

Town of Copake Highway Department

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***Highway Superintendent
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Monthly report:

During the past month we have completed the grading, graveling, and application of liquid calcium to our gravel roads. This is an annual process for our 14 miles of dirt roads. This year we spread approximately 3000 tons of processed gravel and applied 22,000 gallons of calcium. This will keep potholes to a minimum by stabilizing the road surface. Another benefit of the calcium is that it will control dust.

Another annual job is the straightening and replacement of road signs. This year seems to have been particularly bad with the many wind storms we had. Also on one night we had 14 signs stolen, replacement cost of signs and posts is \$600. I reported the theft to both the Sheriff's office and our local Police Department.

Additionally we spent a day installing culvert pipes and one day for OSHA training (occupational safety and health administration). Another day was used to trim or remove dead trees with a tree company.

We have started hauling in the stone we will need to oil and stone the planned roads.

Spring signals the beginning of mowing grass. For the duration of the summer one man will be dedicated to mowing along the road sides.

This is also the time of year when we begin repairing, sandblasting, and painting our snow plow equipment.

Many hours have been spent on repairing hydraulic and motor oil leaks on our wheeled excavator. Although time consuming we are fortunate to have skilled mechanics capable of doing the repairs in house.

We have nearly completed the leveling and seeding of the area behind the garage. By doing this we have been able to centrally locate and organize the equipment that is stored outside. This equipment includes; snow plows, trailers, water tanks, guide rails, etc.

Last but not least, we had another successful Copake Clean up Day. We collected 19 ten wheeler loads of refuse totally 30.16 tons. Also collected were 250 tires. There were 13 employees, full and part-time for that day, who worked 5 ½ hours. Plus the time spent preparing the day before.

Spring also brings a laundry list of things we do to assist the other town departments:

- 1. Moved picnic tables to and from Copake Falls for the Copake Falls tag sale day.***
- 2. Hung the Hamlet Banners around town.***
- 3. Prepared for the Memorial Day Parade.***

- a. *Cleaned graffiti from the Town Clock.*
 - b. *Hung American Flags around the Hamlet.*
 - c. *Mulched the flowers in the Clock circle.*
4. *Assist Fire Co.*
 - a. *Checked for coolant leak on truck 14-1.*
 - b. *We used the fork lift to remove the air system from the old rescue truck and install it in the new 14-9.*
5. *Changed sagging ceiling tiles in the town hall and light ballasts in the park building.*
6. *Assist the park.*
 - a. *Graded and rolled the tractor pulling track.*
 - b. *Supplied man power on the day of the tractor.*
 - c. *We helped to prepare for the Department of Health inspection.*
 - i. *Started and monitored the water treatment system.*
 - ii. *Spread mulch in the playground area for fall protection.*
7. *Assist the Police Department.*
 - a. *Serviced 7C70.*
 - b. *Installed strobe light on 7C72.*
 - c. *Changed front brakes on 7C71.*
8. *We serviced the rear axle and test drove 303 for the rescue squad.*

The next several weeks we will concentrate on blacktopping with our drag box, continue sign repairs and cutting shoulders on our hard surface roads.