

WALPOLE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – 2008

This year started with winter hammering our finances to the point that by spring Walpole Highway Department had to postpone paving scheduled for the year. The only paving done this year was in a Warrant Article for Elm Street, and Ash Street. Many other smaller projects were also postponed. During the year much equipment maintenance and repair was done in house in an effort to conserve, and one position in the Highway Department was eliminated.

A section of March Hill Road just above French Road collapsed leaving one lane road at that point. Having money only for emergency repairs the road had to remain one lane for the winter.

On project that we were able to squeeze in this year was the mall bridge on Old Drewsville Road. The bridge that we replaced was in danger of collapsing so this was an urgent matter that had to be resolved.

The park area in North Walpole (on former railroad land) was finished this spring. We also installed two drywalls to eliminate standing water problems. One was on Kilburn Street in North Walpole and the other on Maplewood Circle in Walpole.

The Highway replaced several culverts around town and repaired headwalls. Some trees and stumps were removed. Catch basin repair is always important summertime work and we did minor shimming as we could. Some guardrails were replaced and others repaired.

Our regular work includes cold patching, sidewalk repair, road grading, painting crosswalks, shouldering, cleaning culverts and catch basins, leaf clearing, snow removal and equipment repairs.

Considering the financial situation this year I think we go much accomplished and I thank the highway crew (Jim MacLean, Bruce Russell, Mike Symonds, Mike Rau, Ralph Campbell, and Nate Westney) for their dedication, hard work and inventive approaches to our work this year.

I would like to thank all who have supported us this year in our continuing effort to improve the highway department and your town.

Respectfully,
Jim Terrell
Road Agent