

Is your mailbox a potentially lethal weapon?

Mailboxes and mailbox supports contributed to more than 120 deaths and more than 4,600 injuries in Michigan during a recent five-year period. Why? Often because the posts were so strong or massive they did not yield when hit. Some of these accidents resulted in lawsuits against the owners.

We're concerned about this problem and hope that, by increasing awareness of it, we can avoid such death and injury in Barry County.

We hope you'll use the checklist included in this brochure to make sure your mailbox installation does not pose a hazard to the motoring public or a liability risk to you.

Damaged Mailboxes

The Road Commission will reimburse residents up to \$20.00 for damaged mailboxes only when the box or post is actually hit by a Road Commission vehicle. The Road Commission will make the determination if the damage was caused by our vehicle, not snow or ice. If a resident would like to stop by the Road Commission office and pick up a box and/or post due to any damage by Road Commission activities we will give them one free of charge.

For more information:

- Mailbox construction and height – call your local post office.
- Mailbox supports and placement, and mailbox policy – call the Barry County Road Commission

All programs, activities and services are provided equally without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin or handicap.

Barry County Road Commission
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**MAILBOXES
AND
MAILBOX SUPPORTS

STRUCTURE
LOCATION**

**BARRY
COUNTY
ROAD
COMMISSION
(269) 945-3449**

Mailbox and mailbox support checklist

Location

- Mailbox is in the direction of the carrier's route of travel, except on one-way streets.
- Mailbox height is between 42 inches and 48 inches above the road surface.
- Mailbox face is between 8 inches and 12 inches from the outside edge of the road shoulder or 6 inches to 12 inches from the curb.
- Mailbox near an intersection is no closer than 100 feet from the intersecting road.



4" x 4" wood
or
4 1/2" dia. wood

Set no deeper

Than 24"

Structure

- Mailbox is of light steel, aluminum or plastic construction that meets U.S. Postal Service requirements.
- No more than two mailboxes are mounted on a single support structure.
- Mailbox post is a single 4-inch x 4-inch wood post, a 4-1/2-inch diameter wood post or a 2-inch diameter standard-strength steel pipe.
- Mailbox post is not set in concrete.
- Mailbox post is embedded no more than 2 feet into the ground.
- Mailbox post is not fitted with an anchor plate.
- Mailbox is attached to the post well enough to prevent separation if either box or post is struck by a vehicle.
- Minimum spacing between the center of grouped support posts is three-fourths the portion of the posts' height that is above the ground.

If your mailbox location or structure is not in compliance with regulations cited in the checklist, make adjustments now.

Don't let your mailbox or post be an accident waiting to happen. And if you have questions, call your local post office or the Barry County Road Commission.

The Road Commission is authorized to remove mailboxes or posts that do not meet requirements and, therefore, are hazardous to the public. The owners will be notified and given between 24 hours and 30 days to conform to standards, depending upon the degree of hazard. If unacceptable installations are not removed within the specified time, the Road Commission will handle removal at the owners' expense, as provided by Act 368, Public Acts of 1925, as amended.

