

# VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

## NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

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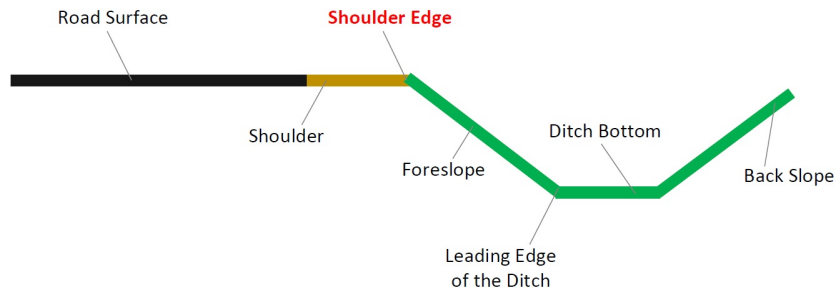
Lawrence, Michigan	2025-06
DATE: March 26, 2025	CONTACT: Bret Witkowski, Managing Director Van Buren County Road Commission Post Office Box 156 Lawrence, Michigan 49064 PHONE: (269) 674-8011, Extension 222
RELEASE: Immediately	

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### FARMERS ARE REMINDED TO KEEP RIGHT-OF-WAY CROP FREE “We Mow - So Don’t Sow!”

#### THE ROAD COMMISSION WANTS YOU TO KNOW . . .

With spring quickly approaching, area farmers are anxiously awaiting another planting season. But before spring tillage and planting gets underway, the Van Buren County Road Commission wants to remind farmers that crops must be a minimum of 14' from the road's edge, or behind the "back slope" of an existing ditch as set forth in the diagram below. Any crops planted in the right-of-way are there at the farmers' risk and no compensation for loss of crops in the right-of-way will be considered pursuant to Road Commission Policy 2022-02.



Because the Road Commission maintains the right-of-way by performing mowing cycles to keep roadsides and intersections clear and suitable for travel, farmers should be aware that any crops planted within the right-of-way will be mowed. The Road Commission also performs roadside chemical vegetation management in the late summer to control brush and woody vegetation within the road right-of-way. The road right-of-way is specifically reserved for the placement of road signs, and public utilities. The road right-of-way is typically a width of 66 feet (33 feet on either side of the centerline of the road).

To review a copy of the Board of County Road Commission's Policy 2022-02, Right-of-Way Mowing, Brush Control & Spraying Policy visit the Road Commission's website at: <https://www.vbcrc.org/policies>, or contact the Road Commission's Managing Director, Bret Witkowski, at 269-674-8011, Extension 222, [BretWitkowski@vbcrc.org](mailto:BretWitkowski@vbcrc.org). The Road Commission's Policy complies with the standards created by law (MCL 247.665b).

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