

Bridgewater Township Newsletter

September 2021

Snow Removal and Mailboxes

We will soon be in winter and with that comes snow covered roads. Following a 2" snow event, the Township snow plows will be out. At times, snow can be very heavy when it comes off the plow blade. Following a wet snow, the weight of the snow being thrown into the ditch can exceed 500 lbs. Older wooden mailbox supports are not able to withstand this pressure and topple over easily. Mailboxes and mailbox supports are the property of the resident. The most important features of a mailbox installed according to MN DOT recommendations and placed on a rural roadway includes the following:

1. The post is located a minimum of three feet from the edge of the road shoulder
2. The front of the mailbox is located above the edge of the shoulder
3. The bottom of the box is between 42" and 48" above the shoulder
4. The installation can pivot or rotate in some fashion when the snow or snowplow blade hits the mailbox.

If, during plowing, a mailbox is tipped or knocked over by the weight of the snow, it is the resident's responsibility to enact repairs. If the mailbox is a properly installed standard swing away mailbox (see back of newsletter for MN DOT recommendations), and in compliance with MN State Statute 169.072 and MN Rule 8818.0100, and the vertical support is damaged by physical contact with township equipment it will be replaced with a Township approved mailbox at the Township's expense.

We would like to remind Bridgewater Township residents that it is unlawful to deposit snow onto public roadways or to push snow across public roadways per Minnesota Statute 160.2715. Snow deposited or pushed onto the road can create hazards to the public and snow removal operations. Citizens that violate this statute could face misdemeanor and/or civil penalties if the snow creates a hazard that contributes to an accident. The Township snow removal/sanding trucks will be out as soon as possible following a 2" snow event.

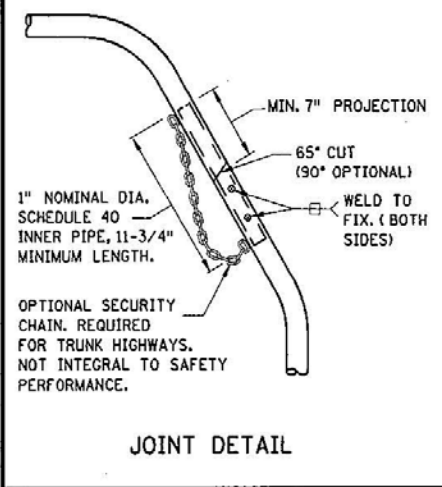
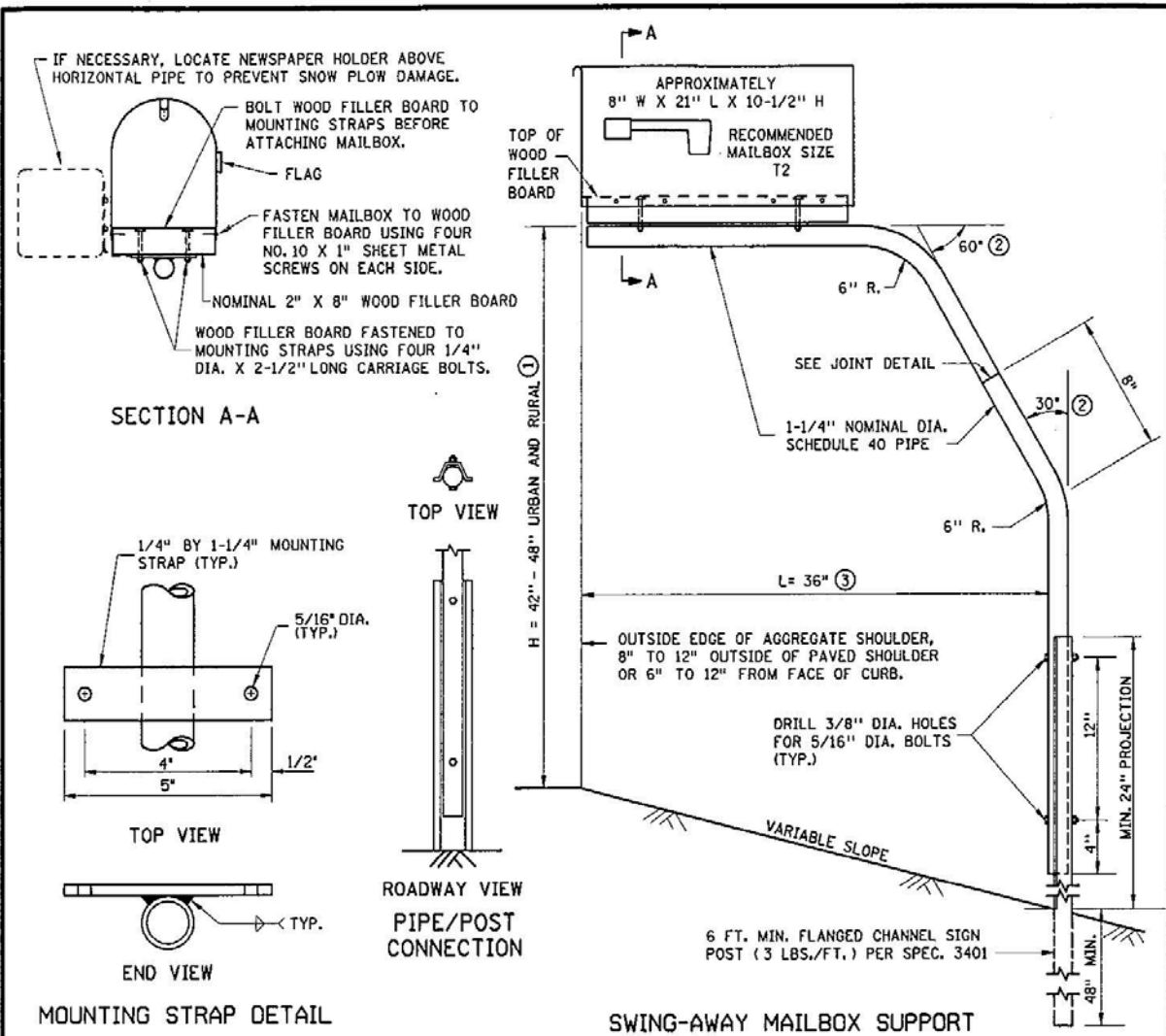
Bridgewater Contact Information

