

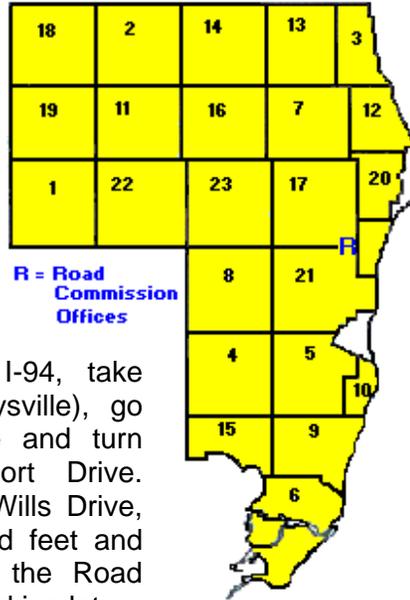
## Is your mailbox a hazard?

A hazard is just about anything along our roadway system that can cause damage or injury when struck by a moving vehicle. To minimize these hazards and reduce damages, the Michigan Department of Transportation has developed standards to be used for roadway signing. Sign posts are designed to break away. Similarly, guardrail sections are designed to reduce impact. These standards apply to everything necessary to traffic control, signal and light posts, barricades, etc. These standards also apply to your mailbox. Heavy mailboxes or potentially hazardous mailbox installations comprised of any structure such as masonry columns, heavy pipes, I-beams, railroad rails or ties, tractor wheels, plow blades, concrete filled barrels, horizontal timber planks, etc. will not be allowed.



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### Directions to our Office



Coming from I-94, take exit 266 (Marysville), go west one mile and turn right on Airport Drive. Turn right on Wills Drive, go five hundred feet and turn right into the Road Commission parking lot.

### For Additional Information

You may obtain additional information by contacting our office at the numbers listed below.



**Phone: (810) 364-5720**

**Permits: ext. 4021**

**Fax: (810) 364-9050**

visit us online at

[www.sccrc-roads.org](http://www.sccrc-roads.org)

**Board of County Road Commissioners**

William Blumerich

Kenneth Foerster

Timothy LaLonde

**St. Clair County Road Commission**

**21 Airport Drive**

**St. Clair, Michigan 48079-1404**

# Your Mailbox



**An Information Guide  
from the St. Clair County  
Road Commission**



**For More Information  
Phone: (810) 364-5720  
Fax: (810) 364-9050**



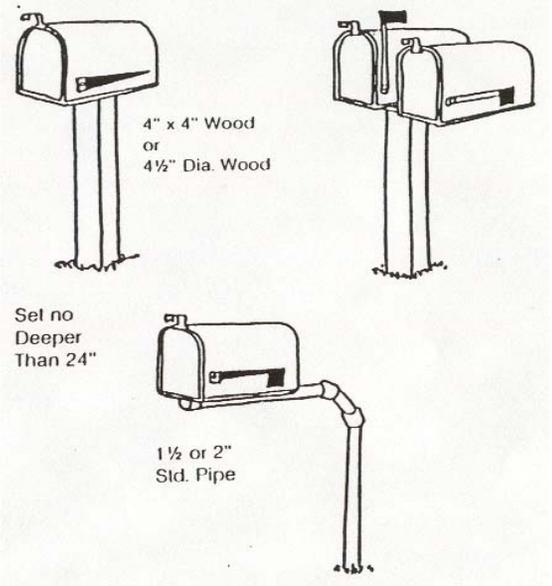
# YES

## Single Mailboxes

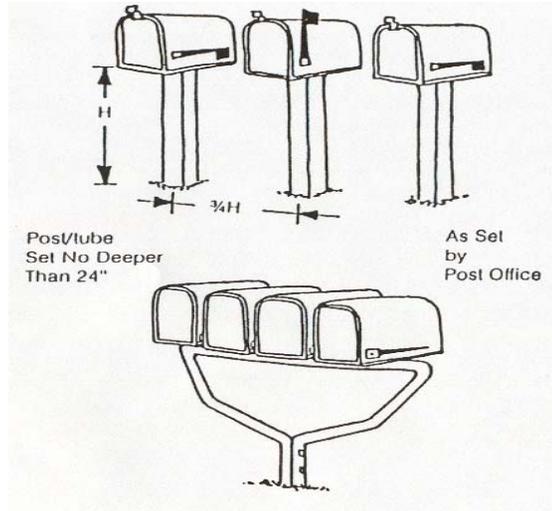
An acceptable support for a mailbox includes a single 4" x 4" square or 4" diameter wooden post or a metal post with strength no greater than a 2" diameter standard steel pipe and embedded no more than 24" into the ground. There are additional support systems which allow the mailbox to swing if struck. On either of these two types of supports, one or two mailboxes may be mounted.

## The Statistics

One state highway department reported in 1987 that 1,725 accidents involved mailboxes. Injuries resulted from 144 of these accidents, and two were fatalities. This could have serious repercussions for a homeowner. In a legal sense, a mailbox that is a hazard and fails to meet regulations and specifications may constitute a nuisance. The owner may be liable for personal injury or property damage resulting from accidents involving a mailbox.



Standards suggest that supports be spaced apart at a distance equal to at least 75% of the height of the box and support. For instance, if the mailbox is 46" off the ground, the supports should be 34" apart. If a vehicle strikes a mailbox post with the supports separated in this fashion, the post is less likely to pile up in front of that car or truck.



## The Standards

There are several alternative methods for installing single or multiple mailboxes.

## Multiple Mailbox Installation

Multiple mailbox installations involve more than two units. The recommendations are that additional boxes be placed on independent supports and spaced at a safe distance from each other.

## Does this really matter?

You bet it does. Not only will you meet the required highway standards and possibly save a life, you may also eliminate a liability on your insurance, should there ever be an accident. *It makes good sense to follow these standards.*