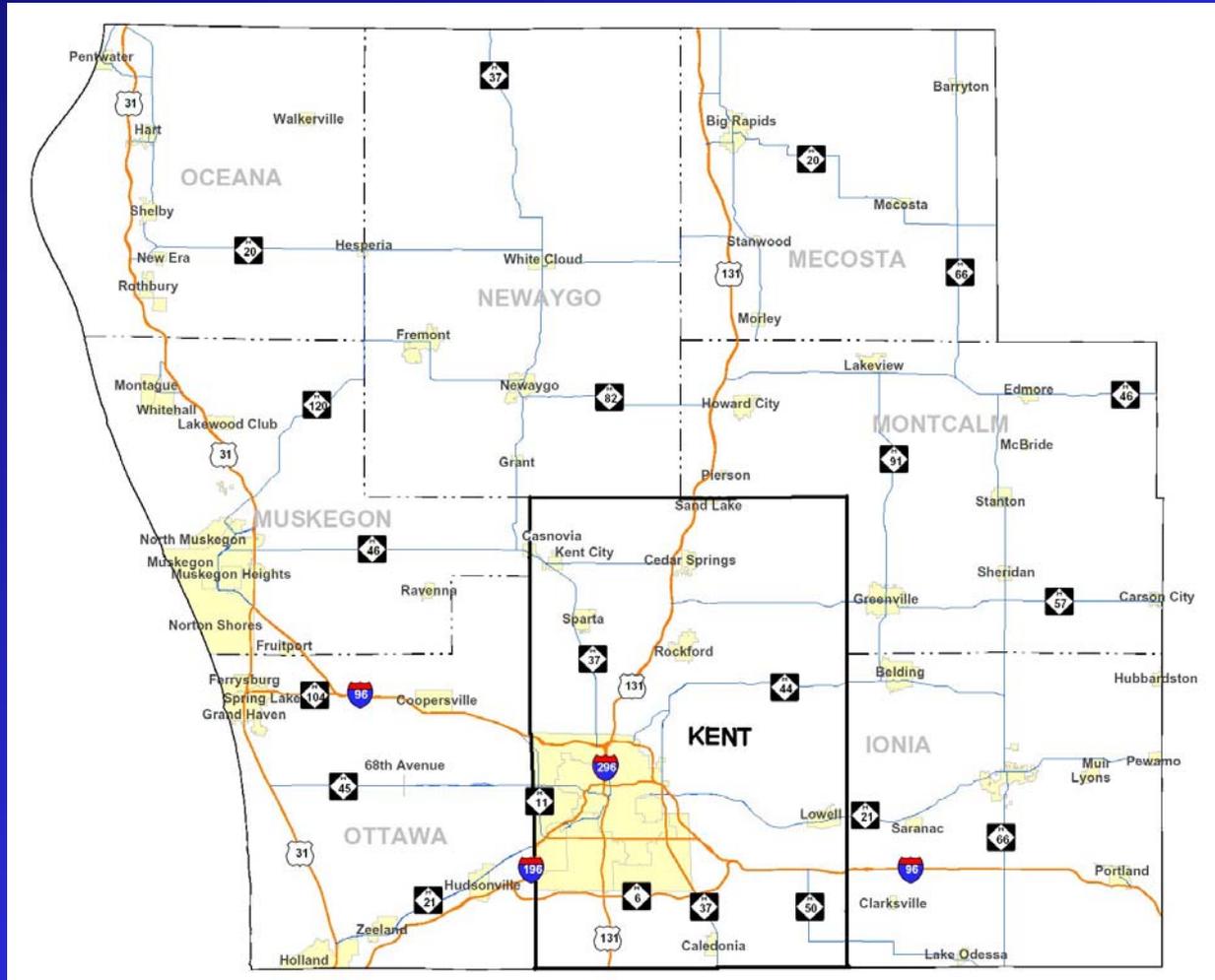
4 Districts

50 County Runs

30 State Runs



MDOT - Level of Service



Priority #1 – Orange Routes

Provide maintenance service as appropriate under prevailing weather conditions, with a goal of providing a pavement surface over its entire width *generally bare of ice and snow.* This work may be accomplished using overtime as necessary.