Email: board@bridgewaterwp.org

Township Website: www.bridgewaterwp.org

Email: clerk@bridgewaterwp.org

Phone: 507-645-1656



NOTES:

MAILBOX LOCATIONS SHOULD BE STAKED BEFORE INSTALLATION FOR PROPER HEIGHT AND DISTANCE FROM THE ROADWAY. ONCE STAKED, THE INSTALLER MUST NOTIFY THE ENGINEER AND THE POST OFFICE. THE ENGINEER AND THE POSTMASTER SHALL APPROVE THE STAKED LOCATIONS PRIOR TO FINAL INSTALLATION.

THE MINIMUM SPACING (CENTER TO CENTER) BETWEEN MULTIPLE MAILBOX SUPPORTS SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE HEIGHT OF THE MAILBOX SUPPORT.

OTHER MAILBOX SUPPORT DESIGNS MAY BE USED IF THEY SATISFY NCHRP REPORT 350 CRITERIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH FHWA ACCEPTANCE LETTER, MEET MINNESOTA RULES 8818 AND U.S. POST OFFICE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH MN/DOT REQUIREMENTS WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING (REQUIRED ON TRUNK HIGHWAYS):

- PIPE SHALL CONFORM TO SPEC. 3362, SCHEDULE 40 OF ASTM A53/A53M.
- ALL FASTENERS SHALL CONFORM TO SPEC. 3391.
- PIPES, POST AND OTHER STEEL COMPONENTS SHALL BE GALVANIZED PER SPEC. 3392.

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SEND THE SHOP DRAWINGS TO THE ENGINEER FOR APPROVAL. FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING DESIGN ELEMENTS AND BREAKAWAY FEATURES, CONTACT THE DESIGN STANDARDS UNIT.

① ANY CHANGE IN HEIGHT (H) MUST BE APPROVED BY LOCAL POSTMASTER.

② 45° BENDS MAY BE USED AS AN OPTION.

③ A 48" OR 53" CANTILEVER LENGTH (L) MAY BE USED AS AN OPTION FOR NON-TRUNK HIGHWAY USE.

APPROVED JUNE 1, 2007

 STATE DESIGN ENGINEER

STATE OF MINNESOTA
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MAILBOX SUPPORT
 SWING-AWAY TYPE

SPECIFICATION REFERENCE
 3362
 3391
 3392
 3401

STANDARD PLATE NO.
9350A