Clearing the pavement bare of ice and snow over its entire width will be a continuous process during and after the snow event using overtime as necessary.

Priority #2 – Blue Routes

Provide maintenance service as appropriate under prevailing weather conditions, with a goal of providing a pavement surface *generally bare of ice and snow* wide enough for one-wheel track in each direction. This work may be accomplished using overtime as necessary during a winter storm event.



Clearing the pavement bare of ice and snow over its entire width will be accomplished as soon as reasonably possible after the winter storm event, without working overtime.

Road Commissions #1 priority is winter maintenance.



Some motorists expect to drive
the speed limit...
regardless of conditions!



Play Movie 2



Road Commissions, like Fire Departments, have millions of dollars of specialized equipment.



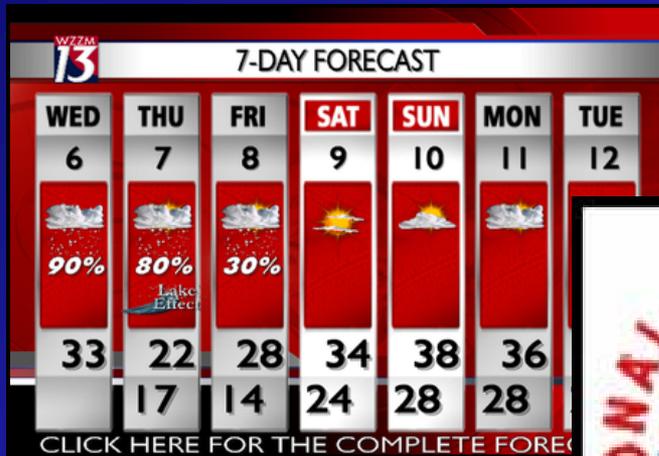
Snow removal equipment has significantly changed over the years.



Years ago it took a strong body to drive a snow removal truck. Today it also takes a sharp mind to be able to operate much of the computerized equipment!



Road Authorities rely on all available sources of weather information in making snow removal decisions.



Play Movie 3



National Weather Service Webinar

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WINTER STORM

Through Wednesday Morning

National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office
Grand Rapids, MI

Home Site Map News Organization Search for: NWS All NOAA

Top News of the Day **Recently Issued: Storm Report**

- Update 1030am Tues: Winter Storm Tue-Wed
- Send us your Snowfall Reports
- NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Week is February 7th - February 13th
- Additional News Headlines

Watches & Warnings Observations Forecast Graphics Rivers & Lakes Climate Spotter Reports

Click on the map below for the latest forecast.

Read watches, warnings & advisories

Zoom Out

- Winter Storm Warning
- Gale Warning
- Winter Weather Advisory
- Small Craft Advisory
- Special Weather Statement
- Hazardous Weather Outlook
- Short Term Forecast

Last map update: Tue, Feb. 9, 2010 at 12:46:42 pm EST

Update on 2/9-2/10 Winter Storm
Webinar ID: 890-081-297

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National Weather Service Webinar

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WHAT TO EXPECT

- Snow moved in as expected early this morning.
- **1.9** Grand Rapids Airport
- **1.8** Muskegon Airport
- **3.0** Hastings through mid morning
- **3.0** Bangor through noon
- **3.7** Eaton Rapids
- **Snow still expected to become heavier this afternoon and evening.**
- Snowfall totals look on track for 3-6 inches in the advisory area across Central Lower Michigan.
- ...and 6-10 inches across the Winter Storm Warning area.
- Blowing/Drifting Snow still expected Tonight and Wednesday.

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National Weather Service Webinar

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IMPACTS

- Roads snow covered and slippery.
- Temperatures will remain below freezing through the event, mainly in the 20s so slick conditions will be a bit more likely.

Temperature (Fahrenheit) KGRR GRAND RAPIDS MI LAMP OBS

17Z Tuesday, February 09 00Z Wednesday, February 10

Time	Temperature (F)
18Z	28
21Z	27
00Z	26
03Z	25
06Z	24
09Z	23
12Z	22
15Z	21
18Z	20

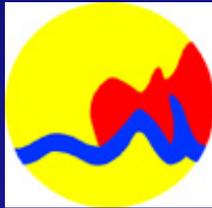
- This evening's commute will likely be impacted by heavy snow bands across the area.
- North winds of 15 to 25 mph can be expected Tonight into Wednesday with gusts to around 30 mph. Blowing and drifting snow can be expected especially in open country.

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Communication w/ Neighbors



Ahead of the Storm



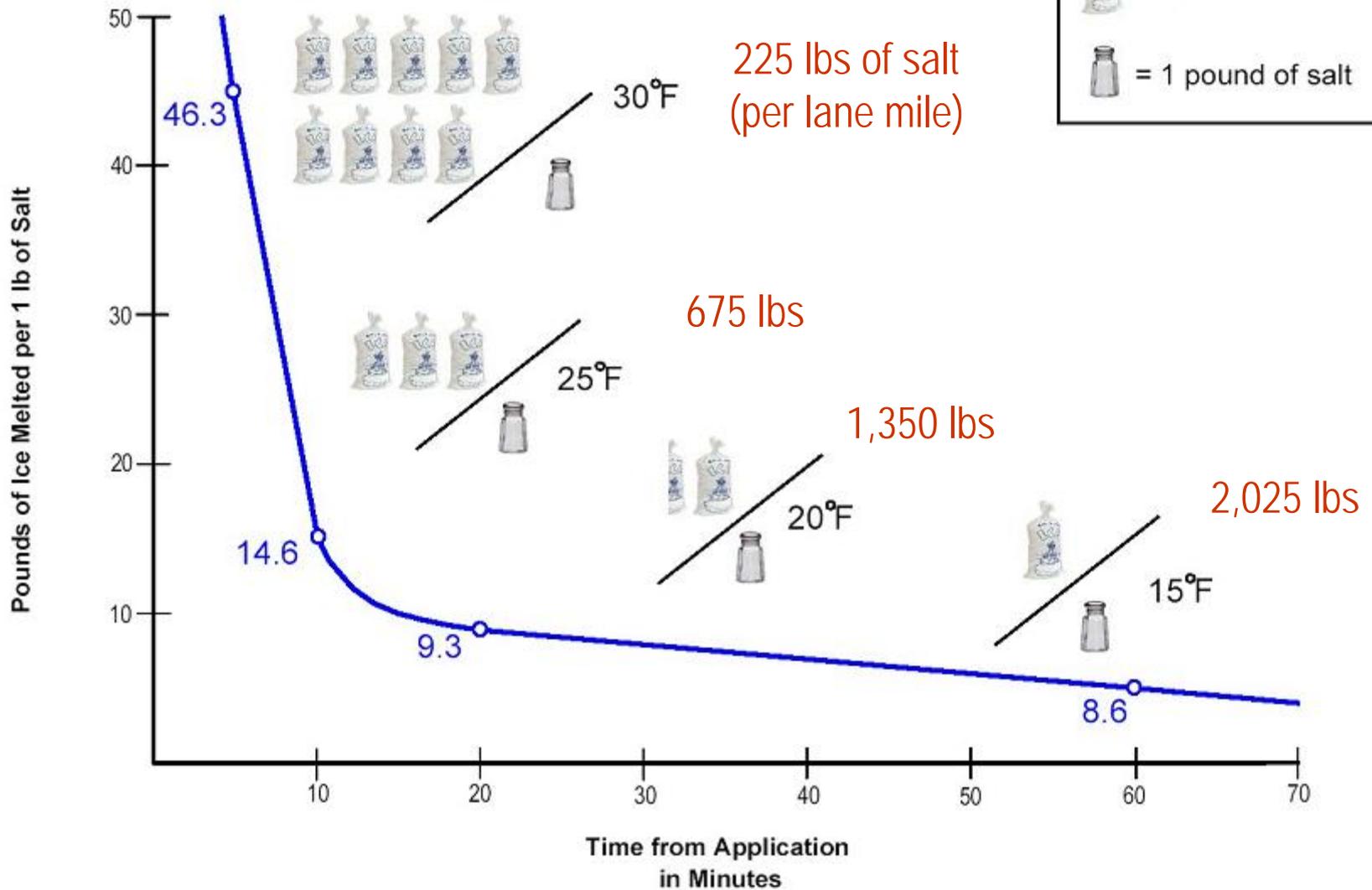
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Melting Capacity of Salt



Material Usage

- ✓ Hills
- ✓ Stops
- ✓ Curves
- ✓ Shady spots



* Or as advised by
Superintendent

Road Commissions work with Law Enforcement & Emergency Services.





Road Commissions will respond to accident scenes when the Officer believes that there is a danger to themselves or others.

(6) The exemptions provided for by this section apply to persons, teams, motor vehicles, and other equipment while actually engaged in work upon the surface of a highway but do not apply to those persons and vehicles when traveling to or from work. The provisions of this chapter governing the size and width of vehicles do not apply to vehicles owned by public highway authorities when the vehicles are proceeding to or from work on public highways.



Jerry Byrne, Director of Maintenance
Ken Hall, Senior Patrolman
616-242-6950

UD-10 Road Authority Accident Vehicle Code:

Special Vehicles

- 6 - Construction/Road Maintenance Equipment
- Vehicle Use
- 10 - Road Construction/ Road Maintenance

*If you have questions please review with your Traffic Dept. or contact
Jerry or Ken*

Removing vehicles that interfere with snow removal



Abandoned Vehicle
 Out-of-Service Vehicle

This vehicle was inspected/abandoned and checked through LEIN by:

Officer/Trooper	No.
Date	Time
Vehicle Year	Make
VIN	
License/Equipment Compliance Check (Form No. MCO-9)	

An out-of-service vehicle shall not be operated until the out-of-service defects listed below are repaired.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

If this vehicle is not removed by:

Date	Time
------	------

It will be deemed ABANDONED and may be taken into CUSTODY and STORED at the owner's expense or SCHAFFED.

Post Name and Address

This notice shall be removed from an out-of-service vehicle after the defects listed below have been repaired. It shall not be removed until the owner or possessor complies with the Motor Vehicle Safety Act, 1966 PA 317, as amended.

AUTHORITY: MCL 207.220(4)
MCL 207.240(1)

JD-70 (1-84)





After being found abandoned this vehicle was inspected and checked through LEIN by

Officer _____ No. _____

Complaint No. _____

Date _____ Time _____

LOCATION _____

Vehicle Year _____ Make _____

Model _____ Color _____

License No. _____

VIN _____

This is not a violation notice and can be discarded upon returning to your vehicle.

If this vehicle is not removed by:

Date	Time
------	------

It will be deemed ABANDONED, taken into CUSTODY and STORED at the owner's expense.

For information contact:

KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT
 701 BALL AVE., N.E.
 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503
 PHONE: 336-3111



Mutual Aid

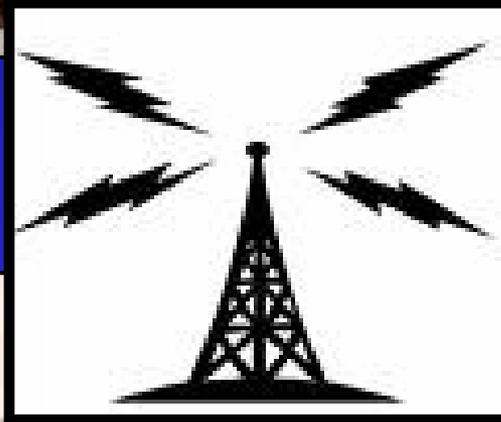
Road Commissions have established Mutual aid pacts to share resources.



Many Road Commissions now share radio frequencies.



MEPS Frequency



MEPS Frequency

Michigan Emergency Public Service System

- MSP District 6 Homeland Security Region
- Trial usage agreement
- Permanent agreement

Tough Economic Times

- MDOT, Cities, & Villages reducing level of service, bringing them in line with CRCs
- Motorists experience more uniform level of service as they drive between jurisdictions
- Reduction in level of service forces motorists to reduce speeds and drive accordingly
- Private business don't apply salt as they did $\frac{3}{4}$ years ago...folks don't expect to travel on clear roads all winter long.